

## **WHO Technical Consultation on strategies to improve the implementation of WHO recommendation of maternal health care in the European Region**

**30-31 May 2019, Trieste, Italy**

Heterogeneity in quality of maternal and newborn care within countries of the WHO European Region has been reported in several assessments. A wide range of underlying factors contribute to this, including the ability to use implementation and quality improvement science; change management strategies; and poor dissemination of existing evidenced-based recommendations of case management, among many others.

WHO has been promoting regional dissemination of guidelines and organized several technical consultations to increase the uptake of recommendations and contribute to improving quality of maternal health care. This Technical Consultation was planned to look into adapting technical guidance materials and identifying the “best” packages to meet the requirement, realities and needs of the European region, with a specific focus on digital solutions for accelerating the process. Specifically, the meeting had the following objectives:

- a) to collect information from countries on the current level of implementation of key WHO technical guidance materials on maternal health care, including exploring existing barriers and opportunities to ensure large and timely diffusion of WHO recommendations, including latest advances/updates;
- b) to identify topics beyond original WHO maternal health care guidance based on existing evidence-based guidelines and tools and importance to the European Region;
- c) to bring together collaborators and partners to gather individual perspectives and experiences and use that knowledge to test new ideas for the future - opportunities for development and adaptation of clinical guidelines, tools and job aids into digital approaches and products;
- d) to explore opportunities for re-packaging into a user-friendly format and tailoring to the specific needs of countries in the WHO European Region, existing key WHO guidelines, manuals and tools of maternal health and developing digital solutions.

This is supposed to be the first of a series of technical meetings where experts in maternal care and collaborators will work together to develop new WHO products on maternal health care, specifically adapted for use in the WHO European Region, in innovative packaging and format. The final objective is improving diffusion of WHO recommendations and increasing quality of care across the 53 countries of the European Region.