



CHAMPS

Building
Knowledge.
Saving
Children's
Lives.

Data to Action;
CHAMPS Ethiopia
Annual Newsletter



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HHR | HARARGHE
HEALTH
RESEARCH



LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



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About CHAMPS

We Build Knowledge to Save Children's Lives

Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance (CHAMPS) collects, analyzes and shares evidence to prevent child mortality in regions where it is highest.

The CHAMPS Promise

CHAMPS transforms data into action, working at the local, national and global levels to ensure sustainable changes in policies, systems, and health interventions to accelerate improvements in child health.

Locally

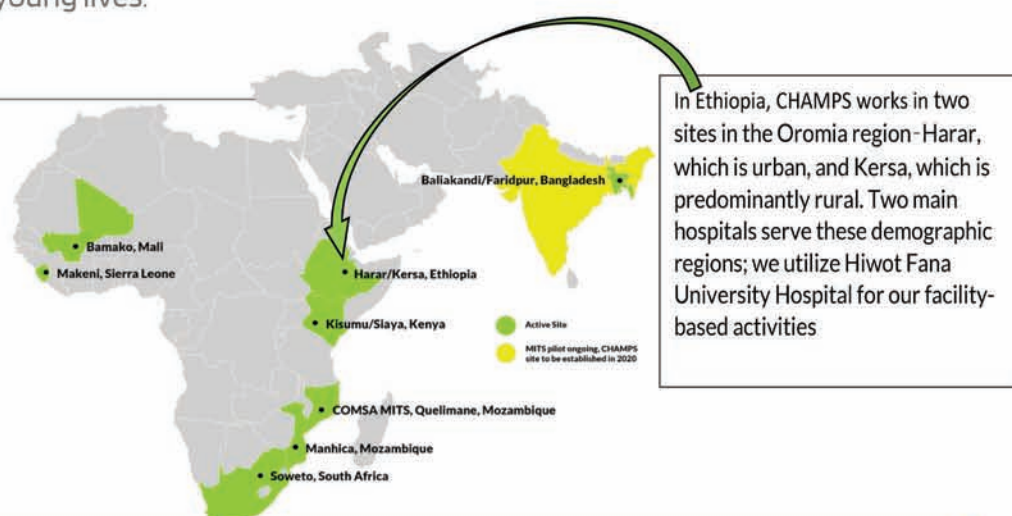
We share our findings with communities, public health officials and families, giving parents the answers they need and informing immediate public health actions.

Nationally

We partner with national public health institutes and ministries of health to use CHAMPS data to influence country-led, evidence-based policy, interventions, and resource allocation.

Globally

Sustainable Development Goal 3 calls for ending preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 by 2030. CHAMPS data adds significant and unique value to the investment and policy decisions of global stakeholders around the world. CHAMPS will improve the understanding of the causes of child mortality while informing important health interventions, research, and action to save young lives.



Families

Families are invited to participate in CHAMPS research if they have a child who dies during or after birth. Families who participate receive information about what caused the death of their child.

Once the cause of a child's death has been determined by the CHAMPS team, this is shared with their family by a team which includes a psychologist, health officer or doctors and social workers.

In 2020, 43 families (18 from the Kersa catchment area and 25 from Harar town);

- Received the cause of death of their child or stillborn baby.
- Were given information about how to prevent a similar problem in the future.
- Discussed family level health promotion activities.
- Received advice about maternal health issues.

Of these 50 families, some:

- Were contacted for clinical checkups.
- Were linked with health professionals.
- Received some material support.
- Had health insurance facilitated.
- Were identified for further economic support with partners.

Figure 1 and 3: health insurance for a family who received cause of death of their deceased



Figure 2 while giving health education on immunization



Community

Community where CHAMPS works. Harar town in the Harari region and Kersa and Haramaya districts in Eastern Hararghe in Oromia region.

Radio

Radio has been used to raise awareness, give health education, create discussion and address public health issues in the community where the broadcast reaches. An estimated audience of more than 4 million has the chance to listen to the production.

Causes of stillbirth and neonatal death identified by CHAMPS were the major focus of this year's radio program. Causes, symptoms and prevention mechanisms of the diseases and associated factors were discussed by professionals, women's experiences of stillbirth were shared, religious fathers participated in the discussion about stillbirth and frequently asked questions about stillbirth, neonates, and antenatal care and postnatal care were discussed.

The Radio program was broadcast in Affan Oromo and Amharic.



