

A Perioperative Needs Assessment Of A Tertiary Maternity Hospital In Freetown, Sierra Leone

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- 443 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, majority caused by preventable etiologies
- Largely attributed to socioeconomic limitations that hamper the adoption of modern care paradigms
- Addressing the most pressing barriers to implementing modern obstetric and anesthesia care is critical to reducing maternal mortality



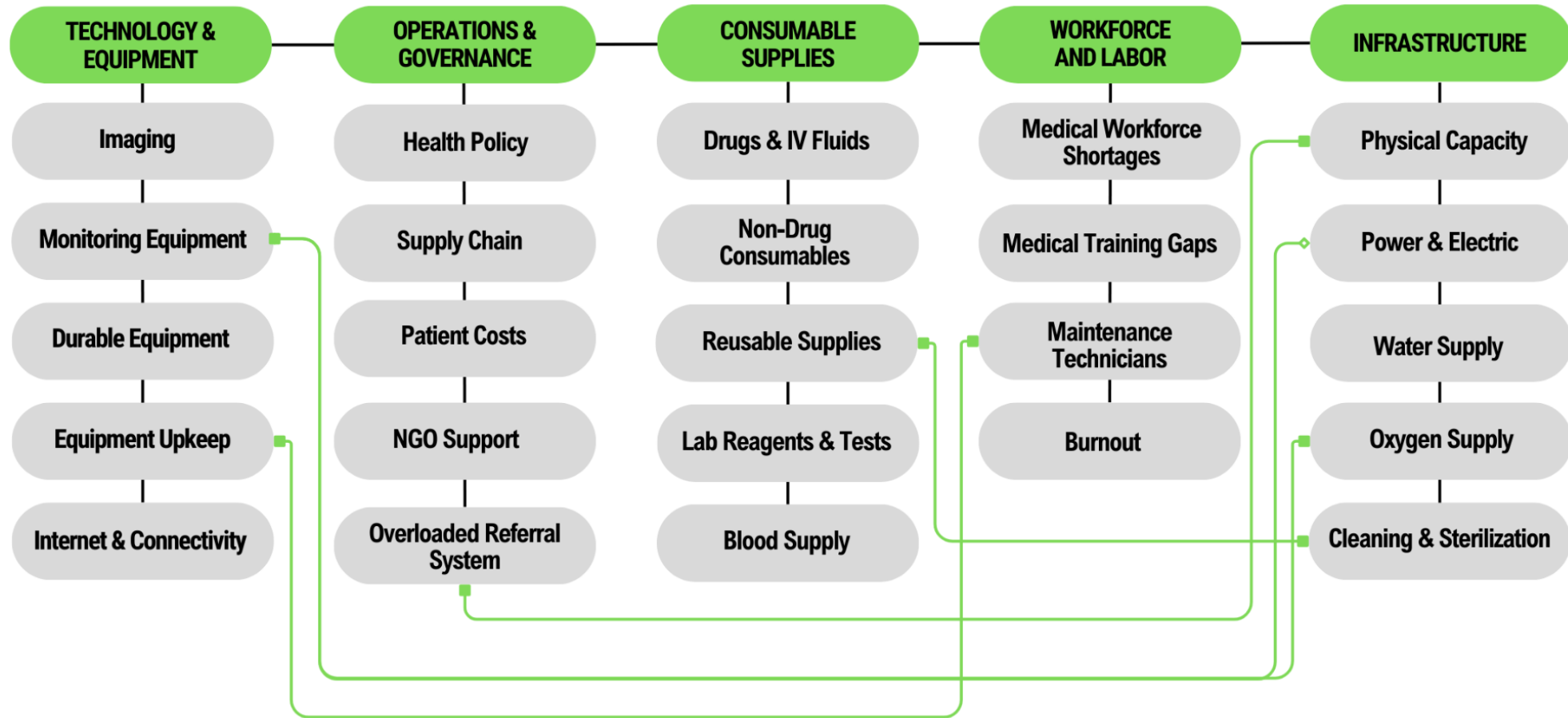
Methods

- Facility-based, mixed-methods needs assessment
- Qualitative semi-structured interviews with accompanying quantitative surveys with four senior hospital staff members (an obstetrician/gynecologist, an administrator, an anesthesiologist, and a nurse)
- Interviews and surveys are adaptations on assessment tools developed by the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery (LCoGS)
- Thematic analysis and used to develop a conceptual framework in NVivo

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Results



Conclusions

- Need for coordinated systems-based strategies for sustainably improving maternal care in Sierra Leone
- Encouraging investment in infrastructure would be foundational to capacity building efforts aimed at enhancing maternal care
- Short-term strategies to mitigate the most critical needs
 - Drugs
 - Surgical supplies
 - Ventilators
 - Blood supply
 - Anesthetist training
 - Back-up electricity

