



To ensure the implementation of Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) service objectives in an acute crisis, it is critical that the necessary SRH supplies are made available. However, the challenges to delivering timely, lifesaving medical supplies in the midst of an acute humanitarian crisis are vast. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), on behalf of the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Reproductive Health (RH) in Crises, has specifically designed a prepackaged set of kits containing all the medicines, devices, and commodities necessary to facilitate the implementation of the MISP for SRH—the Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health (IARH) Kits (sometimes referred to as the RH Kits or the Inter-Agency RH Kits). UNFPA manages these kits on behalf of the inter-agency community and updates them every few years to ensure compliance with the latest evidence and to address logistics bottlenecks. The IARH Kits are designed for use in the earliest phases of an acute humanitarian emergency, using assumptions made at the global level; they will therefore not be context specific or comprehensive.

This unit explains how to order and obtain the IARH Kits. However, it must be emphasized that while supplying medicines and medical devices in standardized prepacked kits is convenient early in a humanitarian response, specific, local needs must be assessed as soon as possible, and further supplies must be ordered accordingly. The IARH Kits are not intended as resupply kits. Using them as such may result in both accumulation of unneeded items and medicines and shortages of needed items and medicines.

Where possible, it is critical to work through national procurement channels and strengthen locally sustainable supply chains, especially in the post-acute expansion from the MISP for SRH to comprehensive SRH services. However, maintaining the quality of medical commodities being procured in humanitarian settings can be incredibly challenging; if you are unable to guarantee the quality of commodities in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNFPA standards it is essential to procure internationally through prequalified suppliers, such as UNFPA or WHO.

There are also many activities related to logistics and supply chain management that can be done by organizations, in collaboration with national authorities, and where feasible, in the preparedness phase that will enable an effective, efficient, and lifesaving response during an acute crisis.

■ At the end of the unit, learners will be able to:

- describe what an IARH Kit is and explain how to order supplies;
- ▶ describe the different levels of the IARH Kits that target the three health service delivery levels; and
- explain when complementary commodities should be ordered.

When should the IARH Kits be ordered?

The IARH Kits are intended for use at the onset of an acute humanitarian response. Each kit contains sufficient supplies for a specific population size for a three-month period. Some of the medicines and medical devices contained in the kits may not be appropriate for all settings. This is inevitable as these are standardized, prepackaged emergency kits that are designed for worldwide use and are kept ready for immediate dispatch. Additionally, not all settings will need all kits, depending on the availability of supplies in the setting prior to the crisis and the capacity of the health facilities.

It must be emphasized that although supplying medicines and medical devices in standardized prepacked kits is convenient early in a humanitarian response, specific, local needs must be assessed as soon as possible, and further supplies must be ordered accordingly. After the acute phase of an emergency, the SRH Coordinator should assess the SRH needs of the affected population, coordinate with the health sector/cluster, and attempt to order supplies based on consumption. This will help avoid supply shortages and waste and will help ensure that the SRH program can be sustained. You can order supplies through regular channels (via the national procurement system, NGOs, or other agencies) or through the UNFPA Procurement Services Branch: unfpa.org/humanitarian-emergency-procurement. For more information on this transition, please see the *IARH Kit Management Guidelines for Field Offices*.

Are there other agencies that provide prepacked health kits with RH supplies in addition to UNFPA?

The IARH Kits complement the Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kit (IEHK), which is hosted by WHO and can be procured from the WHO or United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The IEHK is a standardized emergency health kit that contains essential medicines, supplies, and equipment for the provision of primary health care services. Particularly, the IEHK malaria module (basic and supplementary) can be procured in malaria prone settings to complement the IARH Kits. In a humanitarian setting, the IEHK is generally rapidly available. Additionally, there are a number of other emergency health kits that can be procured from the WHO, UNICEF, International Committee of the Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières, and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), depending on the specific emergency or need in a specific country. To provide the full range of priority SRH services in an

¹³⁵ For more information go to https://www.who.int/emergencies/kits/iehk/en/ or https://www.unicef.org/supply/index_epe_health.html.

emergency situation, it is recommended that the IARH Kits be ordered in a way that complements what may already have been procured or that other supply sources are identified to ensure that all necessary equipment and materials are available.

