Smart Discharges & eCHIS

Community Linkage to Care in Buikwe District

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Malaria Consortium

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Overview

Challenge:

- VHTs struggled with paper reports, inaccuracies, and fragmented digital tools.
- Low VHT reporting at national level, including Buikwe district.
- Non-user friendly community data.
- Costly mentorship/supervision mechanisms.
- Poor iCCM commodities consumption monitoring and quantification.

Solution:

- Implement a national electronic Community Health Information System (eCHIS) for better coordination and interoperability with health systems.

Electronic Community Health Information System (eCHIS)

A mobile platform

At the community level

- Supports guideline-based quality of care provision.
- Aids in managing health extension programs.
- Collects and utilizes demographic data.
- Gathers health services delivery information.
- Tracks service utilization.
- Reports into HMIS in nearly real-time

About eCHIS

- Owned by the MOH. The one community health digital solution endorsed by the MOH.
- Powered by open-source technologies: Community Health Toolkit (CHT) and OpenSRP.
    - Integrate data into a unified management and visualization platform.
- Supports VHTs and Health Assistants in providing various healthcare services.
    - Antenatal care, postnatal care, nutrition, immunization, iCCM, malaria, HIV, TB, stock monitoring workflows and GPS location.
- Other features:
    - DHIS2 integration, translated into Luganda, data quality tool.

eCHIS & Smart Discharges implementation in Buikwe District - 2021

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eCHIS Implementation

- VHTs trained & equipped
- District-led supervision supported
- Translation
- Research

eCHIS Technology

- Technical service design
- Development of tools and workflows

Smart Discharges Implementation

- Health worker & VHT training on discharge care and QI
- Support supervision

Smart Discharges Technology

- Integrate facility-based risk-prediction & follow-up referral scheduling with eCHIS
- Research

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Concept

Interoperability
2-way reporting between facility and community

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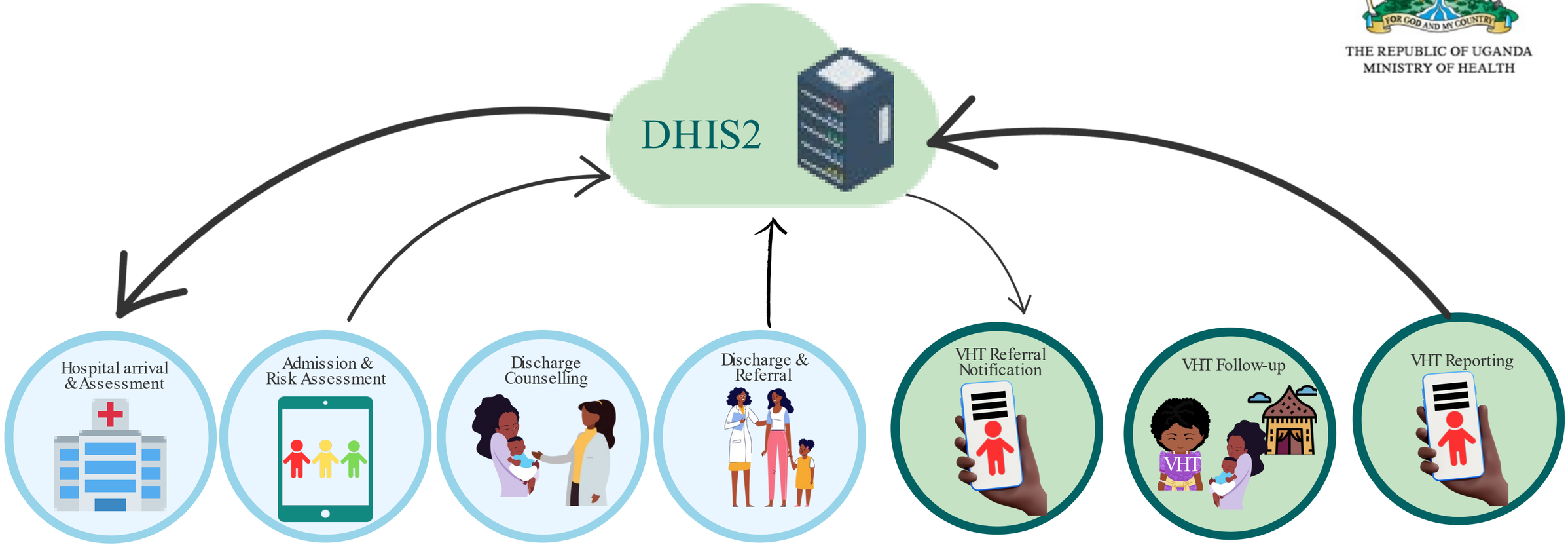


