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Riders for Healths demonstration of effectiveness and efficiency of contracting out vehicle fleet management for health delivery

Submission date
16/11/2011

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
05/12/2011

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
18/01/2012

Condition category
Other

[ ] Prospectively registered
[ ] Protocol
[ ] Statistical analysis plan
[ ] Results
[ ] Individual participant data
[ ] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims?
Stanford University is conducting a research study in Zambia's Southern Province to evaluate how well contracting the management of Ministry of Health vehicles and motorcycles to the NGO Riders for Health will work. The goal of the study is to assess the impact that reliable transportation can have on health, and the cost-effectiveness of such transportation. The learnings of this study can inform health officials, global health policy makers and funders about the costs and ultimate health benefits of investing in reliable transportation.

Who can participate?
This study does not directly involve human subjects/participants. Our target population is motorcycles and vehicles used for health delivery.

What does the study involve?
Eight districts in the Southern Province of Zambia are included in the study. Districts are randomly assigned as follows: four districts are experimental groups that are receiving an intervention (i.e., receive the Riders program), and four districts are control groups. The Riders intervention in the four experimental districts will be the "Transport Asset Management (TAM)" program. These districts receive vehicles and motorcycles as well as maintenance and repair services.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
There are no risks to participants as the study does not involve patients but health technicians and transport managers.

Where is the study run from?
The study is run by the Socially and Environmentally Supply Chains Program at Stanford University's Global Supply Chain Management Forum, which is based at the University's Graduate School of Business.

When did the study start and how long is it expected to run for?
Baseline data collection began on August 1, 2011 and the study is expected to continue through summer 2013.

Who is funding the study?
The study is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA, USA.

Who is the main contact?
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Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

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Study information

Scientific Title
Riders for Healths demonstration of effectiveness and efficiency of contracting out vehicle fleet management for health delivery: a randomised controlled study

Study objectives
1. To what extent do Riders for Health's models result in improved vehicle fleet management?
2. To what extent does improved vehicle fleet management result in improved health worker productivity?
3. To what extent does improved health worker productivity from improved vehicle fleet management result in equitable coverage of critical health interventions?

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
1. University of Zambia Biomedical Research Ethics Committee approved on November 4, 2010
2. Stanford University Research Compliance Office approved on August 31, 2010

Primary study design
Interventional

Study design
Randomised controlled study

Study type(s)
Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Health delivery by Zambia Ministry of Health's Environmental Health Technicians (EHTs)

Interventions
Eight districts in the Southern Province of Zambia are included in the study. Districts were randomly assigned as follows: four districts are experimental groups that are receiving an intervention (i.e., receive the Riders program), and four districts are control groups. The Riders intervention in the four experimental districts will be the "Transport Asset Management (TAM)" program. These districts receive vehicles and motorcycles as well as maintenance and repair services. Data collection officers interview 120 Environmental Health Technicians (EHTs) in the four experimental districts and four control districts each week. Data collection officers also collect raw data for analysis including health treatment tally sheets, vehicle logs, immunization records, and more from health centers and district health offices.

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)
Environmental Health Technician productivity and health intervention coverage rates

Key secondary outcome(s)
No secondary outcome measures

Completion date
01/08/2013

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
1. Environmental Health Technicians (EHTs) employed by Zambia's Ministry of Health. EHTs are assigned to both district health offices and urban and rural health centers
2. District health office transport managers employed by Zambia's Ministry of Health

This study does not directly involve human subjects/participants. Our target population is motorcycles and ambulances used for health delivery. We will not be measuring anything on human beings. The only (potential) human subjects issue is that we are collecting health worker activity sheets which include information about what health interventions have been delivered.

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
Does not meet inclusion criteria

Date of first enrolment
01/08/2011

Date of final enrolment
01/08/2013

Locations

Countries of recruitment
United States of America

Zambia

Study participating centre
Stanford University
Stanford
United States of America
94305

Sponsor information

Organisation
Riders for Health (UK)

Funder(s)

Funder type
Charity

Funder Name

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary
Not provided at time of registration