

Male Involvement and Responsibility in Reproductive Health

I .Situational Analysis

Filipino males play a dominant role in decision making in relationship and family matters. Many sectors Recognize that involving males in women's reproductive health significantly increases the chances of improved reproductive health and well-being of women and children.

It has been pointed out that among the major weaknesses of family planning program in the country is its focus on women and corresponding lack of male contraceptive responsibility for the broader RH program, there is a need for men's shared responsibility and involvement in : Maternal care and Child Health and Nutrition, Preventing and Management of Abortion and its Complications, Violence Against Women and Children, Education and Counseling on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, and Adolescent Reproductive Health .

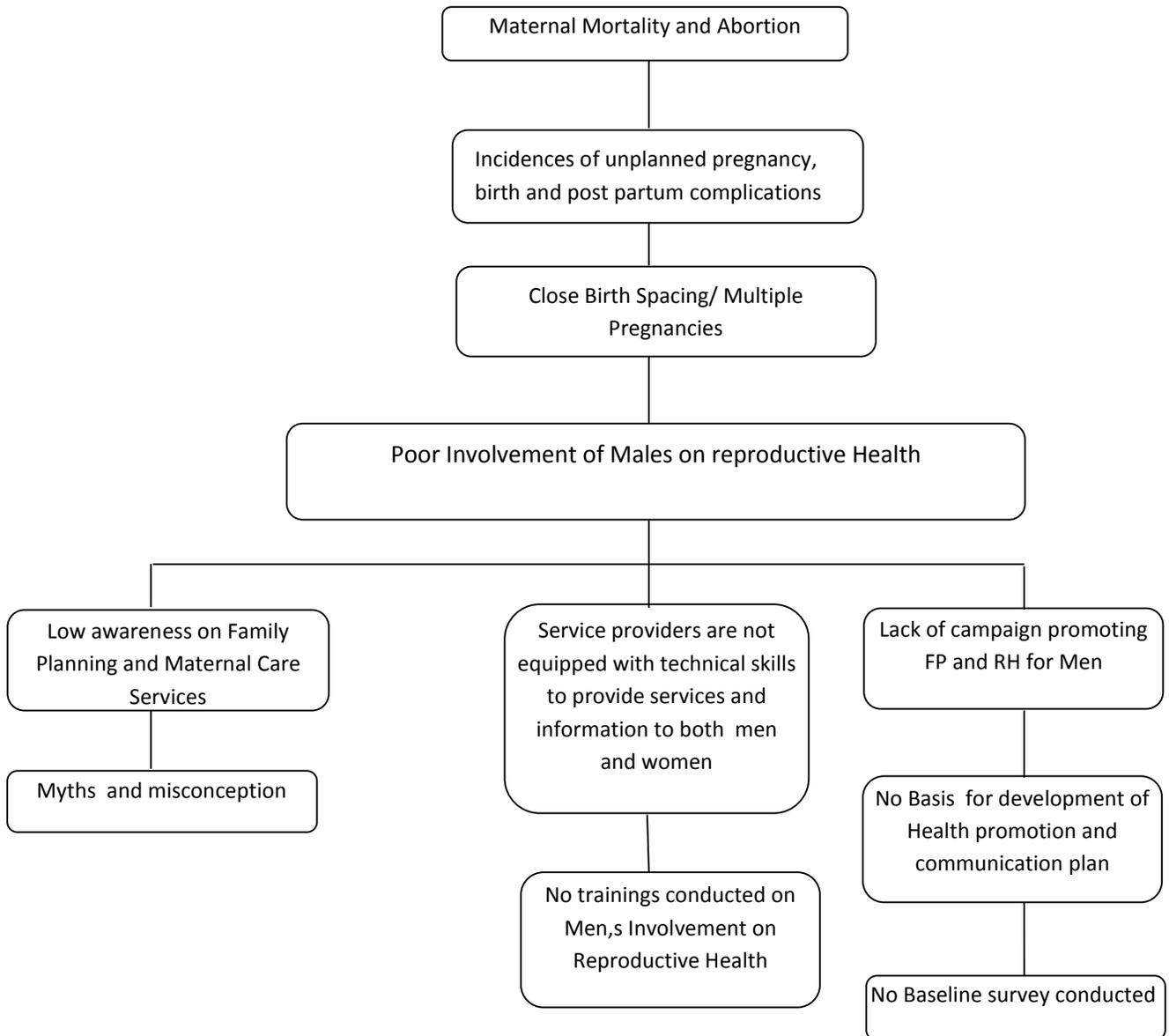
There have been initiatives to involve men in a more proactive way and to provide information to improve their awareness on their responsibilities and roles in reproductive health concerns. However, the geographic focus in spread out in various parts of the country and scope is limited. Efforts need to be more coordinated to ensure that the essential facets of MIRRH-MRH is included and that institutional arrangements will facilitate sustainability.

Administrative Order No. 2006-0035 or the "National Policy and Strategic Framework on Male Involvement in Reproductive Health (MIRH)" has laid down the direction for program development in this area. There is now a need for guidelines that would focus on men and how they can respond to the following RH challenges: 1) how they can communicate effectively with their partners, their children, other men, and service providers; 2) the needs of men that shall be addressed, and 3) how an MIRRH-MRH program can facilitate the improvement in reproductive health and decline in maternal and neonatal deaths.

II.OBJECTIVES

1. Provide guidance on how men can actively participate in all aspects of reproductive health as a way to attain women's empowerment and gender equality.
2. Identify capacity building needs to equip national agencies, local government units to implement the program.
3. Provide suggestions for moving forward on the previous recommendations for encouraging male involvement in RH.

MIRRH PROBLEM TREE



MIRRH ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS

Reduce Maternal Mortality and Abortion

Reduce Incidences of unplanned pregnancy, birth and post partum

Proper Birth Spacing

Increase Involvement of Males in Reproductive Health

Increase awareness on Family Planning and Maternal Care Services

Service providers are equipped with technical skills to provide services and information to both men and women

Trainings on Men,s Involvement on Reproductive Health are conducted

Availability of campaign s promoting FP and RH for Men

Availability of Basis for development of Health promotion and communication plan

Availability of Baseline survey conducted