**QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST**

FOR POSITIVE DEVIANCE (PD) HEARTH SESSIONS

This checklist was developed for PIN’s field teams so they are able to **supervise a Positive Deviance (PD) Hearth feeding session and be able to provide feedback**.

Everyone involved in the session should understand the 2 main objectives of a PD Hearth session:

* To show caregivers good hygiene practices and how to cook nutrient-rich meals for children from locally available food
* To show caregivers that their children can be rehabilitated from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) with locally available food

An example of the steps of a PD/Hearth session from Zambia is provided in the diagram below:



|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |   | **YES** | **NO** | **N/A** |
| 1. **ORGANISATION**
 |
| 1 | Has there been less than 1 month between the PD Hearth Sessions and when the children were found to be moderately malnourished? | Y | N | N/A |
| 2 | Is there water and soap available for handwashing and cleaning cooking materials? | Y | N | N/A |
| 3 | Is there a clean, comfortable space for caregivers and children to sit and away from the sun?  | Y | N | N/A |
| 4 | Did the session start on time so that participants did not have to wait for more than 30 minutes? | Y | N | N/A |
| 5 | Are there less than 20 caregivers attending the session? (If there are more than 20, they should split the group into 2 separate sessions) | Y | N | N/A |
| 6 | Is the session at a suitable time of day for the caregivers? (Ask the caregivers want they think) | Y | N | N/A |
| 7 | Is the session in a suitable location for the caregivers? (Ask the caregivers want they think) | Y | N | N/A |
| 8 | Is there an up-to-date attendance sheet? | Y | N | N/A |
| 1. **FOOD PREPARATION AND FEEDING**
 |
| 1 | Did all the caregivers contribute something for the session? (If some caregivers did not, is there a good reason why? E.g. they are extremely poor) | Y | N | N/A |
| 2 | After the 5th day, are the caregivers actively involved in preparing the meals (instead of watching the organiser to do it)? | Y | N | N/A |
| 3 | Did the caregivers wash their hands before preparing food? | Y | N | N/A |
| 4 | Is the consistency of the food correct? (Like a thick porridge) | Y | N | N/A |
| 5 | Did the caregivers wash their hands before feeding their children? | Y | N | N/A |
|  **C. ORGANISER’S FACILITATION SKILLS** |
| 1 | Did the organiser ask what can be done to make it easier for the caregivers to attend the session? | Y | N | N/A |
| 2 | Is the organiser observing the feeding and encouraging caregivers who have difficulty feeding their children? | Y | N | N/A |
| 3 | Did the organiser ask the caregivers whether the ingredients they used that day can be accessed by all them? | Y | N | N/A |
| 4 | If some caregivers cannot access some of the ingredients, did they discuss how they could adapt the recipe?  | Y | N | N/A |
| 5 | Do the caregivers understand that they were selected to attend the session because their child is moderately acutely malnourished? (Ask them individually: Why were you invited to attend these sessions?) | Y | N | N/A |
| 6 | Do the caregivers understand the objectives of the session are to show them how they can feed their children well with locally available food to help them gain weight? | Y | N | N/A |
| 7 | Is there a hygiene promotion lesson given? | Y | N | N/A |
| 8 | Did the organiser find out whether the caregivers have changed anything at home since starting these PD sessions? |  |  |  |
| **D. WEIGHING CHILDREN** |
| 1 | Are the children weighed on the 1st, 6th and 12th day and it is recorded all on 1 sheet? (If you are supervising e.g. the 7th session, just check that the 1st and 6th measurement was taken) | Y | N | N/A |
| 2 | Were all the clothes taken off the child whilst weighing? | Y | N | N/A |
| 3 | Was the weighing scale calibrated before weighing the child? | Y | N | N/A |
| 4 | Did the person weighing the child tell the caregiver (confidentially) what the change in weight has been and congratulate them if there has been a gain in weight? | Y | N | N/A |
| 5 | After the 12th day did all the children gain enough weight? (Minimum 400g) | Y | N | N/A |
| 6 | After the 12th day, if they did not all gain enough weight, will the sessions continue? | Y | N | N/A |
| 7 | If a child has lost weight were they referred for medical check up? | Y | N | N/A |
| **E. ADDRESSING RELAPSE** |
| 1 | Has the organiser **checked whether** there are any MAM children in the group that were MAM before and attended previous 12-day Hearth sessions (i.e. they have relapsed)? (Tick “N” if they haven’t checked, not if there aren’t any MAM children) | Y | N | N/A |
| 2 | Has the organiser taken any action **to understand** why the child has relapsed to be MAM again? (Remember that the PD Hearth approach is showing that even poor households can feed their children well. So if the organiser just says “that family is poor”, encourage them to visit the household to do one-on-one counselling with the caregiver and father of the child) | Y | N | N/A |
| 3 | Has the organiser taken any action **to prevent** this relapse from happening again? | Y | N | N/A |

 > Do you have a suggestion for improving the checklist’s content? Let us know: resource@peopleinneeed.cz