

WEST AFRICAN GENETIC MEDICINE CENTER

MEETING: OKYENHENE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY MEDICAL CARAVAN

Date: 31ST May, 2019

Purpose of Meeting: To brief members of the Medical Sub-Committee on assigned roles and get confirmation of members willingness to commit to full participation in the event.

Attendees

Solomon Ofori-Acquah, Kofi Anie, Kwaku Ohene Frimpong, Amma Benneh, Yvonne Dei-Adomakoh, Melissa Nuno, Nathan Seibu and Zoey Fiaxe

Absent

Akwasi Ayanful, William Ampofo, Neal Boafo and Nana Akua Owusu

AGENDA

Briefs from Participants on Assigned Roles

Amma Benneh and Yvonne Dei-Adomakoh

Amma assisted by Yvonne, will oversee the Blood pressure checks for adults, Full Hematology profile and Diabetes screening. This team will include another colleague doctor, two nurses and a technician.

Kweku Ohene Frimpong

Suggested that Sickle Scan be the point of care device used for the sickle cell screening. Screening will be done for people aged sixteen years and above with the reason being that younger children with SCD may likely have been diagnosed and are undergoing treatment.

Neal Boafo and Nana Akua Owusu

Although were unable to make the meeting sent messages of their commitment to overseeing the hearing assessment for children and adults and speech screening for children and provided notes on what their roles entail.

Other key participants have communicated their commitment to the roles that have been assigned to them.

Kofi Anie

Will advise on arranging counselling services for those who receive positive diagnosis after screening. Prof. Ofori Atta will be brought on board to assist with the counselling aspect.

Notes

- Issues on consent for children was voiced. (The age for consent in Ghana is 16 years)
- National Health Insurance Scheme will be a part of the caravan registering people onto the scheme.
- The caravan will be stationary but make several stops in various towns over a period; Solomon to get schedule of event and towns involved so plans are adequately made
- Amma spoke with the head of breast cancer in Korlebu to identify a health professional in the Eastern Region who will assist with following up on positive cases

Action Items

- Get information as to whether schools will be in session at the time scheduled for event
- Amma and Kofi to discuss and agree on questions to be put on CRF
- Get the number of personnel each sub group is looking at working with
- Get information from the Eastern regional health directorate on who should be our contact person to assist in the various towns – Solomon
- David to be tasked to create CRF
- Work with the education committee for information about schools and best medium to reach out to authorities of the schools on involving students.

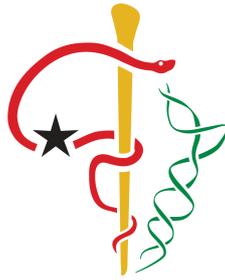
Amma moved for the closure of the meeting and was seconded by Kwaku.

Discussion on Basic CRF (Amma & Kofi)

Demographic information of people; (date of birth, gender, level of education, residential address, ethnic origin, religion)

Medical history (chronic illness; anemia, diabetes)

Amma to put together questions and share with Kofi for comments.



West African Genetic Medicine Centre (WAGMC)
College of Health Sciences, University of Ghana

Meeting Minutes

Programme: @20th OKYENHENE MEDICAL CARAVAN (OMC)

Date: 19th July, 2019

Time: 11:00 am

Agenda: To brief members of the Medical Sub-Committee on progress made so far and discuss programme for the medical caravan.

Attendees: Solomon Ofori-Acquah (Chair), Kofi Anie, Amma Benneh, William Ampofo, Ben Kusi, Ebo Acquah, Lawrence Achiam, Melissa Nuno, Nathan Seibu and Zoey Fiaxe

Absentees: Akwasi Ayanful, Yvonne Dei-Adomakoh, Kwaku Ohene-Frimpong, Neal Boafo and Nana Akua Owusu, Lydia Dsane Selby, Justina Ansah, Alberta Nyarko, Lorna Renner, Annabella Opere-Henaku

UPDATES

a) Partners

Several partners have joined the Okyenhene Medical Caravan (OMC) while others have shown interest and need to be confirmed. The primary OMC organizer is WAGMC. Partners include the Ghana Health Service (GHS), Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG), National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), National Blood Service Ghana (NBSG), Ghana Aids Commission, Noguchi Memorial institute and University of Ghana.