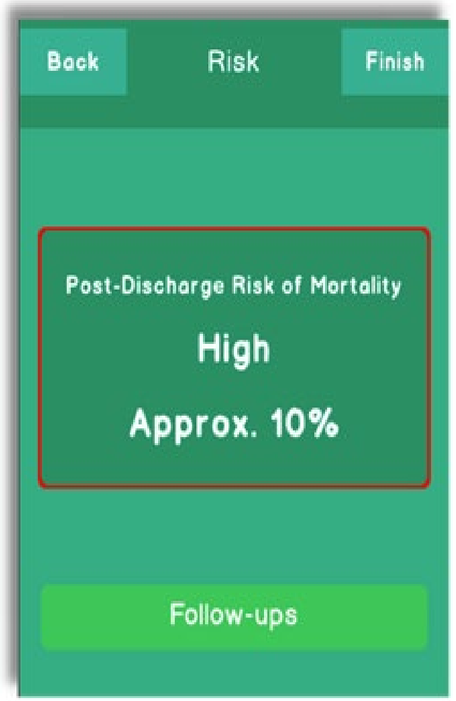
Smart Discharges

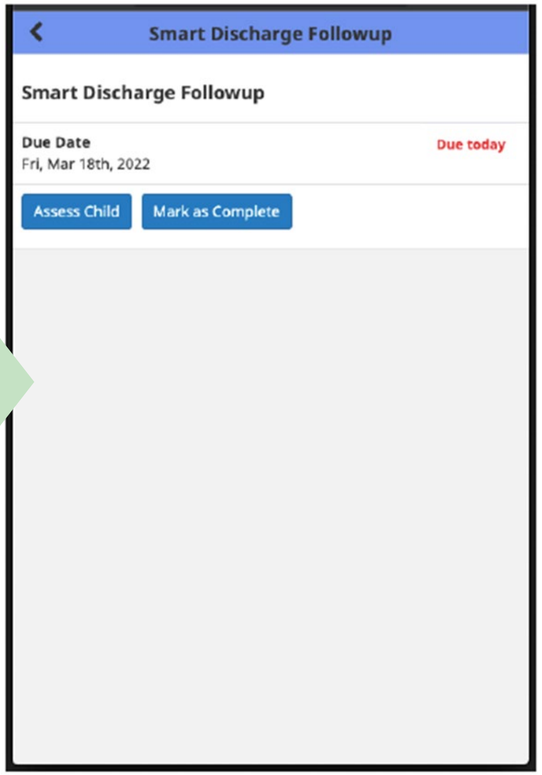
Pediatric Risk Assessment App (PARA)

