

# CASSIOPEIA NKANI

Vol. 26 December 2023

CASSIOPEIA-BRINGING 5 STAR QUALITY HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE 5 TARGET HOSPITALS FOR UHC

## JICA - THE PROJECT FOR STRENGTHENING MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF GENERAL HOSPITALS IN LUSAKA DISTRICT



Mr. Kei Ogata - JICA Cassiopeia Project Cordinator, Mr. Oscar Nzila - LPHO Surveillance Officer, Dr. Sophia Msiska - LPHO Clinical Care Specilaist, Dr. Masataro Norizuki - JICA Cassiopeia Chief Advisor, Mrs. Christine Shawa - LPHO Health Promotions Officer, Mr. Peter Muleya - LPHO Principal Planner and Ms. Rita Lungu - JICA Cassiopeia Project with sample items towards supporting LPHO by the Project to help in combating the cholera outbreak that was declared by the Zambian government.

**COMMUNITY  
ORAL  
REHYDRATION  
POINTS  
HIGHLIGHTED  
AS VITAL TOOLS  
IN FIGHTING  
CHOLERA  
OUTBREAK**

**JICA CASSIOPEIA  
PROJECT  
DONATES  
TROLLEYS  
TO LUSAKA  
FIRST LEVEL  
HOSPITALS'  
PHARMACY  
DEPARTMENTS**

**PHOTO FOCUS**



## COMMUNITY ORAL REHYDRATION POINTS HIGHLIGHTED AS VITAL TOOLS IN FIGHTING CHOLERA OUTBREAK



JICA Cassiopeia experts with doctors from NCGM labelling buckets for ORPs at the District Health Office

**J**ICA Cassiopeia project was joined by NCGM, the National Center for Global Health and Medicine - Japan in visiting Oral Rehydration Points (ORP) in Matero constituency under the auspices of Matero First Level Hospital. Accompanied by Dr. Naomi Kabonde, the Public Health Specialist at Matero First Level Hospital, the two teams visited several ORPs in Matero, George and Lilanda compounds.

Dr. Kenichi Komada – Assistant Director at the Department of Health Planning and Management and Dr. Yutaro Akiyama – of the Disease Control and Prevention Center from NCGM where visiting Lusaka Zambia on the invitation of Provincial Health Office and Dr. Masataro Norizuki chief advisor for JICA Cassiopeia project. The duos' mission was to identify ways that their organization would help and support the Zambian people fight against cholera by providing ORP equipment and signage for Lusaka province.

During the visit to the different ORP sites, Dr. Norizuki provided the community health volunteers with community health handbooks on cholera prevention which they were encouraged to share with those visiting the oral rehydration points. The team visited 3 ORPs and Dr. Kabonde explained that the

hospital had chosen churches and schools as partners in providing ORPs as they are viewed as safe spaces by community members.

The ORPs act as the first contact by community members to seek medical care related to diarrheal symptoms and diseases. The community based volunteers get all background information of the clients and if they meet the case definitions of cholera, they are referred to Matero FLH for further assesment, early treatment and health promotion. Matero FLH has set up ORPs due to the Cholera outbreak in Lusaka District.

The visit to Matero FHL and surrounding constituency culminated with a courtesy call made to Dr. Astrida Maseka - District Health Services were Dr. Norizuki introduced Dr. Komada and Dr. Akiyama explaining the collaboration between JICA Cassiopeia and NCGM in the fight against the cholera outbreak in the district.

NCGM also handed over 60 sets of ORP equipment which consists of 3 buckets with taps and 1 buckets without taps for chlorinated drinking water, ORS, hand washing, and cup disinfecting solution. Signage for infection prevention and control (IPC) and for the buckets was provided by the JICA Cassiopeia project. The sets will be distributed among the districts in Lusaka province.



Dr. Akiyama, Dr. Norizuki, the Nurse-In-Charge and Dr. Komada at the Matero FLH Cholera Treatment Center



Dr. Norizuki showing ORP community volunteers booklets on identifying cholera symptoms and appropriate treatment in Matero constituency



Mr. George Nyama - Matero Community Health Chairperson, Dr. Komada, Dr. Akiyama, Dr. Kabonde, Dr. Norizuki with a community volunteer



Top: Hand over of ORP items to DHO by NCGM  
Below: Dr. Norizuki and Dr. Komada in the cholera triage tent at Matero FLH



## JICA CASSIOPEIA PROJECT DONATES TROLLEYS TO LUSAKA FIRST LEVEL HOSPITALS' PHARMACY DEPARTMENTS

**T**he difficulty of moving medicines and surgical supplies by pharmacists in five first level hospitals in Lusaka district to receiving departments has been lightened by the donation of trolleys from the JICA Cassiopeia Project.