Tfd

Theater for development (Tfd) has been used to raise awareness and create discussion platforms on factors associated with cause of death of children. Low birth weight and pneumonia were the major topics for three Tfd plays in Harar and Kersa.

Community actors wrote the script to suit the audience. It was a very colorful theater performance both in Amharic and Affan Oromo.



Forum for journalists

A forum was facilitated for journalists working in national and regional TV and radio. Research findings were presented and journalists were invited to visit the CHAMPS laboratory. In addition, causes and factors associated with stillbirth and deaths of neonates and children were discussed.

Producing programs and news on children and maternal health is one of my focus areas. Now when I understand how many children are dying and most of the illnesses causing death of children can be prevented by raising awareness, I am thinking that I did not give this the attention it deserves. I promise to do that in a very organized manner.

One of the participants from national television

After the workshop, two regional media outlets broadcasted feature-length programs about on CHAMPS research findings".

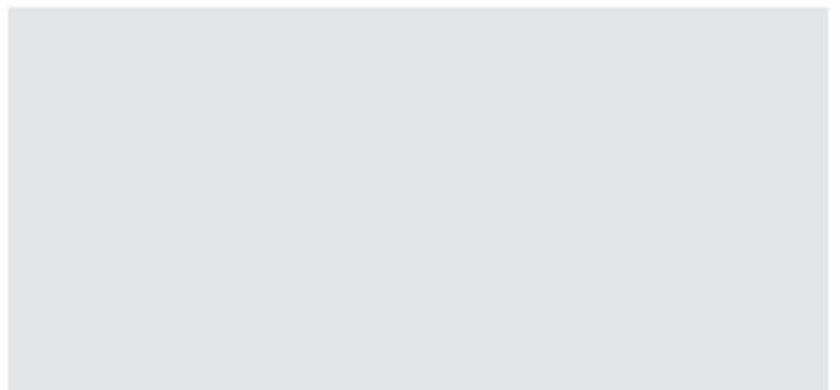
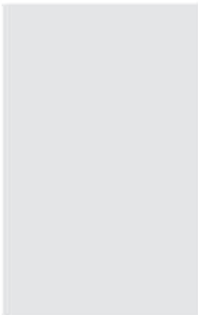


Health Facility and Stakeholders

Health facilities are those facilities in the CHAMPS catchment area and stakeholders includes staff in other parts of Haramaya University and the Ministry of Health of Ethiopia.

Professional discussion platforms

Overall CHAMPS findings on cases from Harar and specific case studies from Hiwot Fana hospital were presented to maternity ward and neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) staffs. The session aimed to show to participant on the overall details about deaths occurred in maternity ward and NICU in addition with the specific identified causes of death through the DeCoDe panel decision. It was a very interactive dialogue which had a way forward to improve services for delivering women and children admitted in the hospital.



Discussion on Neural Tube Defect

A brief discussion on Neural Tube Defect (NTD) was conducted with staff from Hiwot Fana Hospital and experts from the College of Agriculture, Haramaya University.

NTD is one of the leading causes of stillbirth and early neonatal death among the CHAMPS cases. Anencephaly is the leading condition among stillbirth whereas spinal bifida and hydrocephalus were the major problem among early neonatal deaths. CHAMPS shared the result of the DeCoDe panel with agricultural and medical experts with a view to promote the use of folic acid. Dr. Yunus, Pediatrician, shared his experience of spinal bifida during his clinical practice. The main focus of the discussion was on the main causes of NTD and

its relation with folic acid consumption.

The main reason of including experts from the college of Agriculture in this discussion was to promote their thinking about food items rich in folic acid with the view of promoting folic acid use among the wider community. They are also thinking of producing an improvised formula in the technology laboratory, doing a cost analysis and promoting the formula among those who need it most in the local area.

In this connection activities are going on with support of Haramaya University. Further meetings are



planned locally and nationally.

Technical briefs

Technical briefs have been prepared on a variety of different health topics for use at the health centers and district hospital. Topics are directly related to maternal and child health care.

