Maternity Emergency Resource Network
The M.E.R.N. Childbirth Survival Protocol

1. Background – Calmed (Collaborative Actions in Lowering of Maternity Encountered Deaths) is a Rotarian initiated holistic evidence-based programme for reducing avoidable maternal and new born deaths in low resource settings.

It had been implemented through two Rotary Foundation Global Grants (target population 3.2 million) supported by six Vocational Training Teams using training the team model (2013-2017).

It is a template of action with a modular constitution – the modules can be implemented together or separately, guided by priorities of the communities.

It has achieved its objectives of increasing skilled workforce number, raising community awareness and introducing important behavioural changes. It has generated a sustained impact.

Our challenge is for Rotary to adopt the SDG 3 Goals – reduce maternal mortality further and encourage equity in care. We wish to start in the remote areas, where access and mortalities are higher. We would wish to introduce low cost ambulance (E- ranger bike ambulance is based on a motor bike with a side car) and arrange basic resuscitation before transfer to the safety of hospital care – this practice saves mothers and babies during transfer.

2. MERN Concept – This is a validated resource for enhancing survival rates of mothers and new-born in emergency situations during transfer from distant communities – developed as a component of the CALMED programme. It involves a red flag alert in obstetric and new born emergencies.
Resuscitation and Stabilisation of Mother/Child with emergencies, prior to low cost Ambulance Transfer from remote areas to safety of hospitals –

Low cost Ambulance with Tracker, Consumables (TXA, Mag. Sulph., etc.) Equipment (Monitors, NASG, Thermal Blanket) and Training (for Ambulance Crew, base level health workers), Programme Manager

AMBULANCE COVERAGE HUB & SPOKE CONCEPT IN THE NEEDIEST AREAS

Hosp. Emergency Team Prepared and ready to receive
3. MERN Implementation - Further Action Required

1. **Rotary Partnership** with Government / private hospital-Polio Legacy framework, identify target areas of need, publicity within and beyond, Rotary-social networking – Team Building

2. **Business Plan** – secure funding, collaboration /partnership, stewardship -Global Grant (3 year) for implementation in an agreed target area (2-3 million)

3. **Purchase & assembly of consumables and equipment** -in a Box

4. **Import/Production & assembly of E-Ranger Bike Ambulance** or similar locally available.

5. **Training** of Ambulance Crew, M.E.R.N. Care Manager, and basic health care workers; secure resources, trainers- training the trainer model ,possibly based in a hospital.

6. **Create resources** for transfer to a "Waiting Home" near hospital before delivery date – for very remote areas - Matri Ghar (optional)

7. **Piloting the programme** – identify neediest areas, with Government/Hospitals/Rotary support and resources able to implement, implementation, data collection and evaluation

8. **Free standing or integration** into Calmed 2 and other existing models.

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