

Sexual Reproductive Health Technical Working Group (SRHTWG) in Gaza

INDIVIDUAL CLEAN DELIVERY KITS (2A) GUIDANCE NOTES

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Background and Rationale

Due to security risks, mobility restrictions and a shortage of transportation options, many pregnant women in Gaza struggle to reach birthing facilities. SRHR partners, health organizations, and institutions, including emergency services and community leaders, must commit to **ensuring that all pregnant women can safely access well-equipped and staffed medical facilities that provide 24/7 services**. However, during labour, some women may not have timely or safe access to the appropriate health facilities and may give birth with the help of family or community members. This risk of facing barriers to accessing health facilities is compounded not only during deteriorating security conditions but also by the upcoming winter and floods season.

Clean delivery kits are a last resort to prevent infections for both the mother and the newborn when a pregnant woman cannot access a health facility to give birth.

Additionally, the CDKs can be carried by women when travelling to the facilities to give birth, ensuring they have a minimum level of hygiene items for themselves and the baby, even if there is a shortage in stock at the health point/hospital.

Therefore, as a preparedness and contingency measure, as well as an entry point for providing information on available services and when and how to seek care, UNFPA has procured and is distributing Clean Delivery Kits (CDKs) across the Gaza Strip.

WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL CLEAN DELIVERY KIT (2A) IS:

The CDK is a non-food item (NFI) kit containing essential items for a clean birth in difficult circumstances. It includes basic hygiene materials and guidance in case of emergency delivery outside a health facility, to help prevent deadly infections for both the mother and the baby. It is distributed directly to visibly pregnant women.

WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL CLEAN DELIVERY KIT (2A) IS NOT:

The CDK is not a safe delivery kit. It does not ensure the safety of childbirth, which, to be safe, must take place in an appropriate setting with well-equipped and skilled staff.

Community midwives can be equipped with an upgraded version of kit 2 (kit 2B), which is designed to assist up to 200 deliveries at the community level when access to facilities is impeded. For Gaza, this version has been adapted to include additional materials and is being procured and distributed to frontline healthcare providers.

A home delivery with only kit 2A, even if assisted by a healthcare professional, is not fully safe, and referral to maternity services should always be made.

Criteria for Distribution of KIT 2A

Individual clean delivery kits should be distributed to visibly pregnant women, with the following key elements:



Key messages on how to access the nearest available healthcare services, encouraging women, families, and communities to develop a birth plan. This includes identifying:

- The nearest maternity facility where the woman will go when labour starts.
- The nearest alternative facility if the preferred facility is not accessible.
- Who will be responsible for organizing transport to the facility.
- What essential items should be brought to the facility, including the CDK.
- Who will accompany her as the responsible person



Education on pregnancy and childbirth-related health danger signs, the risks of complicated pregnancies and deliveries, and the importance of seeking care at a healthcare facility for delivery.



If available, **helpline numbers** should also be shared along with the key messages.

This ensures that the distribution of the CDK 2A is not just about providing a kit, but also supports women in planning for a safe and informed delivery.

Kit 2A Contents: Individual Delivery

The CDK includes items to assist the mother or birth attendants in conducting and supporting births while protecting both the mother and baby, from infection and bleeding, particularly at the umbilical cord site.

SUPPLIES

1. **Bag** (envelope), plastic, for drugs: 18 x 28 cm, snap-lock
2. **Soap**, hand, bar: 110g, wrapped
3. **Draw sheet**, plastic: 100 x 100 cm
4. **Scissors** for umbilical cord cutting:
Reusable, sterile
5. **Tape**, umbilical: 3 mm x 15 cm, non-sterile
6. **Cotton cloth**, "tetra": 100 x 100 cm
7. **Gloves**, examination, latex: Medium, non-sterile
8. **Information, education and communication materials/guidelines** (see page 5)
9. **Clean delivery kit instruction leaflet**: UNFPA 2019, multilingual



REMINDER

The 6 Cs of a clean birth include:

- Clean hands of the people assisting the birth
- Clean mother (nothing to be introduced in the vagina, clean perineum)
- Clean delivery surface
- Clean cord-cutting
- Clean cord tying
- Clean cord care

Distribution Steps for Clean Delivery Kits

1. Coordination

SRHR partners are advised to collaborate with the Ministry of Health, and local organisations to assess needs by identifying target populations in areas with limited access to healthcare facilities and discuss the various possible channels of distribution kits to ensure that they effectively reach the intended populations.

2. Target Population

Focus on visibly pregnant women in the community, shelters, and those attending antenatal care (ANC) follow-ups in clinics and are in their sixth month of pregnancy or later.

