



Results: Focus Group Discussion



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Women Centered Care (WCC)

WCC is an approach to providing healthcare and related rehabilitation services that take into account a women’s individual physical and emotional health needs and circumstances and ability to access care.

Women with disabilities’ experiences (Vientiane and Xieng Khouang)



“The doctor asked me, ‘Why do you want a child? Do you think you can look after him? You are already a burden to the community’” – Participant from Vientiane

“Health professionals do not know about my health condition. [When I was giving birth], they started doing an epidural and I told them that I could still feel pain, but they did not listen to me... In addition, they did not know how to help me to move around the birthing room.” – Participant from Vientiane

“During treatment, I was never asked or informed by the doctor that my leg would be moved or touched. They just did it without consent, so I did not return to the service for years. My privacy should be respected, using a curtain should be considered, or I should be able to have someone that I know accompany me in the room during treatment.”- Participant from Vientiane

“Basic vaccinations for mothers and children in my village health center were not available, so the health providers suggested we wait or go to the district hospital. However, a mother in the community might have difficulty travelling because they can’t drive or have a young baby or lots of household chores, so these barriers limit women accessing the healthcare they need.”- Participant from Xieng Khouang

Next steps

- Disseminate findings with the Ministry of Health
- Design health facility audit tools and conduct health facility audit survey baseline for HI-I in three provinces
- Develop guidelines and curriculum for health and rehabilitation service providers relating specifically to women centered care
- Ensure priority is given to female healthcare providers for overseas scholarships
- Conduct annual health facility audits to measure improved ability of health system to provide quality health and related rehabilitation
- Repeat FGD with women with disabilities to capture changes in user experiences

