



Biweekly Update – May 28, 2008

Fistula Care organizes an international meeting for fistula surgeons and program managers in Accra, Ghana April 15-17

With support from USAID, the AWARE-RH, ACQUIRE and Fistula Care projects brought together fistula partners for a meeting in Accra, Ghana from April 15-17, 2008. The meeting provided a forum for USAID-supported fistula surgeons and program managers to come together and discuss their needs, challenges, remaining gaps and successes in fistula repair and care.

Results of this meeting included:

- Participant sharing about the current interventions that are being used to manage the continuum of comprehensive fistula management services, from prevention to repair to rehabilitation.
- The identification of gaps in fistula programming and made recommendations about best practices for addressing those gaps. Working groups brainstormed a list of the essential elements of a quality fistula treatment strategy.
- Proposed revisions to key Fistula Care documents including the training strategy and the supervision and monitoring guidelines for both training and service delivery.
- Refined indicators for quality fistula services relating to prevention, treatment, reintegration and supervision.

The final report documenting the meeting's content and outcomes is currently being finalized.