

# **Enhancing Family Planning Uptake Through Provider-led Integrated Outreach in Nigeria**

*Delafrida Ukaga, Emeka Okafor, Michael Alagbile, Kenechukwu Eruchalu, Jane Egbuchiem*

## **Background**

To increase contraceptive uptake and address unmet needs for family planning, an effective strategy is needed to address the challenges such as lack of access and cultural resistance by taking FP services directly to communities combining healthcare provider engagement with public education to improve services delivery and acceptance. This study aims to assess the effectiveness of provider-led integrated outreach programs in increasing family planning uptake among women in Nigeria

## **Methods**

A total of 58 integrated providers-led outreach was conducted from April to August 2024 in Kano, Kaduna and Nasarawa states. The medical outreach involved community pharmacists, and patent and proprietary medicine vendors, all offering free family planning services through the IntegratE project. Data were collected using service utilization reports and providers' feedback.

## **Result**

A total of **2389** FP clients were reached during this outreach. Out of which **614 (25.7%)** were provided with oral contraceptive pills, **616 (25.8%)** with injectable contraceptives including self-injection, **535 (22.4%)** implant insertion, **279 (11.7%)** condoms and **1 (0.04%)** implant removal. Also, **344 (14.4%)** clients who had not yet adopted any method received counselling on family planning. Providers reported that the outreach increased awareness of contraceptives and improved service delivery. Many new clients expressed willingness to adopt family planning methods at their various facilities following the outreach.

## **Conclusion**

Provider-led integrated outreach significantly enhanced FP uptake by bringing services closer to the communities and addressing key barriers to access and education. Expanding this model could further enhance FP service delivery and acceptance nationwide.