

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



Ms. Olipa Mulenga walking her colleagues through the days drug charts at the satellite pharmacy at Kanyama First Level Hospital

Left to right: Safe Musonda; Olipa Mulenga; Blessings Kazhama and Eunice Nambeye

**KANYAMA FIRST
LEVEL HOSPITAL
BECOMES FIRST
LEVEL HOSPITAL
WITH SATELLITE
PHARMACY**

**NURSING
EXCHANGE
PROGRAM
UNDERWAY IN
LUSAKA DISTRICT**

PHOTO FOCUS



KANYAMA FIRST LEVEL HOSPITAL BECOMES FIRST LEVEL HOSPITAL WITH SATELLITE PHARMACY



Sister Memory Mweemba from the the in-patient department with Ms. Olipa Mulenga - pharmacist in teh satellite pharmacy at Kanyma FLH

In a first for a first level hospital in Zambia, Kanyama First Level Hospital (FLH) this month opened a satellite pharmacy intended to directly serve admitted patients in a more efficient and effective manner. The pharmacy currently serves 10 wards and supplies medication to 90 patients on average daily.

The need to open the satellite office is a direct result of the training head of pharmacy (Eunice Nambeye) received from Japan under the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Programs (KCCP) in which participants who were selected and participated in the Knowledge Co-Creation Program were expected to come up with goals and activities they could realize and implement in the Zambian environment.

Establishing satellite pharmacies at the five First Level Hospitals was one such goal that participant Eunice Nambeye has accomplished after her training.

Speaking in an interview, Ms. Olipa Mulenga the pharmacist in charge of the satellite pharmacy described how the change in drug dispensing has been beneficial to the patients and nursing staff.

She stated that drugs are now being dispensed according to what was on the drug chart and as the pharmacy was near the in-patient department (IPD), it was easy to conduct ward pharmacy rounds and also monitor whether the medication prescribed to the patient were having the intended results. Mr. Blessing Kazhama, the nurse-in-charge at IPD expressed his delight at the



Nurse-in-Charge Mr. Blessings Kazhama with pharmacy department head Ms. Eunice Nambeye in the satellite pharmacy at Kanyama First Level Hospital



Ms. Olipa Mulenga - pharmacist with sister Chimuka Hang'umba checking patients' drug chart in the femaile in-patient department



Shelves marked with the medicines and stock control card to keep track of medicines being dispensed to the 10 wards at Kanyama FLH



Sister Chimuka Hang'umba with pharmacist Olipa Mulenga in teh female in-patient department during pharmacy ward rounds

CONT'D

initiative as he had noticed tangible benefits of the satellite pharmacy already. He stated that there was reduced time taken in dispensing prescriptions to patients (there is no need for nurses to go to a congested main pharmacy to wait for drugs as it is now decentralized); there is critical follow up by pharmacists on prescribed drugs and nurses are spending more time in the wards as the drugs are near by and easy to access.

The head of the pharmacy department, Ms. Eunice Nambeye echoed the sentiments by her colleagues but also pointed out that as this was just the beginning of the satellite pharmacy, they were still experiencing teething problems. There was lack of

manpower as they only had one pharmacist manning the satellite office. This meant that there was no one at night to help newly admitted patients. The concern extends to if the pharmacist became ill or took leave, there was no one available to take their place and continue the service.

This was reiterated by Mr. Safe Musonda, the dispensary pharmacist. He applauded the initiative but expressed his wish for it to become a 24/7 service in order to cater to everyone who is admitted regardless of time. Mr. Musonda also stated that the satellite office had brought accountability in terms of injectables and reduced medical errors as the pharmacist has the time to counter-check drugs against the prescription.

Mr. Abraham Mukese

la who is the chief pharmacist at Lusaka Provincial Health Office expressed his delight that the facilities are supporting the initiatives from the pharmacists that will have a direct impact on the quality-of-care patients will receive from

Kanyama First Level Hospital He reiterated the sentiments shared by Kanyama FLH of how the satellite pharmacy would improve patient safety as a result of reduced medication errors as there are now several steps to verify the prescriptions being administered to patient. He further stated that the turn around in accessing medication for the patients has seen an improvement.

Below: Group photo of Mr. Safe Musonda - pharmacist at dispensary; Ms. Olipa Mulenga - satellite pharmacist; Ms. Eunice Nambeye - HoD pharmacist and Mr. Blessings Kazhama - nurse-in-charge in-patient department



NURSING EXCHANGE PROGRAM UNDERWAY IN LUSAKA DISTRICT

The University Teaching Hospital (UTH) is hosting matrons and nurses-in-charge in an exchange program which is running from August to December 2024. The program which aims to be a best practices' sharing opportunity was devised at the quarterly nursing heads' meeting held last month at the Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO).

Chawama First Level Hospital (FLH) Nursing Officer Lorraine Chikonka undertook the visit from August 26th to the 30th at UTH shared that her experience at the UTH Adult Hospital has been enlightening. She noted how the staff in the wards she visited are self-motivated. She noted how they submitted reports on a timely and consistent manner. For instance, the night superintendents always give a report in the morning on how hospital fared in the last

24 hours to the incoming shift. Ms. Chikonka also noted some similarities between UTH and Chawama FLH where there is an Infection Prevention and Control team that does daily spot checks in the various departments.

The Principal Nursing Officer for Medical Services Ms. Linda Musonda at the UTH Adult Hospital felt privileged to be part of the program and highlighted the need for further collaboration between hospitals and stated that she looked forward to visiting other facilities and also receiving more matrons and nurses-in-charge.

Another participant in the program, Kanyama FLH Nursing Officer, Ms. Ireen Silavwe who was attached to the UTH Childrens Hospital commended the staff and leadership of the institution for the spirit of inclusion in management matters. Ms. Silavwe noted that that daily management meetings

were held physically and not virtually and included everyone from security department to the top leadership. She also commended how the hospital environment is very clean despite of the large number of patients received on a daily basis.

Senior Nursing Officer at the UTH Childrens Hospital, Ms. Emeldah Nyambe commended Ms. Silavwe for the work ethic she displayed during the exchange program noting that she was punctual and took part in activities such as ward rounds, checking stock levels of medication and also participating in trainings. Ms. Nyambe thanked the Principal Nursing Officer Ms. Inutu Mbangweta at LPHO for coming up with this important initiative that will help matrons and nurses-in-charge to learn from one another and pass on good practices from different facilities.



Nursing Officer at Chawama FLH Ms. Lorraine Chikonka with LPHO Principal Nursing Officer Ms. Inutu Mbangweta at UTH Adult Hospital



Ms. Mbangweta, MS. Ireen Silavwe - Nursing Officer Kanyama FLH and Ms. Emeldah Nyambe - Senior Nursing Officer UTH Childrens Hospital

PHOTO FOCUS



Ms. Michiko Nyanga - Japanese expert on IPC with the IPC team at Matero FLH conducting an IPC round



UTH Adult Hospital Principal Nursing Officer showing PNO Ms. Inutu Mbangweta the machine used by staff to respond to patients who ask for assistance from their beds



UTH Childrens Hospital ICU nurse-in-charge showing the emergency trolley used in the ward



Japanese nursing and medical students visiting Matero First Level Hospital



Senior management at UTH Childrens Hospital with Ms. Ireen Silavwe and Ms. Inutu Mbangweta



Students being inspected for finger nail length as well as presence of jewelry as part of the 3rd IPC round at Matero FLH



Japanese nursing and medical students visiting Matero FLH

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