

## **Notes and commentary on the National Level Questionnaire on the Management of the Third Stage of Labor**

This chapter contains the National level questionnaire. Comments and suggestions about how to complete specific questions are included when needed.

**Q#116:** This question asks if AMTSL is specifically mentioned in the standard treatment guidelines in this country. This question does not specify what definition of AMTSL is used. Thus, a “YES” should be recorded for any protocol that mentions AMTSL.

**Q#117:** The purpose of this question is to see if the definition of AMTSL included in the standard treatment guidelines meets the basic criteria for the FIGO/ICM definition of AMTSL. Circle the codes for YES or NO for each of the 7 components of AMTSL.

**Q#118-119:** Write the names and the doses of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> line uterotonic drugs listed in the standard treatment guidelines for this country. If the guidelines do not list a 2<sup>nd</sup> line drug, circle the code 9 (NO 2<sup>ND</sup> LINE DRUG LISTED) for Q119.

**Q#120:** This question serves to identify practices other than those outlined in Q#117 which are included in the definition of AMTSL in the standard treatment guidelines. If there are no other practices, circle code 1 (NO, NONE) for the answer and continue with Q#121. If there are other practices mentioned in the standard treatment guidelines, circle the code 8 (YES, SPECIFY) and list these practices. Then, continue on to Q#121.

**Q#121:** Photocopies of the relevant sections of the standard treatment guidelines should be made and filed away for future review. They will assist the country coordinator in writing the policy chapter of the final report.

**Q#122:** Review the standard treatment guidelines to see if there are any policies which would restrict the use of AMTSL. Common examples include: nurses or midwives (or other health personnel) are not authorized to administer oxytocin, or are not authorized to give injections; AMTSL practice is restricted to certain cadres of health personnel (e.g. physicians). If there are no restrictive policies, circle code 2 for NO and skip to Q#124.

**Q#125:** If you recorded YES for AMTSL in pre-service education for any type of provider (midwives, nurses, doctors) in Q#124, answer Q#125. Again, if you have a photocopy of the pages describing the content of the pre-service education, your job writing the final report will be easier. If the response to Q124 was NO for all three types of provider, then skip to Q127.

**Q#130:** It is important to record exactly how AMTSL is defined for in-service training and how this definition varies from the FIGO/ICM definition. These differences will be important information in the policy chapter of the final report.

## SECTION 2

For this section of the questionnaire, you will answer the questions either by your own direct observation in the central warehouse (the preferred method) or by interviewing the Chief Pharmacist or other professional responsible for drug storage when this is required to obtain an answer for the question.

Questions are to be asked row by row. That is, you will begin by asking **Q#201** for oxytocin. Then, you will ask **Q#201** for ergometrine. Then, you will ask **Q#201** for syntometrine, etc. After asking **Q#201** for other prostaglandins, you will begin asking **Q#202** for each uterotonic drug.

Please note: in **Q#202-Q208**, there are two questions embedded in each cell of the table; the question on the uterotonic drug and a question about how you obtained your information. As mentioned above, the preferred method is for you to make your own observation in the pharmacy (that is, you see whether oxytocin is available in the warehouse when you are there, you yourself see the light conditions in which the drugs are stored at time of visit, etc. Only when it is not possible for you yourself to make the observation should you rely on the pharmacist's response to these selected questions. For each of these questions, you will circle two answer codes: one to respond to the question and one to indicate how you obtained the information.

**Q#201:** Please note, in some cases a central warehouse may be authorized to purchase all the drugs that are on the Essential Drug List, but may choose not to purchase one or more of the drugs on this list. Consequently, it is possible that you will have recorded a YES in **Q#107** for one of the uterotonic drugs (for example: **Q#107** says that ergometrine is on the Essential Drug List), and now be told that by the Chief Pharmacist that they do not routinely procure ergometrine. You should 1) be alert for these types of possible inconsistency; 2) probe the pharmacist and remind him/her that you saw this drug on the Essential Drug List and 3) record whatever final answer the pharmacist gives you.

