Why Coverage Matters?

A programme’s efficiency and its coverage often depend on the very same elements, but a good coverage is essential to optimise the met need. In order to be truly effective, a given programme with a cure rate clearly above the accepted thresholds, still depends on a high Coverage rate (example A). Conversely, a programme with a weak Coverage rate will see the rate of Met Need fall drastically despite of having an extraordinary cure rate (example B). Thus, strong coverage becomes fundamental to ensuring the quality of CMAM programmes.

Evolution of Coverage

The CMN encourages CMAM programmes to track coverage periodically. It has recently developed guidelines for follow-up assessments, which are a simpler version of the full assessments conducted as a baseline. The graph below shows coverage evolution for 33 CMAM programmes that have conducted two or more coverage assessments. The most recent coverage estimate is represented by circles, whose colour indicates either an increase or a decrease in the rate of coverage across time.

For additional information, guidelines and assessment reports please visit the CMN website at www.coverage-monitoring.org

Barriers to Access

Leaving aside each country’s relative weight, throughout numerous assessments it has been found that, globally, lack of awareness about malnutrition and about the programme are together the two most important barriers to access to CMAM services. Over 40% of caregivers of non-covered SAM cases cited these as the most significant barriers. Other relevant barriers are distance, previous rejection and household and community tasks that take away most of the caregivers’ time.