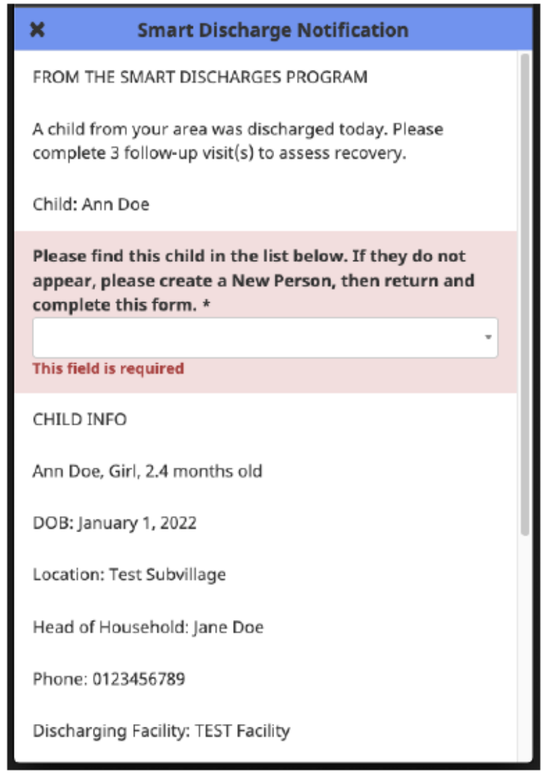
eCHIS

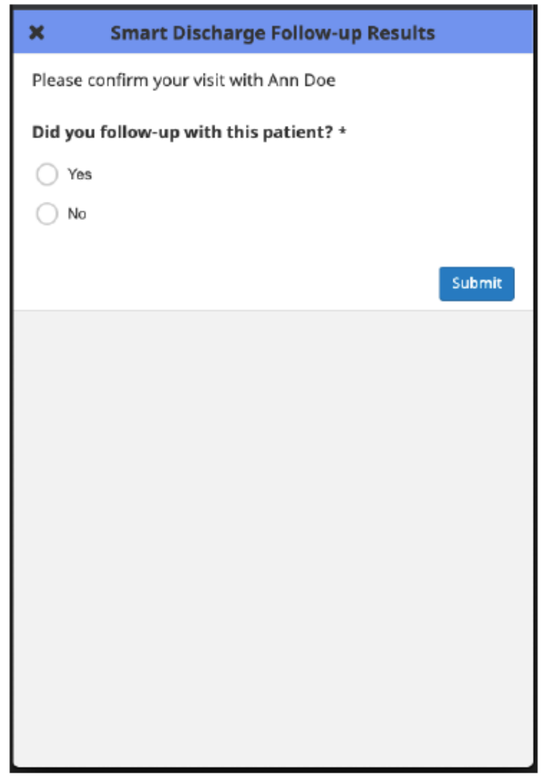
Smart Discharges (PARA)

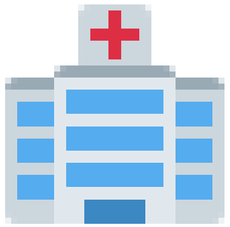
eCHIS











Key Achievements

Training:

36 Health workers

344 VHTs

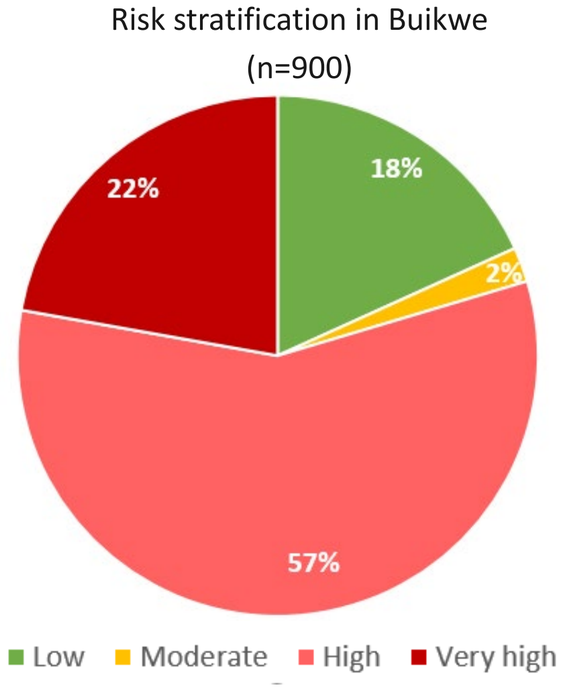
19 VHT trainers

Implementation:

3 facilities

- Kawolo Hospital, St. Charles Lwanga Buikwe Hospital, St. Francis Nyenga Hospital

7 sub-counties



Improved Care

900 children assessed for risk of post-discharge mortality and morbidity

736 (82%) children deemed at-risk and recieved a post-discharge referral to a VHT.

