Third-Party Evaluations of CommCare

CommCare’s Impact

CommCare has an evidence base of over 65 peer-reviewed studies, including eight randomized controlled trials. Together, these studies demonstrate CommCare’s positive impact on strengthening frontline healthcare systems, frontline worker capabilities, and client results. Below are some highlights from the Evidence Base, which can be found here.

- Two RCTs -- one in India and one in Tanzania, that demonstrate that clients of community health workers using CommCare have better behaviors and outcomes than the clients of community health workers who don’t use CommCare.
  - An RCT by Mathematica Policy Research in India showed a 73% increase in having at least three antenatal care visits, a 58% increase in consuming 90 Iron-Folic Acid tablets, a 34% increase in modern contraceptives usage, and a 22% increase in immediate breastfeeding. (Borkhum, 2015)
  - An RCT in Tanzania documented a 74% institutional delivery rate for clients whose FLWs use CommCare, compared to a 63% institutional delivery rate in the control group. (Hackett 2018).
- Independent peer-reviewed cost effectiveness analysis determined that a scale-up of CommCare in Uttar Pradesh, India over a 10-year period would avert 149,468 neonatal deaths, at USD $205 per DALY averted and $5,865 per death averted. [Prinja 2018].

CommCare vs. Other Digital Health Systems

- This analysis from Kopernik tested and evaluated 17 different digital data collection tools across three areas - usability, affordability, and accessibility. Based on the most recent evaluation, CommCare was given the highest cumulative rating across all three areas. The same kind of analysis was done for CommCare Messaging.
- A third-party study evaluated 58 technologies that were used as part of the 2014 - 2015 Ebola response efforts in West Africa. The study found that, of the 58 tools, only CommCare and one other tool supported all 7 technical characteristics and 4 key functionalities relevant to Ebola outbreak response.
- In this study, the author built the same digital health application in DHIS2 as well as in CommCare, and provided their evaluation of both tools across a variety of areas.
- This evaluation framework put out by USAID describes the differences and value between CommCare, OpenMRS, and IHRIS.
- This third-party report from the Coalition of Life Saving Commodities evaluated three open source supply chain systems, including CommCare, OpenLMIS, and DHIS2.

Technical Evaluation

- In early 2020, CommCare was assessed at the 53rd most valuable repository on GitHub by an independent analysis, out of a total of 96 million repositories.
- CommCare is recognized as a Global Good by the World Health Organization and Digital Square.