Our vision is a world where all mothers experience childbirth safely and with respect, and all newborns get a safe start in life.
Maternal and newborn health outcomes are closely tied to the quality of care mothers receive. Yet, in Kenya, there is a gap in cost-effective training to improve and sustain life-saving emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC) skills. Comprehensive training, supportive supervision, and coaching are effective in giving nurses and midwives the needed skills to avert or mitigate life-threatening pregnancy and postpartum complications, improve clinical performance, and motivate providers and managers.

Jacaranda is partnering with County governments and public hospitals to deploy EmONC Mentorship, a low-cost program focussed on sustainably improving the quality of maternal and neonatal care in facilities. Jacaranda Lead Mentors train and support a cohort of government nurse midwives to become maternal and newborn health quality of care champions, with training taking place in the facility to ensure providers continue to improve their skills as they deliver services.

Addressing an Urgent need...

6,000 women in Kenya die during childbirth annually.[1]

60% of global neonatal deaths and half of maternal deaths in health systems are attributed to poor quality care.[2]

When the program started at our hospital it brought a great impact on our service care and delivery. Suddenly, I noticed better teamwork, as well as emergency preparedness in dealing with complications. Before, we struggled to handle most complications during delivery like postpartum hemorrhage. After the training we became competent and confident, and the results we’ve seen - in terms of attending emergencies and preventing mortalities - really speak for themselves.

Loise Nzilani Mulhami,
Head Nurse, Referral Mother and Child Department,
Makueni County Hospital

Our program combines:

A standardized training package that includes simulation-based training

In-facility coaching for skill improvement

Problem-solving advisory support that helps facilities resolve system-level bottlenecks that hamper the delivery of life-saving care
Our innovative ‘training of trainers’ model significantly extends the program’s reach and impact across Kenya, encourages counties and sub-counties to take ownership of improvements to maternal and newborn health care quality, and sustains a constant cycle of skills-building within facilities— all meaning mums and babies are served by competent, respectful maternity nurses.

**Jacaranda Lead Mentor**

- Typically embedded within high volume facilities around Kenya, lead mentors are experienced EmONC educators, equipped with training from Jacaranda to provide comprehensive training to other service providers to become mentors themselves.

**Government In-Facility Mentor**

- Our EmONC Mentor ‘Champions’ work within government health facilities to refresh providers’ EmONC knowledge & skills, support continuing medical education (CMEs), and run drills and direct coaching.

**Mentees: Frontline Providers**

- Our network of mentees across the country gain advanced emergency care skills through continuing medical education (CME) lectures, and drills within their respective facilities.

**Promoting a national standard of care**

County governments have already bought-into our innovative model by sharing the program costs, and its curriculum is being used as part of a new National EmONC Mentorship Package, aimed at upskilling nurses across the country.

- Jacaranda Lead Mentor: 8
- EmONC Mentors have been trained by Jacaranda: 400+
- Government In-Facility Mentor: 8
- Mentees: Frontline Providers: 6000
- 90% improvement in neonatal resuscitation skills amongst providers.
- 91% of essential clinical steps are now consistently performed during delivery.

We have deployed our Mentorship model across 13 counties:
Equipping Providers with EmONC Skills Remotely through Delta

Our Digital EmONC Learning Trainer and Assistant

Delta is Jacaranda’s virtual learning assistant, equipping health providers with the needed skills in emergency care to avert life-threatening pregnancy and postpartum complications. Through a series of self-paced learning modules, maternity nurses, doctors, students, and clinical officers across the country can access EmONC learning content at their fingertips, and have their progress virtually validated and marked by program mentors. The modules mirror the mentorship model we deliver in-facilities – covering subjects from respectful maternity care, communications skills, and staff management alongside critical emergency care competencies around neonatal resuscitation, postpartum hemorrhage (excessive bleeding after pregnancy), respectful maternity care, infection prevention, and post-abortion care.

Scenario-based questions help bring to life critical aspects of emergency care – covering subjects from neonatal resuscitation to preparing for a blood transfusion. Data collected from providers’ progress through the learning content is auto-processed and analysed within minutes, motivating nurses with instant feedback on their skills development, and giving us – and the county governments we serve – real-time updates on gaps in provider knowledge across the country.

The idea of learning EmONC skills virtually is so encouraging. I’ve already learnt so much about different areas in nursing and problem solving, which will help us all improve the quality of care we give our clients. The certificates are motivating this progress.

DELTA User

1,500+ health providers have learnt critical emergency care skills through DELTA

45 counties represented across DELTA learners

85% average score in post-test results

Jacaranda has mentored thousands of frontline health providers to date, but the program’s impact spreads far beyond this. Mentors and mentees are empowered to share their skills and know-how with colleagues in their respective facilities, and thousands of patients now receive better care at the hands of capable, confident nurses and midwives.

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