

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MARCH E-NEWSLETTER 2023





Health Minister Tours Korle Bu

The Health Minister, Hon. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu paid a working visit to the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital. The visit was an hour-long inspection tour of some completed and ongoing project sites.

The Minister and his entourage were conducted around by some authorities of the hospital led by the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Opoku Ware Ampomah.

His first point of call was at the construction site of a 101-bed Urology and Nephrology Centre of Excellence, where he inspected ongoing work.



“The two (2) storey Urology and Nephrology Centre would have a thirty-one (31) suite dialysis station for persons with kidney disorders, and seventy (70) beds for genito-urinary patients. The Centre will also provide out-patient services, and also serve as a resource base to conduct research into urology and nephrology cases,” he said.

Freeman Kwame, the resident architect mention that the facility would help with kidney transplants, and it was expected that by the end of the year, it would be completed for commissioning.

The Minister and his entourage further moved to a refurbished and re-equipped fevers unit, which had been used as a Treatment and Holding Centre, as well as an isolation centre. According to Hon. Agyeman-Manu the centre would soon be opened for Ghanaians to appreciate how the COVID-19 money was spent.

The inspection of the construction and equipping of a 400 bed Maternity and Gynaecological Centre at Korle Bu completed the sector minister’s working visit.

He was briefed on the work done so far and was told that the project, initiated by President Akufo-Addo had been brought to a halt due to lack of resources.

The Minister expressed joy at the work done so far and pledged his Ministry's preparedness to help in providing resources for the procurement of certain equipment needed urgently by the hospital.





5-YEAR PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE STRATEGIC PLAN LAUNCHED

The Deputy Minister for Health, Hon Tina Gifty Mensah has launched the Public Health Workforce Strategic Plan on the theme '**Building a Resilient One Health Public Health Workforce in Ghana**' to better respond to emerging public Health Threats.

The Public Health Workforce Strategic Plan will provide prompt access and the highest quality health services through equitable deployment and retention of qualified workforce in Ghana's human, animal and environmental health.

Hon. Tina Mensah in her address said, the Ministry collaborated with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and innovation, and the Ministry of

Local Government and Rural Development to develop the document to guide the country on its health workforce needs. She said the Public Health Workforce Strategic Plan is a five-year document which presents a road map that would guide the restructuring of the Human resource of the public health workforce and ensure that the Universal Health Coverage target is fully achieved, using the One Health Concept by 2030.

“The document would support in addressing some weaknesses in the health workforce, particularly recruitment, workforce distribution, staff development, and employee motivation and employee migration,” she added.

Dr Patrick Kuma Aboagye, the Director General of Ghana Health Service (GHS) in his statement commended the timeliness of the Strategic plan since there was no document guiding the inter-sectoral collaboration.

“We have a live experience with COVID-19 where we realise that we couldn't work alone but work with others to achieve outcomes. COVID-19 forced us together and moving forward, we want to maintain and strengthen that collaboration,” he said.





FIRST QUARTER STAFF DURBAR





326 ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS, MANAGEMENT AND SENIOR STAFF BENEFIT FROM WORKSHOPS ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE IN CENTRAL

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Christian Health Association of Ghana has conducted two separate workshops on Corporate Governance for the cluster of Health Training Institutions (HTIs) in the Central and Western Regions on March 1-3, 2023 and March 8-10, 2023 respectively.

Participants of these novel capacity development workshop were taken through the rudiments of; the legal framework of the HTIs; the Board as a catalyst for academic growth and development of the HTIs; roles and responsibilities of individual board members as well as the board as a collective body.

Others were the fuss about peak performance within the landscape of corporate governance; administrative guidelines and procedures, and ethical and legal issues in academia.

In his closing remarks, Chairperson of the Nursing and Midwifery Training College Sekondi Advisory Board, Dr. Kwegyir Aggrey underscored the importance of the workshops and added that even though they were long overdue, they were better late than never.



He appealed to the Ministry to at least conduct such workshops once a year to increase the process efficiency of Board Members, Management and Staff in the HTIs.

He expressed appreciation to the facilitators of the workshops on behalf of his colleague Chairpersons.