b) Tour Dates, Towns and Population

The Chair presented towns on a map to be visited by the Okyehene, which the committee has selected to provide medical services. The map contains the dates of the tour, and the estimated populations (see PowerPoint slides). The towns and dates are: Asamankese-9th September, Achiase-12th September, Otwereso-13th September, Asuom-14th September, Asiakwa-20th September, Begoro-21st September, Kukurantumi-23rd September, Coaltar-25th September and Kyebi-26th September.

c) Services

OMC will provide **Full** and **Select** services. Full, meaning all the medical services on board the caravan. They include :

- NHIS Registration (*for all citizens*)
- Dental Care (*school children*)
- Hearing and Speech Screening (*children and adolescents*)
- Sickle Cell Screening (*final-year SHS students*)
- Hepatitis and HIV Test (*adolescent and adult male and female*)
- Prostate Screening (*adult males*)
- Breast Cancer Screening (*adult females*)
- Anaemia Test (*all citizens*)
- Diabetes Test (*adult male and female*)
- NBSG Education (*all citizens*)

Select meaning, some of the medical services on board the caravan. They include;

- NHIS Registration (*for all citizens*)
- Breast Cancer Screening (*adult females*)
- Hepatitis and HIV Test (*adolescent and adult male and female*)
- (Local health personnel will possibly be engaged to do blood pressure and diabetes tests)

Full services will be provided in the major towns of the five divisions of Okyeman:

- Asamankese
- Achiase
- Asuom
- Begoro
- Kyebi.

Select services will be provided in the following four towns consisting:

- Otwereso

- Asiakwa
- Kukurantumi
- Coaltar

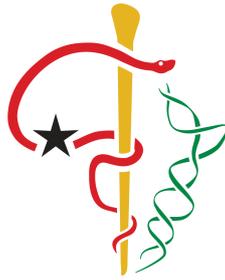
Discussion

- Suppliers of the sickle scan for the sickle cell test have been contacted and have provided a quotation with a discount .
- Full blood count will be part of the full medical services and an estimated number of 200 people will be tested in towns with populations over 30,000 and 150 people for towns with less than 30,000.
- Final year students from a selected Senior High School in the towns where full services will be offered will be screened for sickle cell disease.
- Pledge Pink Ghana will provide the breast cancer screening van to be used by the Caravan.
- Only Hepatitis B screening and not C will be offered.
- A counsellor from Noguchi will join the hepatitis and HIV/AIDS screening team.
- Plan to have a central phlebotomy station where all blood samples will be taken for every test each person will take (to avoid pricking a person several times)
- Dental services will be offered only in the five major towns; a request has been made for the Community Health Dentistry Department to provide a team to man the mobile dental clinic.
- The District Health directorates in each of the towns will be engaged to assist.
- The NBSG van will be at the five major towns to educate the citizenry on the value of blood donation.
- A donation of 500 tests for Hepatitis B and HIV has been made by Premier Medical Services

Action Items

- Follow up with the suppliers of sickle scan to come to an agreement on the cost of the test kits to be purchased - Solomon
- Get the number of final year students in the selected Senior High Schools, to aid in determining the number of sickle cell tests to be run in each town – Solomon to follow up with Dr. Alberta Nyarko (Eastern Regional Director of the Ghana Health Service)
- Create CRF – Solomon & Zoey

- All teams who have not sent in their budgets and logistics for the caravan should do so immediately.
- A ticketing system will be developed to track the number of people services will be provided to – Melissa
- NHIS to clarify cost implications
- Medical Caravan team should meet on a bi-weekly basis - Solomon



West African Genetic Medicine Centre (WAGMC)
College of Health Sciences, University of Ghana

Meeting Minutes

Programme: @20th OKYENHENE MEDICAL CARAVAN (OMC)

Date: 2nd August, 2019

Time: 11:00 am

Attendees: Kofi Anie, Amma Benneh, William Ampofo, Ebo Acquah, Lawrence Achiam, Melissa Nuno, Nathan Seibu and Zoey Fiaxe

Absentees: Solomon Ofori-Aquah (Chair), Akwasi Ayanful, Yvonne Dei-Adomakoh, Kwaku Ohene-Frimpong, Neal Boafo and Nana Akua Owusu, Lydia Dsane Selby, Justina Ansah, Alberta Nyarko, Lorna Renner, Ben Kusi

AGENDA

Updates from Solomon.