3. Distribution Channels

Shelters: Distribute (CDKs) directly to every visibly pregnant woman in shelters through community health workers. This can include non-healthcare channels, for example alongside food or non-food items (NFIs) distribution, dignity kits and menstrual hygiene management MHM kits distribution subject to the condition that information on health care services and health education in general and pregnancy and childbirth-related in specific, is being provided during these activities.

Safe spaces for women and girls: Distribute (CDKs) directly to every visibly pregnant woman in shelters through community health workers. This can include non-healthcare channels, for example alongside food or non-food items (NFIs) distribution, dignity kits and MHM kit distribution, subject to the condition that information on health care services and health education in general and pregnancy and childbirth-related in specific is being provided during these activities.

Medical points and Primary Health Care Clinics: Provide kits to eligible pregnant women (6 months and above) during ANC follow-ups in maternity clinics. The clinics can function as the collection points for the distribution of CDK to women during ANC check-ups. At the clinic level, the kit available for emergency delivery should be at least at the level of kit 2B (individual midwifery kit).

Community Health Worker (CHW) Engagement: CHW should educate mothers on the kit's purpose and contents and use it for a clean delivery. See ANNEX 1 -Education Guide for Women Receiving Individual Clean Delivery Kit 2A.

4. Monitoring and Reporting

Track distribution using a detailed log including the area of distribution, date, and recipient details to **monitor coverage across areas**. See ANNEX 2: Monitoring and Reporting Form

5. Feedback Collection

Collect feedback through regular consultations from end users (the beneficiaries), including pregnant women, caregivers, and healthcare workers, to assess kit usability and their experiences and satisfaction. This will help determine if the kits are successfully reaching target groups and if recipients feel confident in using the kits as intended. Then, it will help identify any gaps for improvement and provide insights to stakeholders for ongoing adjustments.

ANNEX 1: Education Guide for Women Receiving Individual Clean Delivery Kit 2A

When distributing the Clean Delivery Kit 2A, it's essential to educate women on the following:

- Explain the importance of the Individual Clean Delivery Kit items in protecting both the mother and newborn from infections during delivery, especially in settings with limited healthcare facilities or where skilled attendants may not be available. However, it significantly emphasises that the safest choice for childbirth is always to go to the nearby maternity clinic.
- Emphasise the importance of reviewing the leaflet in the kit, as it provides information about the Individual Clean Delivery Kit contents and the respective usage.
- Keep the Individual Clean Delivery Kit clean and intact, until the time of delivery. The kit should be stored in a safe, dry place and not opened or used for any items.
- Encourage the pregnant woman that at the signs of initiation of labour, she must bring the Individual Clean Delivery kit, whether seeking help from a healthcare facility or any skilled birth attendant, to ensure the availability of essential supplies for a clean, safe delivery.

In case the health facility is not immediately reachable:

- Activate emergency services, as possible.
- Ensure visual protection, privacy and comfort.
- Prepare clean items for drying and warming the baby.
- Stress that anyone assisting the delivery should wash their hands thoroughly with the provided soap before touching the mother or baby.
- Urge to maintain a clean area by using the draw sheet. The gloves should be used during delivery and throughout the childbirth process to create a safe, clean environment.
- Educate women about symptoms that indicate a need for immediate medical assistance (e.g.; heavy bleeding, fever, prolonged labour).
- Emphasis on the post-delivery hygiene tips: including hand washing after delivery, before handling the newborn and advice on keeping the baby's umbilical area clean and dry after delivery, which helps prevent infections.
- Encourage them to visit primary health care health facility as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours, for immediate postpartum consultation and care for the mother and the newborn.

ANNEX 2: Monitoring and Reporting Form

No.	Distribution Date	Area of Distribution	Organisation/ Facility	Recipient Name and phone number OR Recipient ID	Kit Serial Number	Comments/ Notes

