Delivering Mobile Solutions for Global Health Problems through Classroom Partnerships with Universities, Global Public Health Agencies and Technology Companies

Presented by:

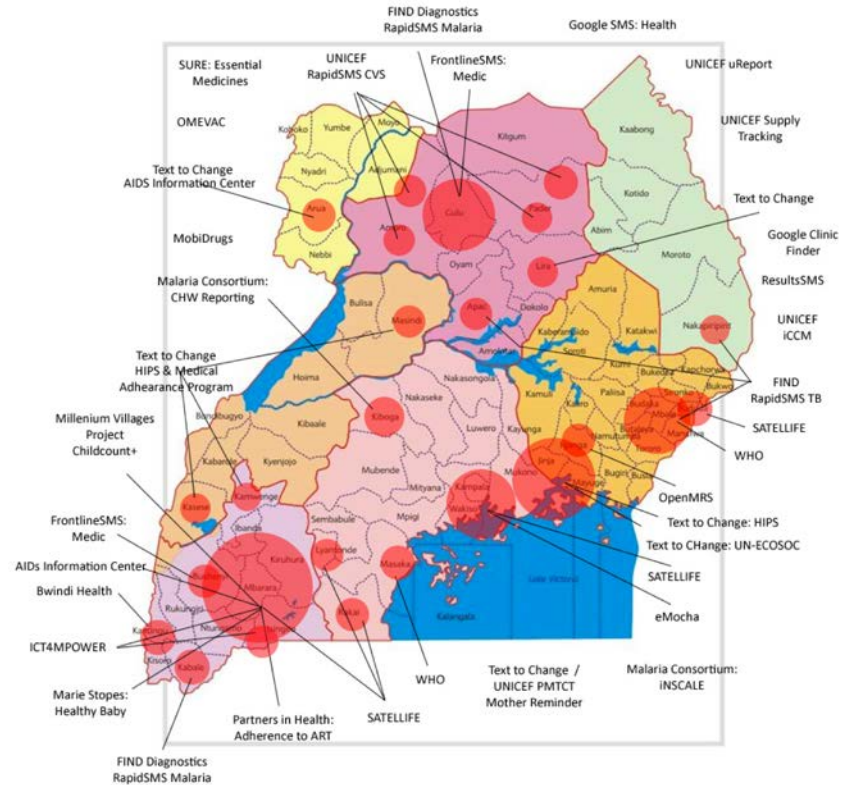**James Wolff, Rose Molina, Pawandeep Kaur and Emily George**

Presenter Disclosures

James Wolff, Rose Molina, Pawandeep Kaur and Emily George

No relationships to disclose

Mobile Technologies are in Demand

- 2012: Rampant pilot projects in Uganda led to a nationwide moratorium on digital health projects

- Great need for public health professionals with the skills and competencies to develop and manage mHealth applications

Using Mobile Technologies to Improve Health Outcomes

- Teams of graduate student consultants work with an organization

- Terms of Reference specify development, testing and implementation for a mobile application

- Socially conscious global software company

- Experience implementing hundreds of projects in 60+ countries

- Makers of CommCare

- Open source platform

- Most widely used platform for frontline workers

- Multiple uses: data collection, case management and counselling

- Flexible and scalable

Our Story

- Engage with the digital health industry

- Provide our students an opportunity to build skills and competencies in digital health

- Work with partner organizations to meet a public health need

- Implement the application and improve health outcomes

- 150 students, 30 organizations, 35 apps, 20 countries

Where We Work

MEXICO CITY

CHIAPAS

Partners In Health

Compañeros En Salud

Our Goal:

To improve the quality of care during childbirth and strengthen the roles of professional midwives and obstetric nurses as change agents in this process.

Challenges in Optimizing Maternal Health

Context:

- MMR 68 / 100,000 in Chiapas
- 60% home birth rate
- Rural communities of subsistence farmers

Health System:

- High medical staff turnover
- Fragile supply chains
- Obstetric violence
- Distrust of health system

