



## OpenMRS Community Green Lights Electronic Medical Records

*In August 2024, the OpenMRS community and PATH conducted an important visit to facilities operating electronic medical records (EMRs) in central Uganda and the Bunyoro region. This collaboration was aimed at enhancing healthcare delivery through improved health information systems.*

*A meeting at the METS offices to discuss EMR progress with METS management kickstarted the activities. OpenMRS Community Coordinator, Beryl Kanali led the delegation, that observed EMRs in use and interacted with healthcare providers during visits to Kisenyi Health Center IV and Kyangwali Health Center IV, which are both early adopters for EMR implementation. At the Baylor Foundation's offices in Hoima, the team held discussions with stakeholders and held*

*discussions on scaling EMRs and exploring further collaboration opportunities.*

*The team documented workflows, gathered feedback, and identified areas for the EMR improvement. They gained valuable insights into both the challenges and successes of system deployment.*

*This visit has strengthened the commitment of OpenMRS, PATH, and METS to advancing healthcare in Uganda through innovative health information systems. The knowledge gained will contribute to the ongoing development of EMRs, ensuring they continue to meet the evolving needs of healthcare providers and patients across Uganda.*



Field team at Kisenyi HCIV Kampala

Demonstration of use of EMRs at registration

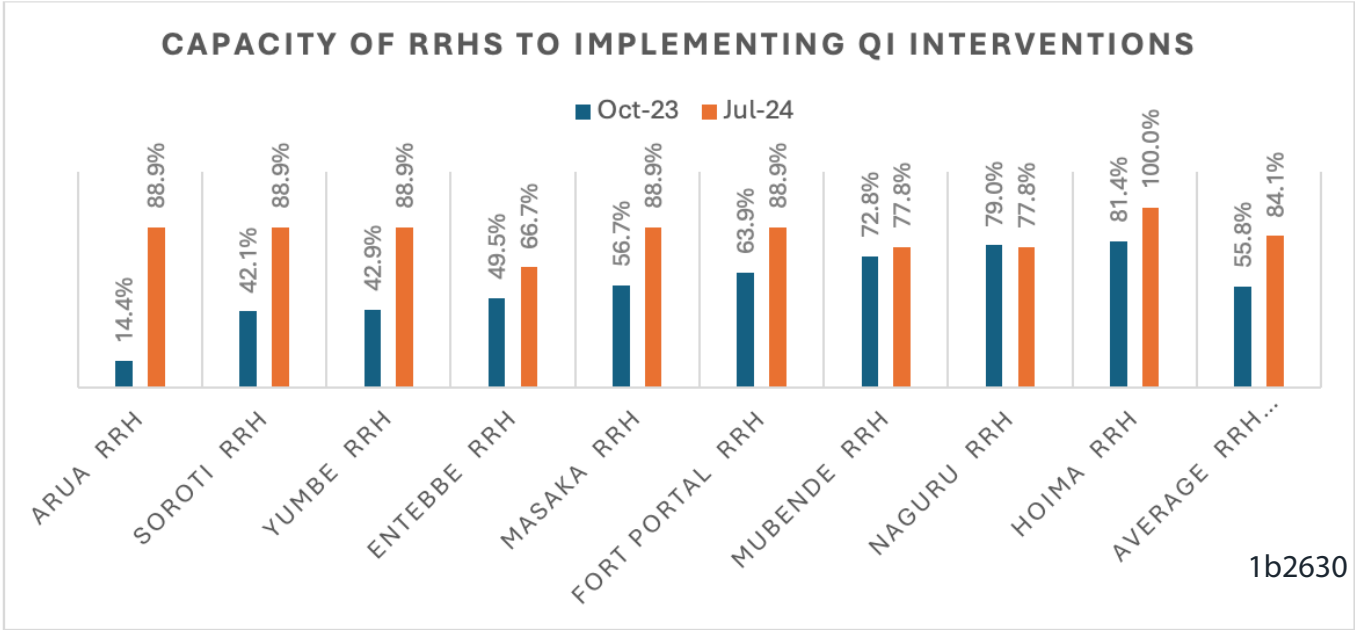


# Improving Healthcare Quality in Uganda

In July 2024, the Ministry of Health, in partnership with MakSPH-METS and other organizations, conducted a week-long Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) coaching and mentorship program across nine Regional Referral Hospitals (RRHs) in Uganda.

