



CASSIOPEIA NKANI

Vol. 31 May 2024

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



Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi, Ministry of Health Permanent Secretary for Technical Services and Dr. Astridah Maseka, Director of Health Services at Lusaka District Health Service presenting Dr. Masataro Norizuki with a farewell present at the 3rd Joint Coordination Committee held on May 21st, 2024

**THIRD JOINT
COORDINATION
COMMITTEE
HELD AS CHIEF
ADVISER BIDS
GOOD BYE**

**JICA CASSIOPEIA
PROJECT
ENHANCES
PHARMACY
STOCK
MANAGEMENT
IN 5 FIRST LEVEL
HOSPITALS**

**VERSION 2 OF
SURGICAL SITE
INFECTION
SURVEILLANCE
GUIDELINE AND
STANDARD OF
PROCEDURES
REACHES
CRITICAL STAGE**



THIRD JOINT COORDINATION COMMITTEE SUCCESSFULLY HELD AS CHIEF ADVISER BIDS GOOD BYE



High table delegates for the 3rd Joint Coordination Committee meeting

Dignitaries from the Embassy of Japan, JICA Zambia, Ministry of Health (MoH), Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO), Lusaka District Health Office (LDHO) and five first-level hospitals (FLHs) gathered on May 21st in Lusaka to attend the 3rd Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) which is the governing and official decision-making body of the JICA Cassiopeia Project chaired by the Project Director and consists of MoH, LPHO, LDHO and JICA Zambia targeting the five first level hospitals.

Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi, the Permanent Secretary for Technical Services in the Ministry of Health, officiated the meeting and expressed his hope that JICA's support would continue as the project enters its fourth year. He further acknowledged the Japanese government for the technical and material support given during the cholera outbreak that claimed over 700 Zambian lives.

The meeting was also a chance for the present stakeholders to agree on the amendments made to the project design matrix, particularly with the changing of hospital classification from general to first-level hospitals, changes to the reporting systems and stock management in essential medicines and medical supplies

(EMMS) and pharmacy, but it also served as a chance for reporting the progress of the surgical site infection surveillance guideline and standard operating procedures. The presentation of the project outputs yielded questions from the participants as some facilities performed better than others, such as IPC, hospital management, EMMS, and medical equipment management.

Furthermore, the Country Representative from JICA Zambia, Mr. Jotaro Tateyama, hailed the cordial relationship that continues to exist between the Japanese and Zambian people. Mr. Tateyama mentioned the significant contributions to the five targeted hospitals through management capacity building. He further mentioned that throughout the project, several hospital administrators have had the opportunity to participate in trainings (on Infection Prevention Control (IPC), hospital management as well as improving medicines and medical supply stock management) in Japanese hospitals to learn best practices and adopt them to the Zambia situation.

Dr. Lishimpi presented Dr. Norizuki with a farewell gift for his time as the chief adviser for the JICA Cassiopeia Project. He praised him for the technical support rendered and the work he had put in during the cholera outbreak. Dr. Lishimpi wished him well in the future.



Dr. Masataro Norizuki presenting to participants at the third Joint Coordination Committee meeting



Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi Permanent Secretary at MoH for Technical services making a presentation at the third JCC



JICA Cassiopeia Project Japanese experts and Project Officer Joseph Chizongo



Top: Ms. Michiko Nyanga making a contribution during the meeting

Below: Dr. Simulyamana Choonga the Provincial Health Director LPHO giving his welcome remarks at the JCC meeting



JICA CASSIOPEIA PROJECT ENHANCES PHARMACY STOCK MANAGEMENT IN FIVE FIRST LEVEL HOSPITALS

May 2nd, 2024, was an auspicious day for the targeted five first level hospitals (Chawama, Chilenge, Chipata, Kanyama and Matero). At the Taj Pamodzi Hotel in Lusaka, pharmacists from the five hospitals gathered with their counterparts from other health facilities in the Lusaka district, such as the University Teaching Hospital (UTH), Bauleni Mini Hospital, Chelstone Mini Hospital, etc.