What information is needed to order the IARH Kits?

Before ordering the kits, it is essential to undertake a rapid assessment of the local situation—the size of the population to be served, location and type of health facility, skills of providers—to confirm if IARH Kits are needed and what types are needed. The IARH Kit Calculator can be used to assist the process of determining what to order.¹³⁶

How much do the IARH Kits cost?

The cost of the kits changes periodically. It is best to contact UNFPA directly to facilitate ordering, discuss budgeting questions, and ensure that contact and delivery information is correct. You can also use UNFPA's Budget Planner at <u>unfpaprocurement.</u> org/budget-planner to estimate the cost of your procurement. Funding for the kits can come from your own resources (e.g., government, NGO, or other resources) or UNFPA emergency funds. You can work with the UNFPA country office to determine if you are eligible to access UNFPA emergency funds for the IARH Kits needed in your context.

How quickly will IARH Kits arrive at my site?

The expected delivery of IARH Kits, once payments have been finalized, is a matter of days for acute emergency situations and 10–12 weeks for post-acute situations. Prepacked stock held with the supplier is prioritized for acute emergency operations; post-acute situations will receive kits packed from fresh stock. International transportation of the kits will be managed by UNFPA Procurement Services Branch, and transportation is factored into the delivery lead time. Please contact the UNFPA country office to determine if orders can be coordinated to facilitate import.¹³⁷

Transport to field sites is dependent upon the ordering agency's local transport and storage arrangements. If you are ordering the kits externally from the UNFPA country office, be prepared to receive the goods as soon as they arrive at the port of entry to the country. It is essential to have the documentation and approvals needed for customs clearance before the arrival of the commodities at the border, as well as warehouses and transportation methods identified. Additionally, designate staff to guarantee the smooth import, storage, and distribution of supplies to the implementing partners. UNFPA, the health sector/cluster, and the logistics sector/cluster are often able to help facilitate entry and customs clearance, storage, and onward distribution.

¹³⁶ The IARH Kit Calculator is available on the UNFPA website, IAWG on SRH in Crises website, and the UNFPA mobile application (by late 2019).

¹³⁷ UNFPA country office contact information can be found at https://www.unfpa.org/worldwide.

How are IARH Kits packaged?

To facilitate logistics in country, UNFPA has arranged that the boxes containing each kit:

- ▶ are clearly marked on the outside with the kit number and a description of the contents, consignee, and other relevant information;
- ▶ are marked with the number of boxes per kit and the weight and volume of each kit;
- ▶ can be handled by one or two people; and
- ▶ are branded on all sides with one color representing a particular kit.

UNFPA developed the *Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health Kits for Use in Humanitarian Settings Manual* (2019) and the *IARH Kits Management Guidelines for Field Offices* to provide all the necessary information on management of the kits.

How can I find out the exact contents of each IARH Kit?

The IARH Kits are revised every few years to align with the most updated WHO guidance and address logistical bottlenecks. Contact UNFPA to obtain a copy of the most recent version of the *Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health Kits for Use in Humanitarian Settings Manual*, or go on the UNFPA or IAWG for RH in Crises websites to find the most updated version. This manual provides a list of contents for each kit, as well as guidance on ordering, management, the type of training health personnel should have in order to use the contents of a kit appropriately, and other key information. The manual is available in English, French, Arabic, and Spanish and there are downloadable treatment guidelines available in English and French. A repository of documents related to the use and management of the IARH Kits, including information, education and communications materials, will be available on the IAWG on RH in Crises website in 2019.

The 2019 IARH Kits will be available for procurement in early 2020. Check with UNFPA (unfpa.org) or IAWG for RH in Crises (<u>iawg.net/resource/inter-agency-reproductive-health-kits-2011/</u>) to verify whether the revised kits are available. For information regarding kits available before 2020, see the *Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits for Crisis Situations* (5th ed., 2011) at <u>iawg.net/resource/inter-agency-reproductive-health-kits-2011/</u>.

