

Table 2 Guidelines and other reference material used in paediatric and maternity hospitals in Kabul, Afghanistan: form, presence, reported use and implementation activities

Reference material	Source & language	Observed presence	Reported use [based on Pathman's level of adherence (26)]				Implementation activities
			Awareness	Agreement	Adoption	Adherence	
<i>Guidelines, standards & protocols</i>							
Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI)	WHO, 2005 ^a (Dari, Pashto, English)	Multiple sites; Wall-chart in OPD; Manual absent	High	High	Low	Low	Integration into pre-service curriculum; Outpatient wall-charts
Pocketbook of Hospital Care for Children in Low-Resource Settings (Pocketbook)	WHO, 2005 ^b (Dari, English)	Multiple sites; Pocketbook in office (not clinical area)	High	Low	Moderate (single site); Low elsewhere	Low	Passive dissemination only
Emergency Triage, Assessment and Triage (ETAT)	WHO, 2005 ^c (Dari, English)	Single site; Wall-charts in ED and OPD; Manual absent	High	High	High (single site); Low elsewhere	High (single site) Low elsewhere	Participatory implementation process; Multidisciplinary inservice training; Wall charts; Measured outcomes; Senior supervision and enforcement
Training Course on the Management of Severe Malnutrition (Malnutrition)	WHO, 2002 (Dari, English)	Single site; Training manual in clinical area; Excerpts on wall	High (single site); Low elsewhere	High (single site); Low elsewhere	High (single site); Low elsewhere	High (single site) Low elsewhere	Multidisciplinary inservice training; Wall charts; Senior supervision and enforcement
Hospital Standards Manual (Standards)	Afghan MoPH, 2006 (Dari, English)	Single site; Manual in director's office	High (single site); Low elsewhere	Moderate (single site); Low elsewhere	Moderate (single site); Low elsewhere	Low	Audit; MOPH endorsement (for reform hospitals only)
Managing Complications in pregnancy and childbirth: a guide for doctors and midwives (IMPAC)	WHO, 2000 (Dari, English)	Multiple sites; Wall charts in wards; Protocol book in nonclinical areas	High	High	Moderate	Moderate	Integration into pre-service curriculum; Multidisciplinary inservice training; Wall charts; Supervision; Integration into clinical activities (e.g. ward rounds, handover); Measured outcomes; Integrated in QI activities; MOPH endorsement
CURE Protocol Handbook (CURE)	CURE International Hospital, 2013 (English)	Multiple sites; Book on ward; online at 1 hospital; Hand-written translation at 2 hospitals	High (single site); Moderate elsewhere	High (single site); Moderate elsewhere	High (single site); Low elsewhere	High (single site); Low elsewhere	Senior supervision and enforcement; Integration into clinical activities (e.g. ward rounds, handover); Audit and feedback
<i>Other</i>							
<i>Essential pediatrics</i>	Ghai et al., 2010 (English)	Book in doctors' office (not clinical area)	High awareness and use at all paediatric hospitals				Main reference text for postgraduate paediatric training programme and examination
<i>Williams obstetrics</i>	Cunningham et al., 2009 (English)	Book in doctors' office (not clinical area)	High awareness among junior doctors; moderate use at all maternity hospitals				Main reference text for postgraduate obstetric training programme and examination
Websites ^d	n/a (English)	Computer; smart phone	Limited availability and use at all but one hospital				Some recommendation from senior doctors

Low – less than one-third of clinicians; *Moderate* – between one half to two-thirds of clinicians; *High* – more than two-thirds of clinicians.

WHO – World Health Organization; MoPH – Ministry of Public Health; ED – emergency department; OPD – outpatient department; MSH SPS – Management Services for Health, Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems; QI – quality improvement;

^aFirst translated in 2003; ^bTranslated in 2009; ^cTranslated in 2010.

^dWebsites include Google search, My Clinics, Wikipedia, Student consult, DynaMed, UpToDate, Medscape;