

## Making a difference: Comprehensive Community and Home-Based Palliative Care in Rural and Urban Setting in Papua New Guinea

### Co-Authors

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## What is Community Home-based and Palliative Care?

- Is about people and seeks to address the problems which are of most concern to the client or patient
- Is about living as well as dying through relieving suffering and improving quality of life from the time when the person first finds out that he/she has an incurable illness
- Providing wholistic approach of care



## Why do we need Palliative Care?

- Strengthen health systems, referral and networking between services and providers
- Palliative care and treatment go hand-in-hand. Together they add-up to comprehensive care
- Palliative care is provided with treatment services, integrated across different services and levels: out/in-patient care
- Task-shifting from hospitals to community - patients will be referred to community and families to care



## About the Project

- Strong involvement of communities including PLHIV, health workers, religious and community leaders
- Development of a CHBC training curriculum and standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Provision of low cost equipments and palliative care medicines



## About the Project Cont'd

- Strengthening of referral systems between communities to health facilities and vice versa
- Capacity building through regular supervision and mentoring
- Development of M & E tools



## Results:

- Increase number of clients accessing CHBC services
- Improvement in medicine adherence
- Improved referral systems and follow up mechanisms
- Reduced stigma and discrimination amongst/against PLHIV



## Results Cont'd:

- PLHIV and families report high level of satisfaction with the CHBC services
- CHBC services have now been expanded to other areas of high HIV prevalence in PNG



## Lessons Learnt

- Effective coordination, resource mobilization and partnership with PLHIV and key stakeholders
- Meaningful participation of PLHIV
- Strong scene of community ownership



## Lessons Learnt Cont'd

- Contribution of CHBC to better care for PLHIV
- Significant reduction in the stigma and discrimination experienced by PLHIV