IARH Kits (2019)

The IARH Kits (2019) are categorized into three levels, targeting the three health service delivery levels. The kits are designed for use for a three-month period for a specific target population size. Complementary commodities can be ordered based on basic pre-crisis information, according to the enabling environment and capacities of health care providers. As these kits are not context specific or comprehensive, organizations should not depend solely on the IARH Kits for long periods and should plan to integrate procurement of SRH

¹³⁸ Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits for Crisis Situations (IAWG, January 2011), http://iawg.net/resource/inter-agency-reproductive-health-kits-for-crisis-situations.

¹³⁹ The 2019 IARH Kits will be available for procurement in early 2020. Check with UNFPA (https://www.unfpa.org/) or IAWG (https://www.unfpa.org/) or IA

supplies in their routine health procurement systems as soon as possible. This will ensure the sustainability of supplies and enable the expansion of services from the MISP for SRH to comprehensive SRH.

Community-level/health post kits are intended for use by service providers delivering SRH care at the community health care level. Each kit is designed to provide for the needs of 10,000 people over a three-month period. The kits contain mainly medicines and disposable items.

Primary health care facility level (BEmONC) kits contain both disposable and reusable material, for use by trained health care providers who have additional midwifery and selected obstetric and neonatal skills at the health center or hospital level. These kits are designed to be used for a population of 30,000 people over a three-month period. It is possible to order these kits for a population of less than 30,000 persons; this just means the supplies will last longer.

Referral hospital level (CEmONC) kits contain both disposable and reusable supplies to provide comprehensive EmONC at the referral (surgical obstetrics) level. In acute humanitarian settings, patients from the affected populations are referred to the nearest hospital, which may require support in terms of equipment and supplies to be able to provide the necessary services for this additional caseload. It is estimated that a hospital at this level covers a population of approximately 150,000 persons. The supplies provided in these kits would serve this population over a three-month period.

Overview of Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health Kits 2019

Health Care Level	Kit Number	Kit Name
Community/health post	Kit 1A	Male Condoms
Community/health post	Kit 2A, 2B*	Clean Delivery (A: Mother, B: Birth Attendant)
Community/health post	Kit 3	Post-Rape Treatment
Community/health post	Kit 4	Oral And Injectable Contraceptives
Community/health post	Kit 5	Treatment of STIs
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Kit 6A, 6B	Clinical Delivery Assistance—Midwifery Supplies (A: Reusable, B: Consumable)
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Kit 8	Management of Complications of Miscarriage or Abortion
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Kit 9	Repair of Cervical And Vaginal Tears
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Kit 10	Assisted Delivery With Vacuum Extraction
Referral hospital (CEmONC)	Kit 11A, 11B	Obstetric Surgery And Severe Obstetric Complications Kit (A: Reusable, B: Consumable)
Referral hospital (CEmONC)	Kit 12	Blood Transfusion

^{*} Where there is a Kit A and B, it means that these kits may be used together, but they can also be ordered separately.

Complementary commodities are disposable and consumable items and/ or kits that can be ordered under specific circumstances to complement the IARH Kits:

- ▶ Where providers or the population are trained to use the commodity
- ▶ Where the supplies were accepted and used prior to the emergency
- ▶ After the rapid first order of SRH supplies, in protracted crises or post-emergency settings, while all efforts are made to strengthen or build local sustainable medical commodity supply lines (including local and regional procurement channels)
- ▶ Where the use of the supplies is allowed to the fullest extent of the national law

Complementary commodities with specific agency names can be ordered through their respective host organizations, including:

- ▶ IEHK Supplementary Malaria Module: WHO and UNICEF
- ▶ Inter-Agency Newborn Care Supply Kits: UNICEF*