The last row on this page of the questionnaire is an instruction for you about how to fill out the rest of the questionnaire. If the answer to the first column for **Q#202** is NO (that is, there is no oxytocin available in the central warehouse at the time of your visit), then the rest of this column should be left blank. Draw a line through the rest of that column to remind yourself that you should not ask these questions. If the answer in the first column of **Q#202** is YES, then record the unit and strength of oxytocin in **Q#203** AND circle an answer to the question about how you obtained your information on the unit and strength of oxytocin. Then, check the response in the second column for **Q#202** regarding ergometrine, and continue in the same manner.

**Q#205 to the end:** Please provide answers to the following questions either by your own direct observation or by interviewing the Chief Pharmacist or other professional responsible for drug storage at the central warehouse. Ask each numbered question about each drug before continuing on to the following numbered question.

**Q#205:** In this question we are asking you to search for the *written information* from the manufacturer about the recommended storage temperature for each drug available at the time of your visit. This information may be written on each ampoule, or as an insert in a box of ampoules or on the box itself. If *you read* the manufacturer's recommendation on storage temperature (the preferred method), record the appropriate temperature in the first part of Q#205, then circle code 1 for YOUR OBSERVATION in the second part of Q#205. If the manufacturer's written recommendations cannot be located AND the pharmacist cannot tell you what the manufacturer recommendations on temperature are, circle code 5 (NOT LOCATED) for the first part of Q#205 and code 1 (YOUR OBSERVATION) for the second part of Q#205. This should very rarely occur, however.

In a central warehouse which receives uterotonic drugs from more than one source, these recommendations may vary by manufacturer. The questionnaire will need to be adapted to capture this information from multiple sources since varying recommendations are considered important findings from this study.

**Q#206:** In this question we are asking you to search for the *written information* from the manufacturer about recommended lighting conditions during storage for each drug available at the time of your visit. This information may be written on each ampoule, or as an insert in a box of ampoules or on the box itself. If *you read* the manufacturer's recommendation on lighting conditions during storage (the preferred method), then circle code 1 for YOUR OBSERVATION in the second part of Q#206. If the manufacturer's written recommendations cannot be located, circle code 5 (NOT LOCATED) AND the pharmacist cannot tell you what the manufacturer recommendations on lighting are, circle code 3 (NOT LOCATED) for the first part of Q#206 and code 1 (YOUR OBSERVATION) for the second part of Q#206. For some uterotonic drugs, manufacturers may not cite recommended lighting conditions during storage. In this case, you would circle code 1 (NOT STATED) in the first part of Q#206 and code 1 (YOUR OBSERVATION) in the second part of Q#206. Please note: ergometrine will always have written recommendations regarding light.

**Q#207 and Q#208:** For these two questions, it is very important that you observe yourself the storage conditions for all uterotonic drugs available at the time of your visit. Only if it is absolutely impossible for you to visit the warehouse should you rely on the pharmacist's report. Given that the Ministry of Health gave permission for the conduct of this study, and that participation included an agreement that data collectors could visit the central warehouse, direct observation of the central warehouse should not be a problem.

**Q#209:** This question documents the method by which the quantity of uterotonic drug to procure is determined. Code 1 (BASED ON CONSUMPTION) means that consumption is reviewed routinely and the quantity is decided accordingly (thus, the size of each procurement is likely to vary). Code 2 (STANDARD QUANTITY DETERMINED BY CENTRAL LEVEL) is self-explanatory. Code 3 (STANDARD QUANTITY – PERPETUAL NEED) means that the same size procurement is always ordered for the warehouse.

**Q#210:** Enter the purchase price per ampoule of each uterotonic drug available at the time of your visit. Enter the price that the warehouse pays for each drug. Record your answer using local currency.