The purpose of the workshop for the pharmacists to share their experiences – both good and bad – at the targeted five FLHs, to find ways of strengthening Medicines and Therapeutic Committee (MTC) meetings, and to introduce a standardized drafted monthly report, order fill rate (OFR) and a prescription fill rate (PFR).

The meeting was officiated by Dr. Sophia Msiska, Lusaka Provincial Health Office Clinical Care Specialist, who recognized the continued support rendered by JICA from the 1st phase of building the five FLHs

to the current JICA Cassiopeia Project, whose mandate is to enhance management capacity in the hospitals. Dr. Msiska also reiterated the importance of having sustainable systems that facilitate good practices in service delivery in health facilities.

Also present at the workshop was Mr. Chibosha Kandandu, the principal pharmacist at the Ministry of Health. His presentation focused on promoting the rational use of medicines in health facilities. Mr. Kandandu revealed that the Zambian health-care system was hemorrhaging money due to the irrational use of medicines through inappropriate prescribing, dispensing and selling of medicines inappropriately.

He called for strengthening MTCs to reduce cost of medical treatment at all levels of care, increase the efficacy and efficiency of medicine treatment and management, act as an advisory group to medical staff and serve as the organizational line of communication among all players in the facilities.

The themes that arose

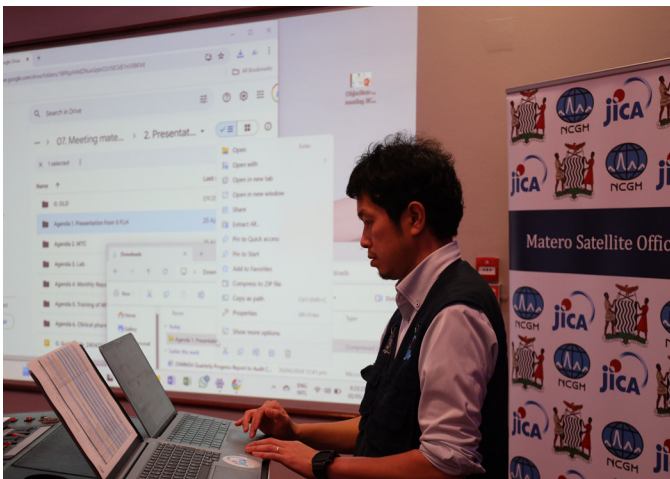
from the various discussions ranged from the unavailability of medicines in health institutions to the participation of pharmacists in drug prescriptions, the encouragement of prescribers to use SmartCare so that patient information and diagnosis are readily available, and many more.

Overall, participants from the various facilities agreed on the new reporting system and the job cards introduced for use in the wards, which will help the pharmacy departments track and know what medicines are frequently requested in the departments being serviced.

Before closing the workshop, Dr Norizuki handed over one laptop to each pharmacy in the five FLHs to facilitate their work in inventory and stock management of EMMS. He also congratulated Mr. Kohei Shiota who is the Japanese expert on EMMS for working hard with the facilities and called on the pharmacists to continue working hard.

Left: Mr. Kohei Shiota speaking during the Pharmacy Management Workshop held May 2nd, 2024

Right: Dr. Ilunga Mutwale - Head Clinical Care and Ms. Eunice Nambeye receiving a laptop for the pharmacy department from Dr. Masataro Norizuki during the workshop



VERSION 2 OF SURGICAL SITE INFECTION SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINE AND STANDARD OF PROCEDURES REACHES CRITICAL STAGE

The stage is set for the Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Surveillance guideline and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to be adopted and standardized by Ministry of Health as a cadre of various administrators from MoH, Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO), Lusaka District Health Office (LDHO) and the projects five targeted FLHs – Chawama, Chilenje, Chipata, Kanyama and Matero came together to discuss the final edits to version 1 of the SSI surveillance guideline and SOP.