Where We Provide Care

Our Intervention

Multidisciplinary Team

Respectful Maternity Care

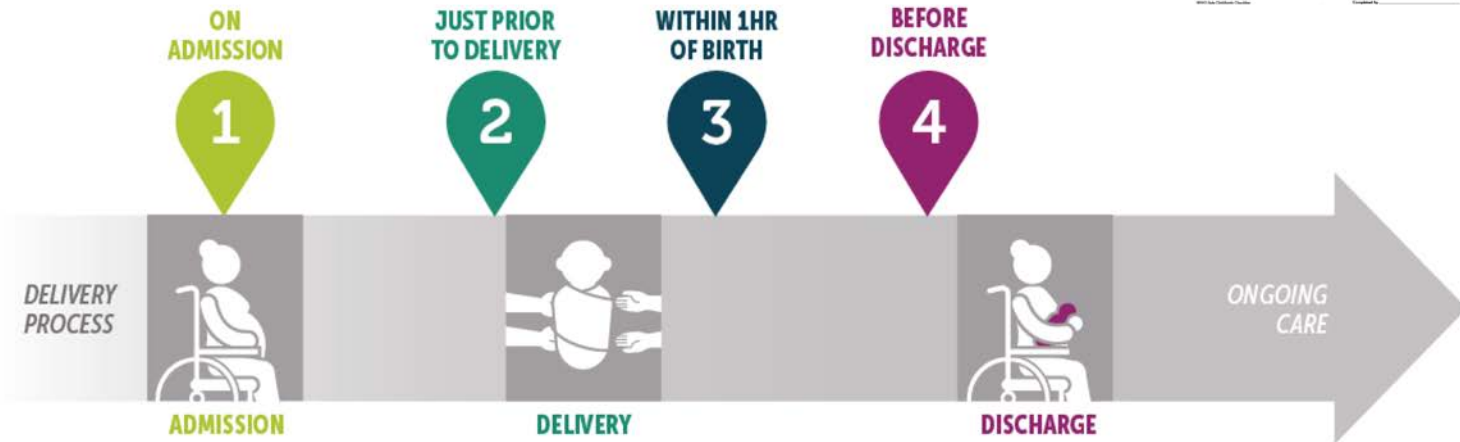**Safe Childbirth Checklist**

Transportation to Hospital

Food and Lodging

Supply Chain Support

World Health Organization Safe Childbirth Checklist

29 essential birth practices across 4 pause points

Why an App?

Our App Development Journey

Terms of Reference

Online Course

Client Meetings

Structured Class Exercises

Eight Weeks

An App to Improve Childbirth Care in Chiapas, Mexico

Obstetric nurses use a mobile checklist to support evidence-based childbirth practices + respectful birthing practices

Supervisors use information collected through real-time monitoring for continuous quality improvement
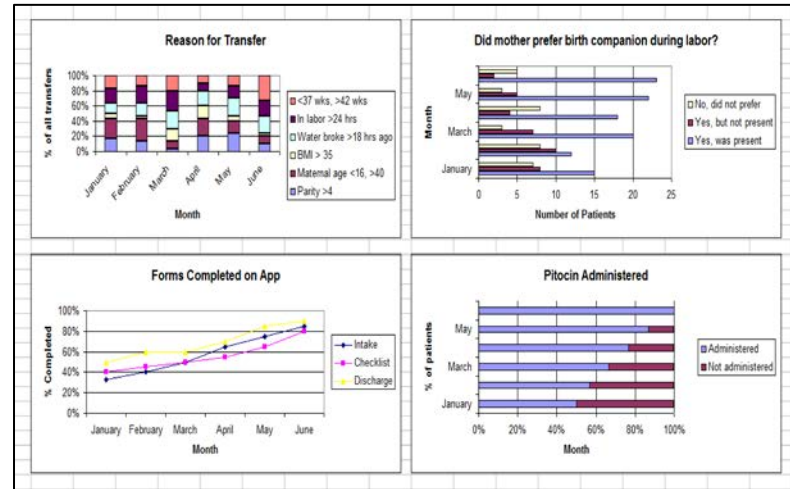
More than the App

- Principles of Digital Design
- Implementation
- Sustainability and Scalability
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Training

Monitoring & Evaluation-
Mock Dashboard

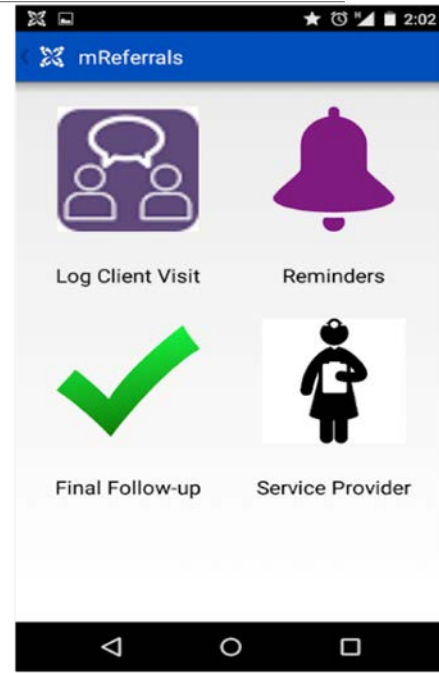Information collected with the App can be used for monitoring and evaluation
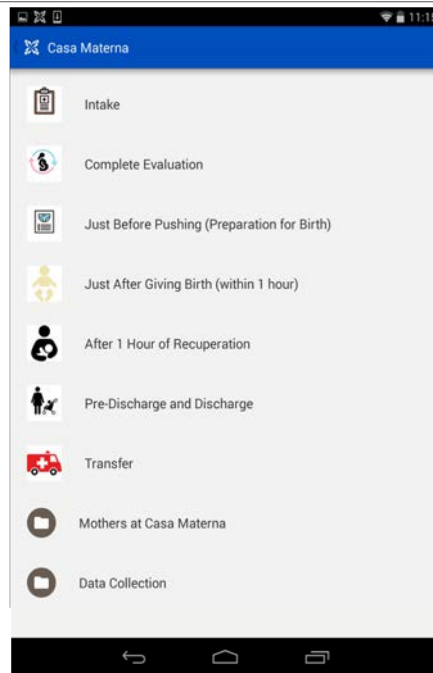
Considerations for Sustainability

- Number of users

- The users and digital literacy

- Languages

- Real time use vs. retrospective use

- Clinic Procedures vs. documentation

Training and User Guide

Creating tools for a smooth implementation

Beyond the Classroom

- Utility of user guide
- Adaptations to the App in the field
- Reflections from end users
- Scalability

Acknowledgements

Meryn Robinson

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Thank you! Questions?

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