Service Delivery Level	Item	To Complement
Coordination	Kit 0 Administration And Training	All Kits
Community/health post	Kit 1B, Female Condoms	Kit 8
Community/health post	Chlorhexidine	Kit 2A
Community/health post	Misoprostol*	Kit 2B, 6A, 8
Community/health post	Inter-Agency Newborn Care Supply Kit (Community)**	Kit 2A, 2B
Community/health post	Depot-Medroxyprogesterone Acetate– Sub-cutaneous (DMPA-SC)	Kit 4
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Kit 7A – Intrauterine Device	Kit 4
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Kit 7B – Contraceptive Implant	Kit 4
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Non-Pneumatic Anti-Shock Garment	Kit 6A
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Oxytocin	Kit 6B
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kit (Malaria Module)	Kit 6B
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Inter-Agency Newborn Care Supply Kit (Primary Health Facility)**	Kit 6A, 6B
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Mifepristone*	Kit 8
Primary health care facility (BEmONC)	Handheld, Vacuum-Assisted Delivery System	Kit 10
Referral hospital (CEmONC)	Inter-Agency Newborn Care Supply Kit (Hospital)**	Kit 11A, 11B

^{*} Misoprostol can also be procured to complement kits 6A and 8 for the primary health care facility level.

^{**} At the time of printing the 2018 IAFM, Newborn Care Supply Kits were not yet available.

How can the IARH Kits be ordered?

In most acute emergencies UNFPA will provide IARH Kits on behalf of the SRH working group/sub-sector at the onset of an emergency. You can reach out to the SRH Coordinator to facilitate procurement of the IARH Kits.

The IARH Kits can also be ordered directly from UNFPA Procurement Services Branch in Copenhagen at unfpa.org/humanitarian-emergency-procurement. Before placing your own order, discuss with the UNFPA country office to determine what is already being ordered and if orders can be combined. UNFPA will need to know where the IARH Kits will be used and which organization or individual will organize the distribution of the kits. The UNFPA country office or UNFPA Humanitarian Office can provide information on the kits or help facilitate an order. The kits cannot be disbursed until funding is confirmed with UNFPA Procurement Services Branch.

When placing an order, provide the following information:

- ▶ The confirmation of availability of funds and the chargeable budget code; shipment cannot be made until funding issues are resolved
- ➤ The name and contact details of the person responsible for ordering and coordinating the delivery of the kits
- ▶ The name and complete contact details (address, telephone, fax, email) of the person responsible for receiving the kits in the field
- ► A detailed distribution plan

Having a distribution plan when placing an order is essential for both the disbursement of the kits and logistics planning and programming. This plan should outline how many of which kits should go to which partners in which geographical settings. It should also include detailed plans for in-country transport and storage, including provisions for items that need to be kept cool (cold chain). If multiple destinations in a county are involved, a detailed list outlining the respective destinations, types, and quantities of each kit to each destination, contact persons, and so forth, is required.

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For more information, see the *IARH Kit Management Guidelines* and the *IARH Kit Manual* at <u>iawg.net/resource/inter-agency-reproductive-health-kits-2011</u>.

If you are a national NGO, using the SRH working group and ordering through the UNFPA country office can facilitate the customs and arrival procedures of the kits into the country as United Nations agencies are often covered in a blanket humanitarian import exemption. For some agencies, particularly local NGOs, it may be helpful to develop a memorandum of understanding with UNFPA before a crisis strikes to avert delays in procurement.

Information on the kits and assistance with ordering can be provided by UNFPA field offices, agency partners, or the UNFPA Humanitarian Office in Geneva:

Address	UNFPA Procurement Service Branch Marmovej 51 2100 Copenhagen Denmark	UNFPA Humanitarian Office Palais des Nations Avenue de la paix 8-14 1211, Geneva 10, Switzerland
Email	procurement@unfpa.org	Humanitarian-SRHsupplies@ unfpa.org
Website	unfpaprocurement.org	unfpa.org

How are the Inter-agency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) ordered?

IEHKs can be ordered through WHO or UNICEF. A booklet describing the IEHK and how it can be ordered through WHO is available on the WHO emergency health kit website: who.int/emergencies/kits/en/.

