In 2009, we began redesigning the system used by USAID-AMPATH for their HCT program. We had several goals for the redesign:

• Reduce the cognitive load on our field counselors,
• Improve the function of the device in the field,
• Integrate obtained data into a medical record system,
• Reduce the per-device cost of the program, and
• Leverage open source systems as much as possible.

We have currently deployed over 100 devices featuring the new system. We are in the process of preparing 150 more devices.

Preliminary feedback is that the device is easier to use. We will conduct a formal survey of user satisfaction and evaluate device functionality and utilization in September, 2010.

Future directions of this system will include support to screen our population for diabetes, hypertension, and selected other diseases in primary care. We are also considering secondary uses of gathered data to improve presentation rates for at risk populations.

The HCT program also took advantage of the change in devices to implement screening for other healthcare conditions of interest to the USAID-AMPATH Partnership. Some of these include specific screening for:

• Pregnant women without antenatal care,
• Pregnant women infected with HIV, and
• Identification of patients whom the community healthcare worker felt appear ‘particularly ill’.

We have currently deployed over 100 devices featuring the new system. We are in the process of preparing 150 more devices.

Preliminary feedback is that the device is easier to use. We will conduct a formal survey of user satisfaction and evaluate device functionality and utilization in September, 2010.

Future directions of this system will include support to screen our population for diabetes, hypertension, and selected other diseases in primary care. We are also considering secondary uses of gathered data to improve presentation rates for at risk populations.

1: HTC America, Inc. Bellvue, WA USA.
2: Google, Inc. Mountain View, CA USA. http://www.android.com/about/
3: http://code.google.com/p/opendatakit/
4: http://openmrs.org/