The topics covered in the technical briefs so far are:

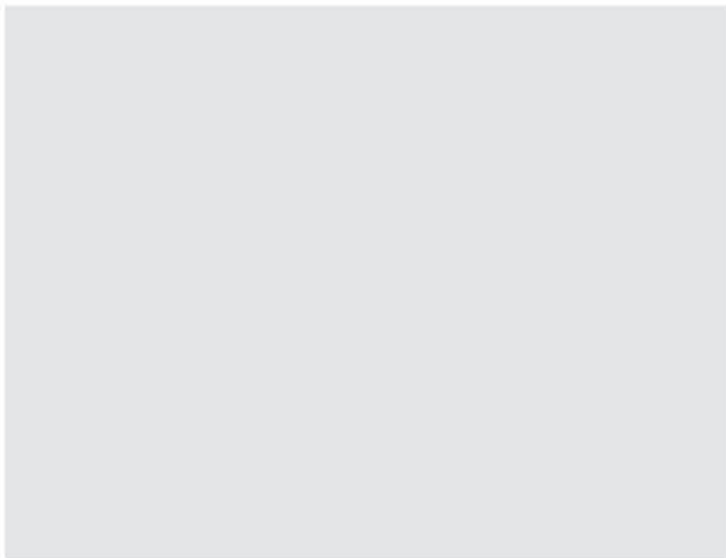
- Approach to bleeding patient
- Breach birth
- Approach to hypoglycemia
- How to identify preeclampsia
- APPGAR score
- Pediatric early warning score card.



Laboratorial support

As CHAMPS research findings implied different kinds of antibiotic resistance, CHAMPS offered laboratory support to process blood and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) culture for in-patient neonates and children at Hiwot Fana so that they can get proper treatment.


So far 497 blood and 207 CSF samples from Hiwot Fana hospital have been processed and results sent to the physicians requesting the laboratory analysis.



Internationally

Data of cause of death of stillbirth, neonates and children in Ethiopia is published on <https://champshealth.org> so that everyone, especially those who have potential of intervening on different cases can see it.



 See the Data

 Subscribe

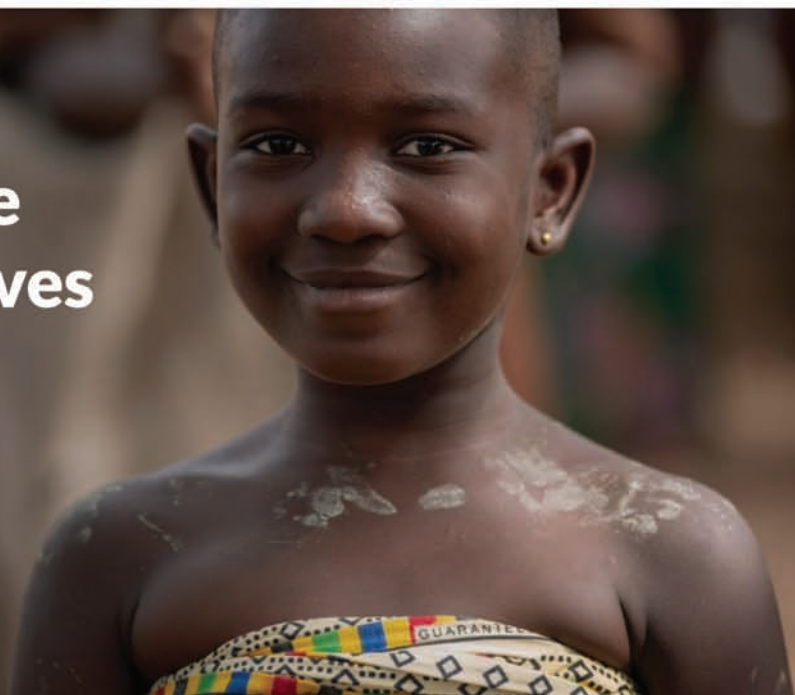
[About](#) [Data](#) [CHAMPS Sites](#) [News & Resources](#) 

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About CHAMPS

Explore our Data



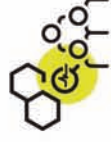
CHAMPS Methods Encompass Community, Surveillance, Laboratory, Action

Data to
Action



Help inform
a range of policies
and public health
actions to reduce
child mortality

DeCoDe
Panel



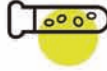
Review all findings
and assign cause
of death

Local &
Central
Histopath
Analysis



Analyze tissues
to understand
pathogens
associated
with cellular
changes; compare
central and
site findings

Microbiology,
Real-Time PCR
Analysis



Identify
pathogens in
specimens that
may have
caused death

Clinical
Data Verbal
Autopsy



Gather other
information
around terminal
state to improve
context for
DeCoDe panel

Specimen
Collection



Collect tissue
and non-tissue
specimens
for further
laboratory
analysis

Mortality
and
Pregnancy
Surveillance



Identify deaths
for MITS and
collection of
additional data

Social
Behavioral
Science



Understand
acceptability
proposed processes



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