Lessons learned from passed experiences of implementing Routine Temperature Monitoring

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Developed by UNICEF to leverage prior experiences and existing material from early pilots

A lot of time, money and efforts are already invested into 30 DTR Temperature Monitoring.

We know what we are trying to achieve.

We have many tools/devices but..... we need more than tools.

What we need is a very robust system, to make sure that all risk elements are addressed.
Successful Temperature Monitoring SYSTEM using 30DTR in 5 steps

Plan & Prepare
- Define baseline and expected outcomes
- Establish the roadmap of the project

Device & Technology
- Identify/develop the most appropriate solution, considering needs and resources

Order & Deploy
- Ordering
- Shipping/Receiving
- Deployment
- Activation

Train
- Organized
- Standardized
- Hands-on
- Verification that skills are acquired

Monitor & Evaluate
- Tight monitoring and control bring visibility and enable problem solving while problems are still small
Plan well for a good start... keeping in mind Murphy’s law

- SOP breakdown – *the devil is in the details but keep it simple*
- Role mapping and definition of HR needs – *all involved should be well aware of their responsibilities in the process (including backup persons and escalation trees)*
- Device selection if not pre-selected – *beware of external influences*
- Hands-on training, organized up-front – *training should not be pressed into a 2-hours multiple-training session*
- Documentation/forms – *should be standard & printed in advance*
- Communication flow – *anything that can be misunderstood will be misunderstood*
- Procurement & distribution plan – *budget and procurement can be delayed and can then compromise the hands-on training based on one device for each participant*
- High level roadmap and deployment plan - *build in contingency*
Many solutions ... but not one-size-fits-all
No off-the-shelf product will do the job

A system must be designed and built and it takes time and resources

- Define baseline - EVM and other studies. Where are we?
- expected outcomes. Where do we want to go?
- and indicators. How will we know we have achieved the expected results?
- Make a Business Case, identifying risk area: people, costs, info system. Make a realistic gap analysis
- Engage with all stakeholders (no top-down) and leverage available resources, using partners and NGOs

- Choose the most appropriate data collection solution (SMS, download..)
- Identify pre-requisites and if other changes are necessary to achieve the goals, i.e. functioning Inventory
- Build strong contingency plans shared with all involved and rehearsed

Move from device to system and create processes bringing clarity, transparency and accountability
Order and deploy

- Choosing/ordering
- Shipping/receiving
- Deployment
- Activation

Use available resources, for example WHO material on 30DTR, UNICEF Procurement Guidelines and the Cold Chain Support Package
http://www.unicef.org/supply/index_68367.html

- Inspection of goods upon arrival and document
- Record in inventory with expiry date

- Record and document which quantities are dispatched where
- Many possible deployment strategies: during supervisory visit, during training, during restocking...

When to activate? upon arrival at central level, on site by health worker, on site by supervisor, during training...
Training is not a one-off operation but an on-going task for all staff

The good news is........

from earlier pilots and deployments, a lot of material is available in different languages

Lessons learned show that training takes time and resources but is worth the investment

Training protocols with hands-on exercises

Training videos for the 2 pre-qualified products

Job aids/posters to be affixed to the refrigerators

Standard forms for temperature recording, for alarm reporting, for repair logs, for supportive supervisory visits

Training in 30DTR can be a good opportunity to refresh staff knowledge of vaccines handling

Regularly verify the required knowledge of health workers and managers, validating SOPs

Training material:  
https://sites.google.com/site/vaccines30dtr/resources  
http://www.who.int/immunization_standards/vaccine_quality/10day_temp_device/en/
Monitoring brings visibility

Monitoring = collect data & use it

- enable identification of problems for readjustments
- provide an objective measure of the situation
- provide real evidence that can be used to take informed decisions and justify action
- enhance accountability and response-ability

A certain amount of control is necessary

The long run......to move from successful pilot to national programme

- Regular operational assessments
- Regular spot checks, nothing is for ever..
- TM effectively embedded into the workflows of the health system and into the daily routines of all EPI personnel

Real measure of success:
long term sustainability through institutionalization into EPI programmes
In the end….
It is not only about systems….
It is about people

An empowered organization is one in which individuals have the knowledge, skill, desire and opportunity to personally succeed in a way that leads to collective organizational success

Steven Covey

Thank you