The chair was unavailable, he sent his apologies. Updates deferred to next meeting.

Updates from Melissa

a) Dental Mobile Clinic

The chair had discussions with the Head of Community Dentistry (Daniel) of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Korle-Bu regarding renting a mobile dental clinic. He provided three options; the most suitable is to rent a van belonging to the Ministry of Health. Daniel will follow up with the Ministry and update us on the terms and conditions to follow in renting the Van.

b) Breast Cancer Van

- NGO, Pledge Pink has completed repair works on the van. They now have the Road Worthy Cert and currently working on the motor insurance. The Van will be driven to Legon campus to be viewed by Prof when the insurance cover is ready. A trailer which comes with the Van needs some electrical works which will begin next week.
- Two nurses who from the Pledge Pink team will join the breast cancer screening team.
- An artist has been engaged to do the branding on the van. He has sent some samples which will be reviewed and finalised.

c) Ticketing System

The aim of the ticketing system is to track the number of people services will be rendered to. Different colour codes will be assigned to each service. Two options were considered: 1) Paper arm bands similar to those used in the hospitals and, 2) Cut print outs on coloured paper (this second option was considered inappropriate because of the high likelihood of people misplacing them). Our procurement officer has contacted a vendor who will bring samples to choose from.

Updates from PPAG

- The PPAG wanted a clear definition of what their role as partners in the caravan entails.
- William indicated that every partner was to figure out what services they can offer and work towards accomplishing it.

They can render the following services;

- Comprehensive sexual education.
- Cervical cancer screening
- Family planning services
- Screening on STIs
- They will get back to the team finally on services they will be rendering.
- They are soliciting for support from all team members to procure disposable speculums for the cervical cancer screening service.
- A team of at least five personnel will be available for the entire caravan
- They will need fuel for the vehicle transporting them.

Updates from NBSG

Ebo lost connectivity. Updates deferred to next meeting

Sponsorships (Amma)

PALB Pharmaceutical has offered some sponsorship in the form of five glucometers and 1000 glucometer strips. For the whole caravan, 2000 glucometer strips will be needed hence an additional 1000 strips will be purchased.

AOB

Updates from NHIA

Ben of the NHIA sent in updates prior to the meeting as he was unavailable to join in;

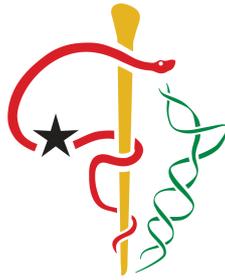
- Regarding feedback on the NHIS registrations, NHIA will be carrying out registrations in all the towns where network connectivity will be available.
- A network connectivity survey will be conducted by NHIA staff, ahead of time.
- Individuals will pay for the appropriate fees for registration or renewal of NHIS membership.

Discussion

- Possible questions for the CRF have been put together, Amma to share with Solomon for feedback- Kofi
- David the study coordinator of SickleGenAfrica is standing by for the questions to create the CRF and have it test run before onset of caravan- Melissa
- Melissa asked if the number of services a person can access should be limited
- Amma suggested that a person be limited to at least two tests.
- The number of persons services will be rendered to will be dependent on the resources and staff capacity- William
- A combo test for HIV and Syphilis and a test for Hepatitis B will be administered in the towns and at the moment 500 test kits are available for the caravan- William
- William is awaiting feedback from the Ghana AIDS Commission/National AIDS Control Programme on the support they can offer. Also, he awaits feedback from the main planning committee on financial resources which will determine whether additional test kits can be purchased.
- Dr. Alberta Nyarko the Eastern Regional Director of the Ghana Health Service was to give feedback on how their team and teams from the towns the caravan will be visiting can help. She is also to provide information on setup structure and the specific locations the caravan will be operating from in every town- William

Action Items

- Updates from the Ministry regarding the use of the Dental Mobile Clinic - Solomon to follow up with Daniel.
- Follow up on status of drafted CRF questions from Amma - Melissa
- Follow on updates from Dr. Alberta Nyarko the Eastern Regional Director of the Ghana Health Service.