Dr. Masataro Norizuki, project Chief Advisor stated at the meeting that having the guideline and SOPs in the facilities will help visualise data in terms of SSIs and help the facilities identify what may be causing these SSIs. He also acknowledged Kanyama FLH as the pioneer facility that started SSI surveillance

in March 2023, and other facilities have since begun the SSI surveillance in their facilities.

The meeting was targeted primarily at clarifying and explaining terms, calculating SSI incidences and the reporting system at facility, district and provincial levels. The group agreed on who would be secretariate for each level and how the incidences would be gathered from the outpatient and in-patient departments.

Reporting will be done in two levels. First, by the 10th day, the Health Information Officer (HIO) reports the incidence, and the lab reports the proportion of each causative microorganism to the SSI surveillance group in each facility. Then, after discussing and verifying the results within the facility, by the 15th, the IPC-in-charge reports the incidence and proportion of each causative microorganism to the SSI surveillance consortium that includes MoH, Provincial

Health Office (PHO), District Health Office (DHO), and a representative from each hospital.

DHOs and PHOs will evaluate whether each facility is reporting in a timely and complete manner. In addition, DHO and PHO in charge of IPC will compile the data from each hospital, calculate averages, and report the results to the WhatsApp group (SSI surveillance consortium) for feedback on the results, by the 25th. The results are evaluated within this group and discussed at PHO and DHO technical meetings and other meetings.

The meeting ended with an agreement to present the SSI surveillance guideline and SOP to the Ministry of Health for adoption and use at national level in all health facilities.



Dr. Sophia Msiska the Clinical Care Specialist at Lusaka Provincial Health Office giving welcoming remarks at the Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Surveillance meeting held on May 22nd 2024



Participants contributing during the SSI Surveillance meeting

LUSAKA PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICE SUBMITTED INTERVENTIONS TO THE DRAFT NATIONAL INFECTION

Ms. Cathel Mabuti, the Chief Environmental Health Officer (CEHO) from the Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO), together with JICA Cassiopeia Project Chief Adviser Dr. Shinsuke Murai, participated in the drafting meeting for Zambia National Infection Prevention Con-

trol strategic plan and guideline from 27th to 31st May 2024 in Kabwe.

Organised by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and sponsored by the Zambia and Centre for Infectious Diseases Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), the aim was to make final submissions and corrections to the existing document.

The CEHO submitted interventions that

underscored the crucial role of hospital governance in IPC implementation, especially the inclusion of senior managers. These were based on the findings in five FLHs in activating the IPC activities. The MoH will proofread and finalise the strategy and guideline. The national guideline will launch in July 2024.



Photo 1: Dr. Shinsuke Murai, Chief Adviser JICA Cassiopeia Project with Ms. Cathel Mabuti, Chief Environmental Health Officer at Lusaka Provincial Health Office at the Zambia National IPC Strategic Plan and Guideline meeting in Kabwe
Photo 2: Ms. Mabuti with another participant at the Zambia National IPC Strategic Plan and Guideline meeting

Photo 3: Group photo of participants at the Zambia National IPC Strategic Plan and Guideline meeting in Kabwe



PHOTO FOCUS



Dr. Astridah Maseka, Dr. Simulyamana Choonga, Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi and Dr. Masataro Norizuki at the 3rd JCC meeting at InterContinental Hotel in Lusaka



Group photo of participants during the Pharmacy Management Workshop



Dr. Sophia Msiska Clinical Care Specialist (LPHO) presenting Dr. Masataro Norikuzi with a farewell gift at the SSI Surveillance Guideline and SOP meeting



JICA Country Representative, Embassy of Japan Second Secretary Economic Cooperation Affairs /Section and JICA Cassiopeia Chief Adviser at the 3rd JCC meeting



KCCP participants during their inception report presentation



Dr. Masataro Norizuki (out-going) and Dr. Shinsuke Murai (in-coming) JICA Cassiopeia Project chief advisers



Group photo of the 3rd JCC participants held on May 21st 2024

Editor and Newsletter design: Ms. Kombe Kapatamoyo

Editor: Mr. Kei Ogata

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Shinsuke Murai

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