Healthcare Associated Infections in Ghana Project



NEWSLETTER OF THE HAI GHANA PROJECT

AUGUST 2016: ISSUE # 1

The Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) project is a 5-year research study with funding from DANIDA. The overarching objectives of the project are to reduce morbidity, mortality and costs related to healthcare associated infections in Ghana.



GROUP PICTURE AT INCEPTION WORKSHOP: MIKLIN HOTEL, AUGUST 15, 2016

Background: The HAI Ghana project collaboration is south- driven, between Ghanaian and Danish institutions. The Ghanaian institutions are the Ghana Health Service, University of Ghana and University of Cape Coast. The Danish institutions are the University of Copenhagen and Aarhus University.

***Workshop Objective*:** The primary aim of the workshop was to engage stakeholder participation in proposed research activities and to solicit their inputs.

***Venue & Participants*:** The inception workshop was held at Miklin Hotel in Accra on August 15, 2016. Participants were healthcare professionals selected from all 10 regions within Ghana and included 2 teaching, 6 regional and 2 district hospitals. In attendance were also PhDs, post-docs and PhD supervisors.

Also present were the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, the Director of the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, Head of Department, Medical Microbiology Department, Director of Pharmacy, Ministry of Health, Head, Institutional Care Division of the Ghana Health Service and Head, Research & Development, GHS. The total number of participants was 37.

***Workshop activities & Major inputs*:**

The workshop was chaired by Dr. Cynthia Bannerman, Head, Institutional Care Division, Ghana Health Service. Professor Mercy J Newman, the Principal Investigator, led most of the discussions and all participants made inputs and comments.

An instrument for a proposed nation-wide point prevalence survey on healthcare associated infections in Ghana was also discussed and inputs/comments were received from participants.



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***Observations & Conclusion*:** Some of the major observations were that; 1) majority of the health facilities present did not have a functional Infection Prevention Committee (IPC), 2) in most facilities quality assurance committees doubles up as IPCs, 3) basic supply like water and inputs for hospital infection prevention are mostly inadequate.

ETHICAL CLEARACE FOR POINT PREVALENCE STUDY

The HAI project has obtained ethical clearance from the ethical committee of the GHS to undertake a nation-wide point prevalence study.



From right to left: Rev. Prof. F Ayeh-Kumi, Provost College of Health Science, UG, Prof. Mercy J Newman, HAI project PI, Dr. Cynthia Bannerman, Head, Institutional Care Division, Ghana Health Service, Dr. Enid Owusu, Pos-doc and Dr. Kwaku Labi,



Far right: Dr. Kwamena Sagoe, Head, Medical Microbiology Dept., UG



A section of the participants during questions and answers time after a presentation



From left to right: Martha Gyansa- Lutterodt, Director of Pharmacy, MOH, Prof. S Debrah, University of Cape Coast, Dr. A. Hodgson, Head, Research and Development Division, Ghana Health Service



A round table discussion among PhD students, Post doctorial fellows and PhD supervisors