Teams of experts visited hospitals to assess progress, build capacity, and help close performance gaps. The exercise further focused on strengthening quality improvement structures and skills at both regional and hospital levels. Activities included reviewing existing projects, initiating new ones, and updating the national quality improvement database. Hospital staff, including leadership and departmental heads, actively participated in the process.

Results and improvements showed that, overall, capacity to implement quality improvement interventions increased from 61.9% in October 2023 to 80.4% in July 2024. Regional QI committees showed improved performance, rising from 68.0% to 76.5%.



Capacity of RRH QI committee to implement QI interventions

Hospital QI committees, which are mandated to coordinate implementation of CQI, made significant progress, increasing performance from 55.8% to 84.1% in their ability to implement their mandates. Improvement was most evident in Arua, Soroti and Yumbe RRHs which were below 50% but increased to over 85%.

**Best practices observed included the following**

- Good documentation of quality improvement activities
  - Regular team meetings to share progress
- Implementation of the 5S methodology (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain) in most hospitals





*Feedback Meeting with staff of Soroti RRH*

*Feedback Meeting with staff of Mubende RRH*




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*While challenges, such as funding constraints and the need for more consistent meetings remain, the program has set a strong foundation for continued improvement in healthcare quality across Uganda's regional hospitals.*

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*This initiative demonstrates country's commitment to enhancing patient care and hospital efficiency through systematic quality improvement efforts.*

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# METS Joins the Fight Against Mpox in Uganda

*In July 2024, Uganda confirmed an outbreak of Mpox in the western district of Kasese. As of 1st August, two cases were confirmed with 13 suspected cases. Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Support (METS) Program has since mobilized to support the Ministry of Health's response efforts. Working with MoH, CDC, and WHO, METS is leveraging its expertise in HIV/AIDS surveillance to help identify Mpox cases early, particularly among HIV patients who may be at higher risk.*

*METS will leverage the electronic medical records systems at the facilities to strengthen screening of suspected Mpox cases and reporting to the Ministry of Health in areal time. This will enable the MOH to respond in a timely manner, work with communities to reduce further spread of the disease, severe illness and death*



Mpox Skin manifestations

*METS is committed to supporting Uganda's efforts to control the Mpox outbreak. By building on our existing HIV surveillance infrastructure and expertise, we aim to contribute significantly to early detection and improved treatment outcomes for Mpox cases, especially among HIV/AIDS patients in high-risk areas.*



## Gallery



*Ministry of Health PS, Dr. Diana Atwine being given a demo at Biiso HC IV in Bunyoro region on the improved EMR Viral Load (VL) exchange that uses barcodes and sends data to CPHL. This will help in reducing printing of VL forms in an effort of transitioning to paperless service delivery.*

*Participants take a group photo after the technical support supervision exercise on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for persons at substantial risk of HIV infection in West Nile region. The exercise was attended by representatives from CDC, METS, MakSPH, IDI Regional Coordinators*



*In August 2024, the OpenMRS community, in collaboration with PATH, conducted a visit to Uganda's central and Bunyoro regions, including Kisenyi Health Center IV, Kyangwali Health Center IV in Hoima, to evaluate and strengthen the EMR system, ensuring continued collaboration and improvement of healthcare delivery through advanced health information systems.*



*The national training of trainees for EMR roll out across the country held at the MakSPH Auditorium. The implementing partners will train facility staff in their respective districts/ regions.*



EMR training of trainers for UPMB M&E and IT staff to equip them with knowledge to roll out the EMR in their health facilities across the country. This training was held at Masaka and Mityana



NCD Evaluation team enroute to Lulamba HCIII in Kalangala District, the team conducted data collection



Quarterly Performance review meeting at Mubende RRH focusing on work plan implementation progress, performance against targets, action plan implementation progress from previous visit and TA on end of project year closing procedures.

Winnie Mbabazi (METS) during the Training for the Piloting of Health Data Collection using Mobile Devices for the DREAMS Program for the Infectious Disease Institute (IDI) at Nansana



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