West African Genetic Medicine Centre (WAGMC)
College of Health Sciences, University of Ghana

Meeting Minutes

Programme: @20th OKYENHENE MEDICAL CARAVAN (OMC)

Date: 23rd August, 2019

Time: 11:00 am

Attendees: Solomon Ofori-Acquah (Chair), Akwasi Ayanful, Kofi Anie, Amma Benneh, Ebo Acquah, Justina Ansah, Della Adzosii, Ben Kusi, Melissa Nuno, Nathan Seibu and Zoey Fiaxe

Absentees: Yvonne Dei-Adomakoh, Kwaku Ohene-Frimpong, William Ampofo, Neal Boafo and Nana Akua Owusu, Lydia Dsane Selby, Alberta Nyarko, Lorna Renner, Lawrence Achiam

AGENDA

Updates Following Meeting with the Okyenhene's Chief of Staff

Solomon

The following was decided on after the meeting with the chief of staff:

- The total number of towns to be visited by the caravan has been scaled down to the five major towns we were originally planning to visit i.e. Asamankese – Monday 9th September, Achiase – Thursday 12th September, Asuom – Saturday 14th September, Begoro – Saturday 21st September and Kyebi – Thursday 26th September
- Due to the dates and geographical alignment of the towns, the caravan will be split into three phases, i.e. First phase 9th – 14th (Asamankese, Achiase, Asuom), Second Phase 21st (Begoro) and third phase 26th (Kyebi)
- For the first phase the teams will lodge at Akwatia which is central to the towns, from 8th September to the 15th September and return to Accra/Cape-Coast on the morning of the 15th. The teams will arrive in Begoro on the 20th for the second phase and return

on the 21st September. Arrival of the medical caravan team is set for the 25th in Kyebi for the 3rd and final phase and departure on the 27th September.

- The main services of the caravan include; haematology (FBC, Sickle Cell Screening), breast cancer, paediatric, hearing and speech pathology, HIV and Hepatitis screening and Dental services. Dental services are however dependent on a report from the Head of Community Dentistry Korle-bu, after an assessment of the condition of the van from the Ministry of Health.

Updates on Readiness by Team Leads

- The core teams have confirmed their readiness, availability and commitment to participate in the medical caravan.
- The NBSG is also ready to participate. They will join the team at Asamankese on the 8th of September.
- The Paediatric society of Ghana is also committed and ready to participate.
- The NHIA is also ready to offer services in the towns. Technical staff from NHIA will need to assess the exact locations for the caravan in order to determine network connectivity to avoid disruptions during the events.

Discussion

- It was decided that Sickle cell screening will now be made available to the general public instead of final year senior high students as previously agreed. Pre-counselling sessions will however be offered to determine who goes for the test - Solomon
- It was suggested and agreed that instead of lodging at Akwatia from the 8th of September the teams should report and lodge at Asamankese on the 8th to make it easier to set up on the 9th and then depart for Akwatia on the 10th. - Akwasi
- The teams have to arrive a day earlier for each phase to ensure early set-up and administration of services - Solomon
- A meeting will be held on the 8th at Asamankese for the entire Medical Caravan Team. It will be an opportunity to meet each other and run through the plan and strategy for the Caravan. All teams should therefore make it a point to arrive early on the 8th in order to participate in the meeting - Solomon.
- The teams will provide service from morning till 3:00 pm after which service will be closed - Solomon
- Care will be provided to 200 people per service for towns with a population of less than 30,000 and 250 people per service in towns with a population of over 30,000 - Amma

- Arrangement is being made to provide fuel to support the teams during the period of the caravan. A bus will however be organised for the team members from Accra to the various towns. Pick-up point will be communicated in due course.
- Media coverage is being organised for the Medical Caravan team. The media group will basically take pictures and videos to put together a documentary for the whole caravan.
- Polo shirts and t-shirts will be made for core team members and support staff.
- CRF's for the caravan have been finalised.

Action Items

- Core team leads are to finalise the number of personnel on their teams and send numbers to Melissa for accommodation arrangement.
- Team leads are to provide Melissa with number of personnel who will need to be transported.
- Make a cooler available to store samples during the caravan - Melissa
- Get information on exact locations the caravan will be positioned in the various towns and share with Ben (NHIA) - Melissa.