

AYSRH: Strengthening PPMVs and Community Pharmacies to Deliver Quality Contraceptive Services to Adolescents and Youth

Why use this approach?

Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) and Community Pharmacies (CPs) often serve as patients' first point of call for medicines, contraceptives, etc. To strengthen the quality of services and link services to the public health system, PPMVs and CPs must be incorporated into the system at national, state, LGA and community levels by operationalizing Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) guidelines. It is critical to strengthen their capacity and monitor their compliance with the guidelines.



STEP 1: Strengthen government oversight of PPMVs

to ensure coordination and compliance. Criteria for PPMV oversight should include PPMV registration with the government institution, presence of a primary healthcare facility in the catchment area, a large customer base, and the PPMV's providing or selling some form of contraceptive method.



STEP 2: Strengthen the capacity of PPMV associations at state and LGA levels

through quality improvement orientations for executive members of associations and job training for PPMVs, and by identifying key PPMVs as champions.



STEP 3: Provide ongoing coaching and supportive supervision

to ensure compliance, monitor quality, ensure facility linkages, resupply referral cards, coach on data documentation and provide opportunities for capacity building.



STEP 4: Ensure a functioning referral system

through linkages between health facilities and PPMVs/CPs. PPMVs use a data sheet to record non-prescription services, then facilities enter the data into the register. This is used to analyze the performance of the referral approach.



STEP 5: Motivate and recognize high-performing PPMVs

using materials to boost their counseling skills and knowledge and awards and recognition to motivate high-performing PPMVs. Connect PPMVs with companies to purchase quality and subsidized drugs.