Information, education, and communication (IEC) materials

Clean delivery kit instruction leaflet: UNFPA 2019, multilingual

<p>Clean Propreté Limpio النظافة</p>	<p>1. Clean Surface / Place a tarp on the floor Nettoyez la zone / Posez une bâche sur le sol Superficie limpia / Coloque una lona en el suelo نظف على الأرض / نظف على الأرض</p>	<p>Plastic bag containing the following items:</p> <p>Soap bar Plastic Drenchcloth Scissors for Umbilical Cord Umbilical Tape x 3 Cotton Cloth x 2 Gloves</p>	<p>Sachet en plastique contenant les articles suivants:</p> <p>Savon Alèze en plastique Ciseaux pour couper le cordon Ruban ombilical x 3 Pièces en coton x 2 Gants</p>	<p>Clean Delivery Kit Individual Kit d'accouchement hygiénique individuel Equipo parto higiénico individual عدة ولادة سليمة لفرد</p>	<p>Warm Chaleur Tibio التدفئة</p>	<p>Keep baby dry and warm Gardez le bébé au sec et au chaud Mantenga al bebé seco y tibio حافظي على الطفل جاف و دافئ</p>
<p>2. Clean hands Lavez-vous les mains Manos limpias الغسل اليدين</p>	<p>3. Clean room Lavez la pièce Maison propre اغسل الغرفة</p>	<p>Boîte de plastique con el siguiente contenido:</p> <p>Pastilla de jabón Lona de plástico Tijeras para cortar el cordón umbilical Cinta para el cordón umbilical x 3 Paños de algodón x 2 Guantes</p>	<p>هذا كيس بلاستيكي يحتوي على العناصر التالية:</p> <p>قطعة صابون لثقة بلاستيكية مقص للقطع السري شريط للقطع السري قممات قطن قفازات</p>		<p>1. Immediately dry Séchez immédiatement Secar inmediatamente تجفيف فوريا</p>	<p>2. Baby to mother Le bébé près de la mère Si bébé a la mère اجلسي الطفل مع والدتي</p>
<p>4. Deliver the baby Faites naître le bébé Dar a luz un bebé اجلسي توليد الطفل</p>	<p>5. Tie and Cut the umbilical cord Crangez et coupez le cordon ombilical Atar y cortar el cordón umbilical اربطي وقطعي الحبل السري</p>				<p>3. Breastfeed Alimentez maternel Lactancia materna جدي اللبن فور ولادته من الثدي</p>	

Pregnancy and childbirth-related health danger signs

<p>Mother Mère Madre الأم</p>	<p>Watch for danger signs Attention aux signes de danger Ponga atención a las señales que indiquen peligro راقبي علامات الخطورة</p> <p>Get emergency medical care Allez dans une structure de soins médicaux d'urgence Obtenga servicio médico de emergencia اطلبي رعاية طبية طارئة</p>	<p>Child Bébè Bébé الطفل</p>
<p>Obstructed Labour / Too Long Labour Travail bloqué / Travail trop long Parto obstruido / Parto prolongado توقف الولادة / طول الولادة</p>	<p>Keep them Gardez la femme au chaud Mantenga a la mujer bien abrigada اجلسيهم</p> <p>Keep them and with mother Gardez le bébé au chaud et près de sa mère Mantenga al recién nacido bien abrigado cerca a su madre اجلسيهم مع والدتي</p>	<p>Fever / Difficult Breathing Fièvre / Difficulté à respirer Fiebre / Dificultad al respirar حمى / صعوبة في التنفس</p>
<p>Pain / Bad Headache Fièvre / Douleur de tête Fiebre / Dolor de cabeza ألم / صداع</p>	<p>Get transport to Maternity Hospital with Surgical Unit Trouvez un transport vers Maternité avec une unité chirurgicale Obtenga un medio de transporte a Centro de Salud con facultades quirúrgicas اجلسي نقلهم إلى مستشفى الولادة مع وحدة الجراحة</p> <p>Get transport to health facility with maternity benefit Trouvez un transport vers Maternité avec une unité chirurgicale Obtenga un medio de transporte a Centro de Salud con facultades quirúrgicas اجلسي نقلهم إلى مستشفى الولادة مع وحدة الجراحة</p>	<p>Slow Feeding Refuse de téter No quiere comer بطء الأكل / رفض الأكل</p>
<p>Convulsions / Fits Convulsiones / Movimientos incoherentes Convulsiones / Colapso التشنجات</p>		<p>Fever / Cold / Loose stools / weak Fièvre / Froid / Fiebre / Faiblesse Causa / Fie / Fiebrilidad / Débil حمى / برد / إسهال / ضعف</p>
<p>Bleeding, Lots of Blood / Haemorrhage Saignements abondants / Hémorragie Pérdida abundante de sangre / Hemorragia نزيف / فقدان الدم</p>		<p>Convulsions / Fits Convulsiones / Movimientos incoherentes Convulsiones / Colapso التشنجات</p>
<p>Too soon / Born too early Parti trop tôt / Né trop tôt Maya prematura / Prematuramente ولدت مبكراً / مبكراً</p>		<p>Too soon / Born too early Parti trop tôt / Né trop tôt Maya prematura / Prematuramente ولدت مبكراً / مبكراً</p>

Resources

[Manual: Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health Kits for Use in Humanitarian Settings](#)

[Reproductive Health Kits Management Guidelines for Field Offices](#)

[Clean-Delivery Kits: Guidelines for their use in programmatic settings](#)