You can also contact UNICEF directly at:

Address	Procurement Services Centre UNICEF Supply Division Oceanvej 10-12 DK — 2150 Nordhavn, Copenhagen Denmark
Email	supply@unicef.org
tel	+45 4533 5500
fax	+45 3526 9421

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For more information about UNICEF services, partners, and supplies, please visit <u>unicef.org/supply/index_procurement_services.html</u> and <u>supply.unicef.org</u>.

What is an Example IARH Kit Order?

EXAMPLE: Acute Displaced Population, Migratory Cross-Borders

- ► Number of displaced people: 30,000
- ▶ Special observations: Administrative supplies are available locally; high rate of C-section in country of origin and high facility delivery (>75%); high likelihood of onward cross-border displacement; rape was known to be used in conflict at place of origin; Implants were used in the place of origin
- ► Facilities and staff
 - Mobile Clinics: 1 mobile clinic supported by UNFPA; outpatient daytime clinic
 - **Primary health care level:** 2 health centers with 2 medical doctors, 2 trained nurses, 1 trained midwife along the migration path
 - Referral level: 1 local hospital 10 km away, poorly equipped but with trained staff able to perform emergency obstetric procedures

Example Order:

Item	Quantity
Male Condoms (Kit 1)	3
Clean Delivery, Individual (Kit 2A)	3
Clean Delivery, Attendant (Kit 2B)	3
Post Rape Treatment (Kit 3)	4
Oral And Injectable Contraception (Kit 4)	4
Treatment Of Sexually Transmitted Infections (Kit 5)	4
Clinical Delivery Assistance (Kit 6A)	2
Clinical Delivery Assistance (Kit 6B)	2
Management Of Miscarriage And Complications Of Abortion (Kit 8)	4
Suture Of Cervical And Vaginal Tears (Kit 9)	3
Vacuum Extraction Delivery (Kit 10)	3
Referral Level Kit For Reproductive Health (Kit 11A)	1
Referral Level Kit For Reproductive Health (Kit 11B)	1
Blood Transfusion (Kit 12)	1
Complementary Commodities	
Oxytocin	1

Explanation of the IARH Kit order:

Male Condoms (Kit 1)	This kit is designed for 10,000 people, therefore we need 3 kits which would then be divided between primary and referral health centers.
Clean Delivery Kit Individual (Kit 2A)	Due to migratory nature of the emergency women may not have access to the health facilities.
	This kit is designed for 10,000 people, therefore we need 3 kits which would then be distributed at the community, primary and referral health centers to visibly pregnant women.
	It is unknown if birth attendants and health care workers are in the community.
Clean Delivery Kit Attendant (Kit 2B)	Since there are not supplies in this kit which will expire you should order this kit.
	This kit is designed for 10,000 people, therefore we need 3 kits which would then be distributed at the community, primary and referral health centers to visibly pregnant women.
Post-Rape Treatment (Kit 3)	This kit is designed for 10,000 people, therefore we need 3 kits which would then be divided between primary and referral health centers.
	Since there are actually 4 primary and referral health centers and supplies are difficult to divide, we will procure 4 kits; one to be distributed to each primary and referral health center.
Oral and Injectable Contraceptives (Kit 4)	This kit is designed for 10,000 people, therefore we need 3 kits which would then be divided between primary and referral health centers.
	Since there are actually 4 primary and referral health centers and supplies are difficult to divide, we will procure 4 kits; one to be distributed to each primary and referral health center.
Treatment of STIs (Kit 5)	This kit is designed for 10,000 people, therefore we need 3 kits which would then be divided between primary and referral health centers.
	Since there are actually 4 primary and referral health centers and supplies are difficult to divide, we will procure 4 kits; one to be distributed to each primary and referral health center.