Mr. Kohei Shiota, JICA Cassiopeia expert in Pharmaceuticals Products Inventory Management/Medical Equipment Management said

that there had been an acute need for the pharmacists to have equipment that would make the work easier for the delivery of medicines and surgical supplies around the hospitals.

Chawama, Chilenje, Chipata, Kanyama and Matero FLHs had previously used wheelchairs or stretchers to deliver medicines and surgical supplies to the receiving departments. The donation frees this equipment to be used for their intended purpose and provides the pharmacy departments at the 5 First Level Hospitals with equipment that consists of 4 trolleys for each

pharmacy.

JICA Cassiopeia project is mandated to build capacity in the 5 FLHs and part of the mandate is supporting the hospitals equip the different departments with good working environments. From supporting systems strengthening and management in the pharmacies, to sharing best practices for pharmacy management.

JICA Cassiopeia project is procuring plastic buckets for use in transporting medicines and surgical equipment and also install shelving to increase the space for storing medicines and other supplies in the pharmacies.



*Mr. Kohei Shiota and Mr. Kei Ogata - JICA Cassiopeia experts with pharmacy interns at Matero FLH*



*Mr. Ogata and Mr. Shiota with pharmacy interns at Chilenje FLH*

**Photo 1:** Ms. Siphwe Makowane - Chilenje FLH Pharmacy HOD with pharmacy technologists receiving a donation of plastic containers for the pharmacy. **Photo 2:** Acting HOD pharmacy, Ms. Tiara Namukonda, Mr. Shiota, acting Medical Superintendent Dr. Mary-Rose Kabale, Ms. Vilipwa Namwinda - Hospital Administrator and the Matron, Ms. Ireen Silavwe at Kanyama FLH



## KANYAMA FLH TEAM VISITS CHILENJE IN IPC EXCHANGE

**T**he Infection Control Team (ICT) at Chilenje First Level Hospital welcomed a team from Kanyama First Level Hospital to join their weekly IPC round where they go around the various hospital departments to check whether or not the departments were sticking with the IPC protocols in place.

The Kanyama team, comprised of Mrs. Maggie Mugala the hospitals' Environmental Technical Officer, Dr. Ilunga Mutwale, the IPC doctor and the hospital planner, Ms. Emeldah Mwendapole. The purpose of the visit was to exchange knowledge on IPC protocols as well as learn from one another.

Chilenje FLH established the IPC committee and ICT in September 2023 where it was agreed upon by hospital management to establish the team. They have since begun conducting IPC rounds on a weekly basis where the IPC doctor, IPC nurse and the EHT go from department to department to liaise with the departmental IPC champion who takes them round the department to inspect whether or not the staff are following the IPC protocols in place. Each IPC visit is different as the needs of the departments vary.

In a post visit interview, Mrs. Mugala said that the experience at Chilenje FLH highlighted the importance of having IPC protocols in place and that it was impressive

that all cadres in the hospital were involved in IPC and the response from the staff was encouraging. She further noted that Kanyama FLH will endeavor to have an ICT established in order for the facility to have a comprehensive understanding of what is needed in IPC protocols.

At the end of the visit by the Kanyama team, the two teams held a meeting to discuss how the two hospitals – via the IPC committees / ICTs – could continue their collaboration to share challenges and help with best practices. It was also suggested that they would exchange Infection Control Teams to conduct IPC rounds on the others' behalf and score the departments.



**Photo 1:** Mr. Clyde Ushibantu-Chilenje FLH EHT with Mrs. Mugala - Kanyama FLH ETO conducting joint IPC rounds



**Photo 2:** Ms. Michiko Nyanga - JICA Cassiopeia project expert with Dr. Mutwale and Ms. Mwendapole from Kanyama FLH at Chilenje FLH conducting IPC rounds

**Photo 3:** Casualty ward IPC Champion, Ms. Tiwa Phiri - IPC Nurse and Dr. Sandra Siamuyoba IPC doctor conducting IPC rounds in the Casualty Department

**Photo 4:** Chilenje FLH ICT team and Kanyama FLH team with Ms. Nyanga pose for a group photo



## IPC COMMITTEE AT CHIPATA LEVEL HOSPITAL HOLDS HIGH LEVEL MEETING

**D**rawing all department heads and junior officers, the staff from Chilenje First Level Hospital gathered in Chilanga from the 12th to 15th of December 2023 to review the hospitals' Balanced Score Card for 2023 and review the overall performance of the hospital.

