

## Introduction

While Oxytocin remains the gold standard for PPH prevention, the widespread availability of poor-quality uterotonics remains a huge challenge in Nigeria. This has been demonstrated in field quality surveys which showed that 74% of oxytocin and 33% of misoprostol samples obtained from pharmacies and facilities across the country failed an assay test.

The Smiles for Mothers (SfM) program, supports the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) and the State Governments of Kano, Lagos, and Niger in rolling out the updated 2018 WHO recommendations on Uterotonics for PPH prevention. This includes the introduction of heat-stable carbetocin (HSC), as a uterotonic option for the prevention of PPH. The program has supported interventions to create an enabling environment for the appropriate use of HSC for PPH prevention by obtaining regulatory approvals and updating policy guidance, and establishing a supply chain to ensure the availability of HSC in Kano, Lagos, and Niger states.

## Regulatory Approval

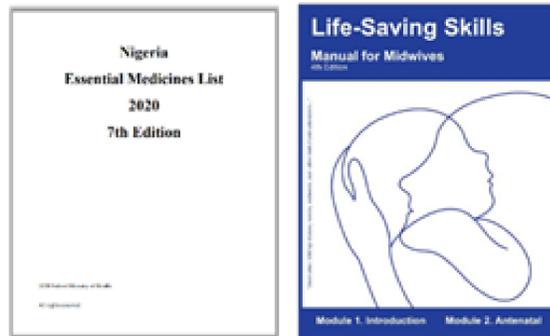
In December 2022, IDA Foundation, the Market Authorization Holder for HSC, received the certificate of registration for heat-stable Carbetocin Ferring from NAFDAC - C4-1721 permitting its importation and use in Nigeria.



## Policy Updates

SfM supported Federal and State policy revisions as follows;

- Update of the 7th edition of the National Essential Medicines list, and Lifesaving Skills (LSS) manual to include HSC in the training protocols for health workers.
- Kano, Lagos, and Niger updated their state EMLs to include heat-stable carbetocin as a uterotonic for PPH prevention at tertiary, secondary, and primary healthcare facilities.

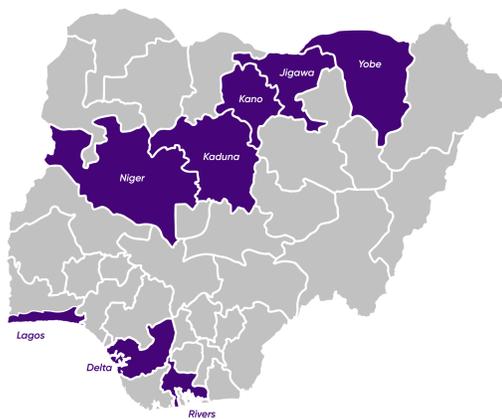


## Public Access Price

The World Health Organization, MSD for Mothers and Ferring Pharmaceuticals announced a collaboration in 2014 to advance heat-stable Carbetocin for the prevention of post-partum hemorrhage. This collaboration led to Ferring Pharmaceuticals offering heat-stable Carbetocin at a subsidized public access price of **\$0.31** per ampoule (not including the logistics cost of distribution to the last mile).

In Nigeria, HSC is distributed to states at **\$0.75** per ampoule and currently sold to/ made available to clients at point of care to patients in Kano, Lagos, and Niger states at between **N550 – N650** per ampoule based on prevailing state markups and exchange rate.

## Supply in Nigeria



States in Nigeria that have introduced (or introducing) HSC in the medicine supply chain

The Smiles for Mothers program, in collaboration with IDA Foundation, seeded 46,650 doses of HSC into the Drug Revolving Funds in **Kano, Lagos, and Niger** states in December 2022, following the training of health workers. As of May 2023, 86 implementing facilities had purchased 24, 575 doses for use in PPH prevention.

Furthermore, LifeBank is supporting 5 additional states (**Yobe, Jigawa, Kaduna, Delta, and Rivers**) to introduce HSC for use in public and faith-based facilities.

IDA Foundation is authorized to supply heat-stable Carbetocin in Nigeria and currently operates out of its country office in Lagos. The Country Representative can be **contacted** for further inquiries on supply to any location.

## Local Evidence in the Pipeline

Smiles for Mothers Nigeria is contributing to the body of evidence for HSC use within Nigeria.

1. **Implementation research** over 5 months across the 3 focus states to determine the acceptability, feasibility, and appropriate use of HSC among health workers: 13,859 women received HSC for PPH prevention, accounting for 74% of deliveries across 18 implementation research facilities.
2. National and state-specific cost-effectiveness analyses comparing HSC to oxytocin, misoprostol, and oxytocin-misoprostol combination for PPH prevention.

### Sources:

1. Anyakora, C., Oni, Y., Ezedinachi, U. Adekoya A, Ali I, Nwachukwu C, Esimone C, Abiola V, Nwokike J. Quality medicines in maternal health: results of oxytocin, misoprostol, magnesium sulfate and calcium gluconate quality audits
2. Federal Ministry of Health <https://www.health.gov.ng/doc/Nigeria-Essential-Medicine-List-2020.pdf>
3. Ferring Pharmaceuticals <https://www.ferring.com/fering-statement-on-subsidised-pricing-of-heat-stable-carbetocin-for-the-prevention-of-postpartum-haemorrhage-in-low-and-lower-middle-income-countries/>
4. Ferring Pharmaceuticals: <https://www.ferring.com/msd-fering-pharmaceuticals-and-the-world-health-organization-working-together-to-prevent-excessive-bleeding-in-women-after-childbirth/>
5. IDA Foundation: <https://www.idafoundation.org/en/who-we-are/offices-and-contact>
6. Smiles for Mothers: <https://scidar.org/maternal-child-health/smiles-for-mothers-playbook/>

### SCAN ME



[bit.ly/smilesformothersplaybook](https://bit.ly/smilesformothersplaybook)

SfM also recently launched a playbook of interventions to inspire further efforts to reduce maternal mortality due to PPH in Nigeria.