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Overview of ECD-specific interventions

Day 2: ECD-specific interventions in the health sector

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Technical Meeting to Enhance Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development in the Health Sector

25-28 February

Nairobi, Kenya










World Health
Organization



for every child

We know what services young children need to develop to her/his full potential



| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  <p>Nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early, exclusive and continued breastfeeding • Complementary foods and responsive feeding • Early stimulation and responsive caregiving at home • Fortified foods and micronutrient supplements • Early detection and treatment of child malnutrition |  <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maternal and newborn health • Perinatal and caregiver mental health • Immunization • Management of common childhood illnesses • Early detection and intervention for developmental delays and disabilities |  <p>Water and sanitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe and affordable drinking water • Safe handling and storage of drinking water • Sanitation, including the safe disposal of child faeces • Handwashing with soap by caregivers and young children |
|  <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early childhood care and education services • Parenting support for early learning and responsive caregiving • Enhanced home-learning environments • Social-emotional development of children • Inclusive early childhood education for children |  <p>Child protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal identity, including birth registration • Mental health and psychosocial support of children and caregivers • Prevention of violence against children and women in family settings • Prevention and response to child abuse and neglect • Prevention of family separation and promotion of family-based alternative care |  <p>Social policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurement of child poverty in early childhood • Inclusive social protection, including child benefits and health insurance • Family-friendly policies and care • Local governance for early childhood services • Public investment in early childhood development |
|  <p>Cross-cutting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender-responsive parenting and gender socialization • Disability inclusive policies, programmes and services • Strengthened resilience of young children's services to climate and environmental impacts • Peacebuilding and social cohesion through investments in early childhood development | | |

Young children need a multisectoral package of services

ECD-SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS: INTERVENTIONS THAT SUPPORT THE HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

- **Micronutrient supplementation**
- **Psychological interventions for common perinatal mental disorders**
- **Parenting programmes**
- **Cash “plus” transfers**
- **Breastfeeding promotion, education and support**
- **...**





Call for action!

Strengthen health and nutrition services to reach the most vulnerable children and families
such as immunization, antenatal and postnatal care, micronutrient supplementation, IYCF...

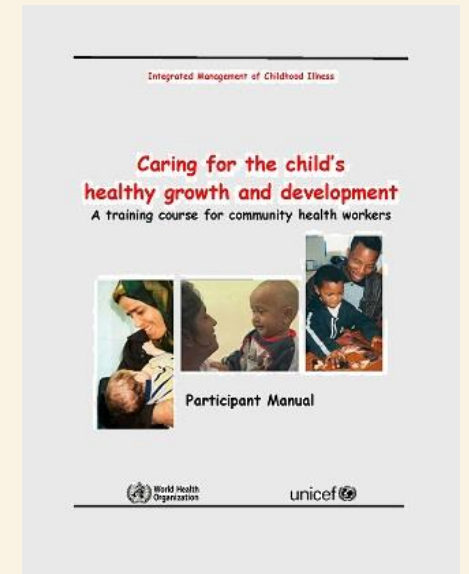
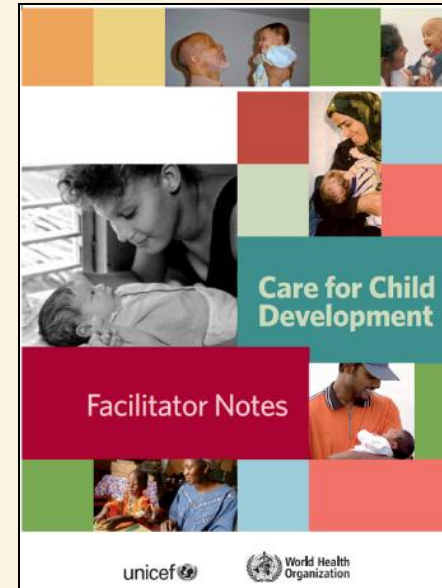
Add interventions for more holistic support to child development and caregivers' wellbeing
such as counselling on responsive caregiving, play and communication, provision of psychosocial support to caregivers, early identification and interventions for developmental delays...