A DELEGATION OF JICA PAYS A COURTESY CALL ON THE HEALTH MINISTER

A delegation of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), led by the outgoing Chief Representative of Ghana office, Yasumichi Araki paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Health, Hon. Kwaku Agyeman Manu on Wednesday March 22, 2023 at the Ministry of Health.

The visit was to introduce the new Chief Representative of the JICA Ghana office, Miss Momoko Suzuki to the Hon. Minister, whilst Mr. Yasumichi Araki bids farewell to the Minister as he departs Ghana on Friday March 24 after three (3) years of service as Chief Representative of Ghana office.

Mr. Araki commended the Minister and the government of Ghana for the swift response in combating COVID-19. He further congratulated the Minister for receiving the Order of the Volta award from the President of the Republic which is the highest honour in Ghana.



Hon. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu on his part warmly received the delegation and commended JICA for their support to Ghana even before COVID-19.

JICA donated the record booklets for Maternal and Childbirth which is currently used in all health facilities in Ghana.

He further bid Mr. Araki farewell and wished him the best in all his endeavours. He further assured Miss Suzuki of the support and cooperation of the Ministry.





HEALTH MINISTRY LAUNCHES 2023 WORLD GLAUCOMA

The Ministry of Health has launched this year's World glaucoma week (WGW) under the Global theme **"The world is bright, save your sight"** and the Ghana sub-theme, **"Do you know your eye pressure, get a check-up today!"**.

Glaucoma is an asymptomatic disease affecting all ages, especially those above 40 years of age. It is the leading cause of irreversible blindness worldwide and Ghana is no exception. At the end of 2020, 76 million people had Glaucoma and 11 million were blind worldwide and this is expected to rise to 112 million in the next 20 years (2040).



In a speech read on his behalf, the Minister for Health, Hon. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, stated that Ghana in celebrating this year's World Glaucoma Week will organise free eye screening in hospitals and clinics and as well alert the public on the need for regular simple eye checks which allow earlier detection and, hence, saved sight.

"Government will ensure that affordable eye medicines will be made available to control the condition which is discovered only through screening. Everybody can get glaucoma and uncontrolled glaucoma will lead to permanent blindness. Get a check-up today!", he added.





MoH takes delivery of 500,000 doses of Measles-Rubella vaccine

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has taken delivery of an additional 500,000 doses of the Measles-Rubella vaccine, one of the three routine childhood vaccines that were in short supply.

Briefing journalists at the national cold room in Accra, the sector Minister, Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, said the government was still beefing up its stocks.

“We anticipate that by the close of the month, we will get various quantities of all three vaccines that were in short supply. The problem is getting over,” he said.

He explained that there was nothing wrong sourcing vaccines from neighbouring countries that had excess stock and could replace them later.

“Bringing vaccines from Nigeria or any neighbouring country is an industrial practice, where from time to time countries that run out of vaccines, with the help of the World Health Organisation (WHO), contact neighbouring countries for excess stocks for help and are later replaced,” he explained.



Articles for Publications

The Public Relations Unit is compiling stories/articles for publication in the Ministry's monthly E-Newsletter.

Staff who have articles are to forward them to:
mohpr60@gmail.com

The publication can therefore be quoted and/or referenced in any academic research.

PICTURES IN BITS



At the Global meeting of the Network for Improving Quality of Care (QoC) for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) in Ghana, where 10 countries showcased the impact of their efforts in improving MNCH through the quality of care interventions.



The Acting Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr Anshu Banerjee paid a courtesy call to the Minister for Health, Hon. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu



WHO Ghana held a strategic dialogue with Ministry of Health agencies and stakeholders to build synergies and explore ways of strengthening collaboration to improve efficiency in the delivery of Ghana's health priorities.



Ministry of Health joined the rest of the World today in commemorating the 2023 World TB Day celebration, with a commitment to strengthening efforts towards ending TB in Ghana



World Health Organization in collaboration with the Ministry of Health held a spotlight event on diabetes to promote partnerships for diabetes prevention and control



Ministry of Health handed over a Toyota Landrover Ambulance to Kibi Government Hospital



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