HAI-GHANA PROJECT
Healthcare Associated Infections Project, Ghana





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.

POINT PREVALENCE SURVEY INSTRUMENT WAS PRE-TESTED AT THE KORLE-BU TEACHING HOSPITAL, AUGUST 15, 2016

SEPTEMBER 2016: ISSUE # 2

Background: A key research activity in the first year of the HAI project is a nationwide point prevalence survey (PPS) of healthcare associated infections in Ghana. Surveillance of healthcare associated infection gives an indication of how well hospitals do in terms of infection prevention controls. The first point prevalence survey undertaken in Ghana was done in 2008, and included only one facility, the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital.

Research proposal for the current PPS was obtained from the Protocol Review Committees' of the Ghana Health Service and the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital. Ten hospitals across Ghana are included in the current survey. They include 2 Teaching hospitals: Korle-Bu and Tamale; 4 Regional hospitals, Koforidua, Wa, Sunyani and St. Francis Xavier, and 4 District hospital: Tarkwa, Bawku, Battor Catholic and Agogo Presbyterian. The PPS will span from 1 September 2016 through January 2017.

The survey instrument was pre-tested at the Surgical Department of the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital on August 15, 2016. After the pre-testing exercised, the instrument was revised to make it user-friendlier.

Survey itinerary and logistics were thoroughly discussed during a meeting held at the Conference room of the Medical Microbiology Dept., SBAHS. The local project management unit (PMU) liaised with the Ghana Health Services and letters were sent to the selected hospitals. The letters indicated training dates for local health professionals and the actual dates for the surveillance.

At each hospital, IPC and QA personnel, including doctors, nurses, pharmacists etc. were trained on healthcare associated infections. Between 4 to 6 local health personnel involved in IPC and QA were selected after each training, to join the 'core survey team' from Accra. The 'local team' were thorough taken through the survey instrument, an in some instances were involved in mock exercise.

As at October 28 2016, 6 selected hospitals have been trained and surveys conducted. They include St. Francis Xavier, Koforidua, Battor, Tamale, Wa and Bawku Presbyterian hospitals. We have had good working relationship with the hospitals visited.

Microsoft access database file has been designed for data capture and preliminary analysis of surveillance data. The database is currently being tested.

Conclusion: We are currently on schedule and hope to achieve our aims and objects.

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1. Point prevalence study of healthcare associated infections in Ghana
2. Air contamination study of operating theatres in Korle-Bu



Air contamination study of operating rooms

A parallel study of 'air contamination of operation rooms in Korle-Bu' is currently underway. A fifth year medical student from the University of Copenhagen, Marius is conducting this study. Faculty from the School of Biomedical and Allied Health Sciences, SBAHS, Department of Surgery, SMD and the University of Copenhagen jointly supervising the study.



Survey team gets ready for a point prevalence study



Medical record review at Wa regional hospital



Look out for the next edition of the HAI project newsletter



A training session at St. Francis Xavier Catholic hospital, Assin Fosu



Medical records review at the Koforidua Regional hospital.



Review of medical records/charts at the Battor Catholic hospital.



Training session at Bawku Presbyterian hospital



One-on-one at Bawku Presby hospital



One-on-one session St. Francis Xavier Catholic hospital, Assin Fosu



Training session at the Tamale Teaching hospital



One-on-one with health personnel at the Tamale Teaching hospital

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