Science says: effective interventions exist

Care for Child Development
Expanded to 50+ countries, translated into 20+ languages

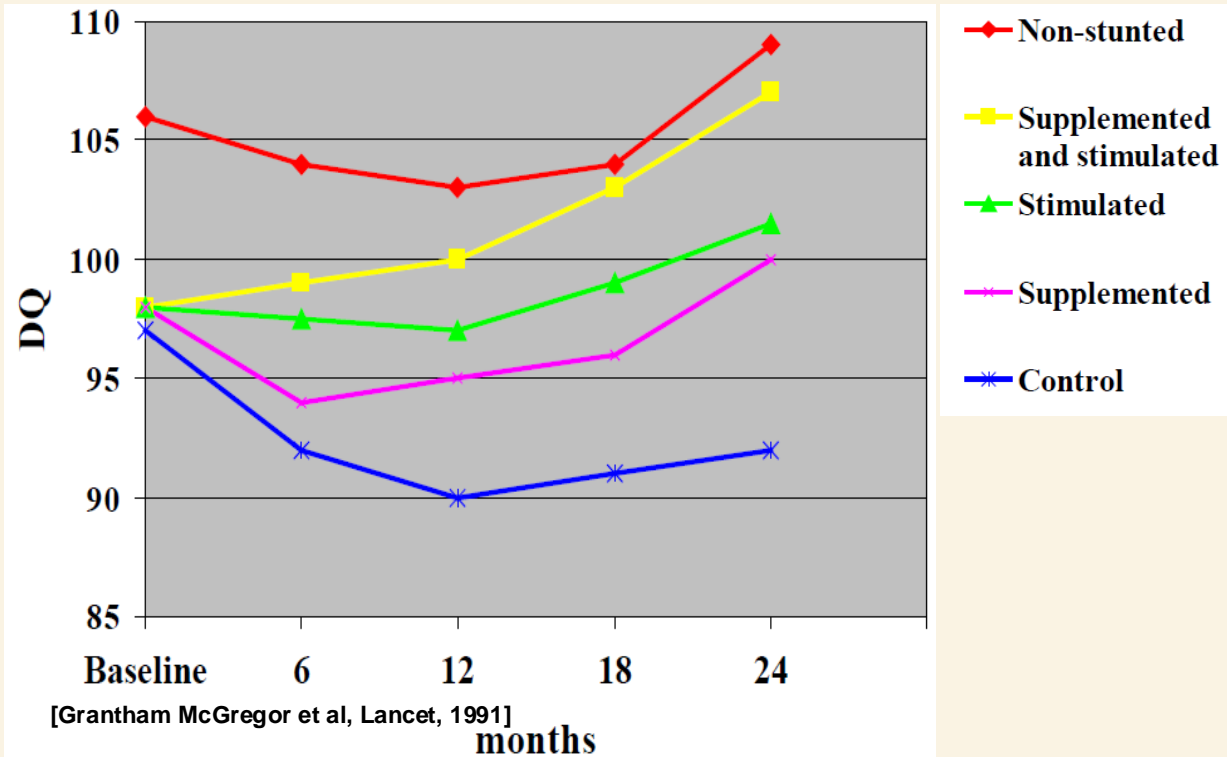
Caring for the Caregiver
Tested and rolled out in Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, Tanzania...

Early Screening and Early Interventions on developmental delays and disabilities



Science says: bundle the interventions

The Jamaica Study



Original Findings:

- Stimulation benefitted child development more than nutrition.
- Stimulation & nutrition had an additive effect on child development.
- Nutrition benefitted growth.

Long-term:

- Stimulation (alone or in combination with nutrition) leads to higher academic attainment, better social skills, less depression, reduced violent behavior, and higher wages

Integration within existing health and nutrition services



**GOOD
HEALTH**



**ADEQUATE
NUTRITION**



**RESPONSIVE
CAREGIVING**



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EARLY LEARNING**



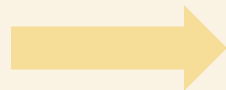
**SAFETY AND
SECURITY**



**CAREGIVER
WELL-BEING**

Health and nutrition services already support caregivers with two of the five components of nurturing care.

Strengthen



How can health and nutrition services better support caregivers with the other three components of nurturing care?

How can health and nutrition services support caregiver well-being?

Add

Entry points



Sick child visit
(Turkey)

Community
health workers
(PEDS trial
Pakistan)

Clinics (China)

ANC / PNC

Well-baby
clinic

Growth
Monitoring

Other social services: education,
social protection...

Steps to consider when introducing new interventions in the system



- Design the multi-input package: use evidence, think about the outcome
- Choose the delivery platform
- *Reliable, suitable, have extensive reach...*
- What mode of delivery is suitable
- *individual, group, mixed...*
- Define the dose, frequency
- ...

Nurturing care practice guide

- Targets **providers and managers** of health and nutrition services
- Is relevant for **humanitarian and emergency** settings



<https://nurturing-care.org/practiceguide/>

NURTURING CARE PRACTICE GUIDE

Strengthening nurturing
care through health
and nutrition services



unicef 

 World Health
Organization





**Increase investment in early
childhood development,
starting from the youngest
and the most deprived**

***If we change the beginning
of the story, we will change
the whole story!***



Thank you