Textile Testing Methods for Nets
VCWG Work Stream: Durability of LLIN in the Field

Background & Objectives

Lyon, February 2-3, 2012
Background

• The idea to look into textile specifications and testing was brought up at first WS meeting Feb 2010
• Was confirmed as part of WS work plan in Feb 2011, but no RBM funding
• Now made possible by partner support
Background (2)

• While initially meant as an “insider” technical exchange meeting, it has received increasing attention in recent months.
• This coincides with several initiatives to revise the way procurement of LN is structured (i.e. lowest price) to include quality criteria.
• This in turn is based on the potential savings that “longer lasting” LN could have.
Impact of durability on Demand and Cost

• A number of groups have estimated the changes in demand and cost for universal coverage with LLIN using a variety of assumptions

• They all come to very similar conclusion: increased durability will lead to enormous savings

• Here one example based on projections using the NetCALC tool
Impact of durability on Demand and Cost

- Useful life is modeled as shown left, based on median survival times
- Projection for sub-Saharan Africa using 2010 at risk population
- Assuming UC has been achieved and now needs to be sustained
- Each year gained is assumed to cost US$ 0.50 more per LLIN with $ 4.50 for 3-year net
Impact of durability on Demand and Cost

Savings could be as high as $1 billion in the next 5 years for an LLIN with a 5 year useful life and $1.5 billion for a 7-year LLIN.
Objectives

• To understand current conceptual and methodological issues around “durability”
• To review existing options of textile testing that would better reflect the real life situation
• To recommend next steps on how to arrive at improved standards and/or specifications
• To suggest an action plan to obtain sufficient data to define cut-off levels for potential test methods
Outline of Programme

• Define the problem
  - Methods to measure useful life and durability, their limitations and problems, how does this relate to textile testing?
  - What studies and data are available to date?
  - What are the currently valid textile relevant specifications and cut-offs
Outline of Programme (2)

• Review options for textile testing and evidence
  - What tests are already being used for nets, what experience or field data exists
  - What are the ideal criteria for selecting a test
  - How many tests do we need (minimally, optimally)
Outline of Programme (3)

• Develop recommendations for action
  - What additional data is needed?
  - How do we get it, who can collect
  - What can the VCWG WS contribute?
Limitations - Expectations

- This meeting was designed as a first attempt to address the issue and may be the start to a longer process
- We need to be aware of the different roles of partners and especially the function of the RBM WG
  - Support the strategic implementation of technical strategies provided by WHO
  - Recommendation for action rather than technical solutions
Conflict of Interest

• In order to facilitate the work of today's meeting, we would like to ask all participants to please flag any specific items on the agenda for which you may have COI. Your notifications of COI will be noted by the Secretariat and reflected in the minutes/summary record of the meeting.

• If I see no notifications, I take that none of the participants have COI to declare concerning any of the agenda items of this meeting.