User Ability Testing

- UAT completed wilth workers
- App issues identified were addressed
  - Remaining issues outside of the scope of the project (e.g. health worker shortages)

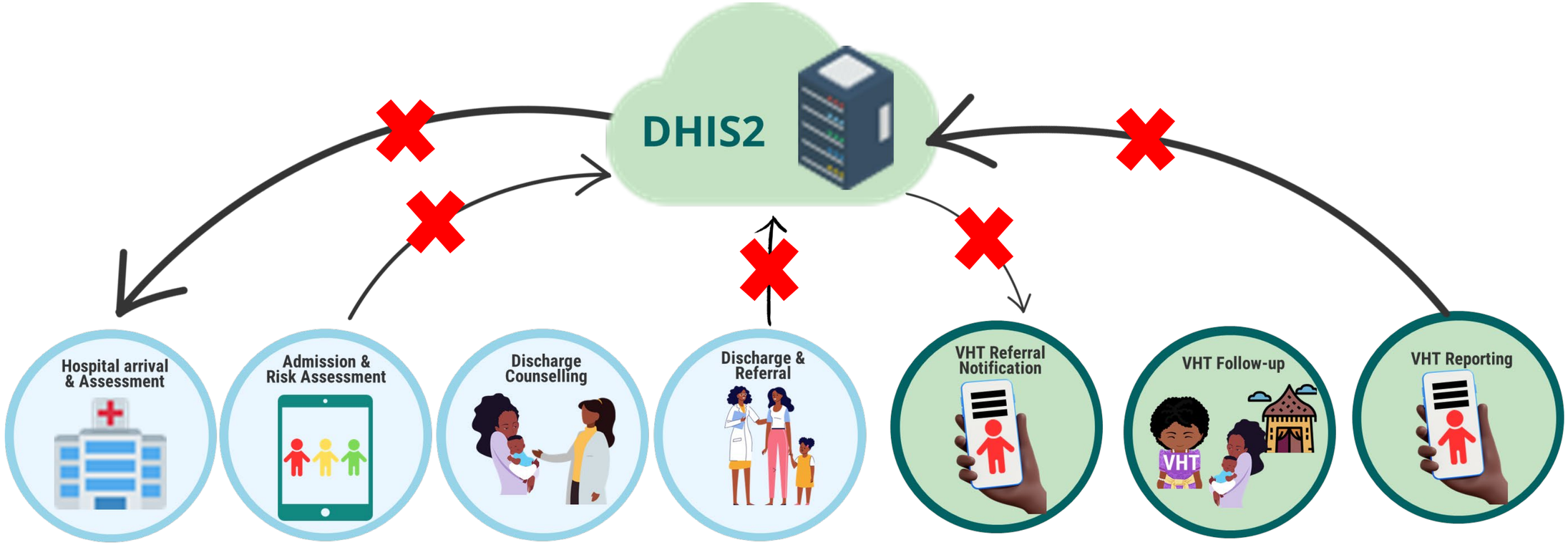
Partnership

Strong partnerships developed between MOH, Malaria Consortium, Medic, DHT, facilities, Medic, WALIMU, UBC,

Challenges

MOH APPROVAL PENDING

- System fully tested
- Need to move from “demo” to “production”



Smart Discharges

Pediatric Risk Assessment App (PARA)

eCHIS

Temporary Solution

- VHT notified of follow-up referrals via SMS
  - No ability for 2-way reporting between the facility and VHT
  - No national level **automated reporting** to DHIS2 of facility patient data in Buikwe
    - No data storage on MOH servers
    - Data on Risk prediction, discharge diagnosis, mortality still being sent to Smart Discharges serves.

Barriers to Sustainability

- Approvals pending for eCHIS-Smart Discharges integration
- No current integration of post-discharge care into iCCM guidelines
  - Patient centered facility to community transitions
  - Based on individualized risk of post-discharge vulnerability