Over the course of the week, various departments took turns presenting the challenges and achievements of the past year, as well as the way forward.

Ms. Siphwe Makowane who's the Head Pharmacist at Chilenje FLH led a presentation and discussion the strides being made in streamlining the working of the pharmacy relative to the demand it faces. Ms. Makowane stated that the introduction of stock cards in the wards and conducting weekly ward rounds has improved what drugs the department requires and therefore non-necessary drugs are not given to wards / departments that do not need them. The wards can now directly tell the pharmacy what they need hence helping in reducing the overstock of unnecessary medicines.

The ICT team presented

and discussed the milestones that they have achieved since the implementation of the IPC committee and the subsequent IPC rounds that are conducted weekly on Wednesday to visit the various hospital departments and check on the challenges and achievements they are gaining in IPC.

Another part of the IPC presentation was done by Dr. Sandra Siamuyoba the IPC doctor who spoke on Surgical Site Infection (SSI) and the issues being faced for the trend to continue of the hospital having SSIs particularly from the months of September to November. The team was advised to work with clinicians and the public health nurse to help determine what cadre of patients are getting the infections. They noted that once it was identified if more of those suffering from infections had prior medical issues, the clinicians and hospital staff would know how to treat them.

Dr. Siamuyoba lamented that the main issue they face was insufficient man power to help identify and segregate the data on SSI. Dr. Miyanda Simwaka, the Public Health Specialist assured Dr. Sandra that her department would endeavor to work with the IPC

committee and team to try and unearth the reasons why the hospital continues to experience SSIs.

Members of the management committee also praised both departments on the hard work they continue to.



*Photo 1: Ms. Siphwe Makowane, Pharmacy HOD making a presentation*

*Photo 2: Dr. Richard Mwila - MS - giving closing remarks at the end of the weeks' meetings.*



*Photo 3: Mr. Kohei Shiota from JICA Cassiopeia Project participating in a Q&A session*

*Photo 4: Dr. Sandra Siamuyoba making a presentation on Surgical Site Infections*



## PHOTO FOCUS



Mr. Kei Ogata and Mr. Kohei Shiota, Ms. Felistus Chulu acting HOD pharmacy, Dr Jackson Shawa and Ms. Michiko Nyanga - JICA Cassiopeia expert



Mr. Clyde Ushibantu - Chilenje FLH EHT, Dr. Ilunga Mutwale, Ms. Emeldah Mwendapole, Mrs. Maggie Mugala (Kanyam FLH IPC team) and Ms. Nyanga



Dr. Naomi Kabonde Matero FLH Public Health Specialist with Mr. George Nyama - Matero Community Health Chairperson visiting ORP station in Matero Constituency



Dr. Lalisa Nambeye - LDHO Public Health Specialist, and Ms. Agnes Khumbo Nkhoma - LDHO Pharmacist, receiving 650 blankets from JICA Cassiopeia Project, presented by Mr. Ogata Cassiopeia Project Coordinator



Dr. Yutaro Akiyama, Dr. Masataro Norizuki and Dr. Kenichi Komada in the Cholera Treatment Center at Matero FLH



Ms. Tiwa Phiri - IPC Nurse, Dr. Sandra Siamuyoba - IPC doctor and Pediatric ward IPC Champion, conducting IPC rounds in the Pediatric Department



Chilenje Management team at the BSC - systems strengthening committee review meeting in Chilanga

Editor and Newsletter design: Ms. Kombe Kapatamoyo

Editor: Mr. Kei Ogata

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Masataro Norizuki

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

JICA - The Project for Strengthening Management Capacity of the First Level Hospitals in Lusaka District  
Plot No.11743A, Brentwood Lane, Longacres.  
P.o. Box 30027, Lusaka, 10101, ZAMBIA

<https://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/zambia/023/index.html>

Email: [cassiopeia.project.zm@gmail.com](mailto:cassiopeia.project.zm@gmail.com)