	This kit is designed for 30,000 people; therefore, we would need 1
0" : 15 "	kit which would then be send to primary health centers.
Clinical Delivery Assistance (Kit 6A and Kit 6B)	Since there are 2 primary health care centers and supplies in this kit is not possible to divide. we will procure 3 kits and send one to each primary health care center.
	Mobile clinics do not conduct deliveries themselves so they do not get this kit.
	This kit is designed for 30,000 people; therefore, we would need 1 kit which would then be send to primary and referral health centers.
Management of complications of miscarriage and abortion (Kit 8)	Since there are 2 primary health care centers, 1 mobile clinic and 1 referral health center, and supplies in this kit is not possible to divide, we will procure 4 kits and send one to each primary and referral health care center.
·	All of these supplies may not be able to be used in the mobile clinic. It is recommended that the mobile clinic integrate the unusable supplies to a primary health care facility.
	This kit is designed for 30,000 people; therefore, we would need 1 kit which would then be send to primary and referral health centers.
Suture of Cervical and Vaginal Tears (Kit 9)	Since there are 2 primary health care centers and 1 referral health center, and supplies in this kit is not possible to divide we will procure 3 kits and send one to each primary and referral health care center.
	Mobile clinics do not conduct deliveries themselves so they do not get this kit.
	This kit is designed for 30,000 people; therefore, we would need 1 kit which would then be send to primary and referral health centers.
Vacuum Extraction Delivery (Kit 10)	Since there are 2 primary health care centers and 1 referral health center, and the supplies in this kit is not possible to divide, we will procure 3 kits and send one to each primary and referral health care center.
	Mobile clinics do not conduct deliveries themselves so they do not get this kit.

Referral level kit for reproductive health (Kit 11A and Kit 11B)	This kit is designed for 150,000 people; therefore, we would need 1 kit which would then be send to the 1 referral health center.
Blood Transfusion (Kit 12)	This kit is designed for 150,000 people; therefore, we would need 1 kit which would then be send to the 1 referral health center.
Oxytocin	Populations coming from settings with high caesarean-section and high facility delivery will lead to more facility deliveries in primary health centers due to health seeking behavior. The amount of oxytocin may be more than the average than was used in the kit estimation.

Unit 9: Key Points

- ▶ The IARH Kits are a prepackaged set of kits containing all the medicines, devices, and commodities necessary to facilitate the implementation of the MISP for SRH for a three-month period.
- ▶ The IARH Kits are categorized into three levels, targeting the three health service delivery levels: community, primary health care, and referral hospital.
- ▶ Complementary commodities are disposable and consumable items that can be ordered under specific circumstances to complement the main kits. They should be ordered according to the enabling environment and capacities of health care providers.
- ▶ Reliance on and continued ordering of the IARH Kits should be avoided; follow-up orders for ongoing supply needs should be made through the regular supply lines in country.



Unit 9 Quiz: Ordering IARH Kits (2019)

- 1. When should an organization order complementary commodities? Select all that apply:
 - a. When providers or the population are trained to use the commodity
 - **b.** When the supplies were accepted and used prior to the emergency
 - **c.** If the supply is allowed to the fullest extent of the national law and is included on the national medicines list
 - **d**. At the beginning of every emergency
- 2. Which statement is not correct?
 - a. IARH Kits contain sufficient supplies for a seven-month period.
 - **b.** It is important to coordinate with partners and prepare a plan for in-country distribution of the kits.
 - **c.** It is important to have a plan for transport and storage, including a cold chain.
 - **d.** There should be continual coordination to analyze the situation, assess the needs of the population, and order disposables and other equipment.

3.	, and	
	are the different levels of health care for which the IARH Kits are designed.	

- a. International level
- b. Primary health care
- c. Referral hospital
- d. Community/health post
- e. Ministry of health level
- **4.** Who manages the IARH Kits?
 - a. UNHCR
 - b. UNICEF
 - c. UNFPA
 - d. UNOCHA
- **5.** What information is needed to order the IARH Kits? Select all that apply:
 - a. Detailed contact, delivery, and financing information
 - **b.** Information about the type of setting and the target population size
 - **c.** Where the kits will be used and which organization will organize the distribution of the kits
 - **d.** Why the kits are needed
 - e. The number of health centers and referral hospitals