

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



Dr. Simulyamana Choonga giving opening remarks at the Infection Prevention and Control meeting at Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO)

Left to right: Ms. Cathel Chiboola LPHO Senior Environmental Health Officer, Ms. Inutu Mbangweta, Chief Nursing Officer; Dr. Choonga LPHO Provincial Health Director and Mr. Kei Ogata Cassiopeia Project Coordinator

**NURSES SHARE
BEST PRACTICES
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EXCHANGE VISIT
PROGRAM**

**LUSAKA FIRST
LEVEL HOSPITALS
MEET TO DISCUSS
PROGRESS ON
SURGICAL SITE
INFECTION
REDUCTION**

PHOTO FOCUS



NURSES SHARE BEST PRACTICES LEARNT FROM EXCHANGE VISIT PROGRAM



Ms. Inutu Mbangweta, Chief Nursing Officer at LPHO facilitating the meeting of matrons and nurse-in-charges on shared best practices

The Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO) hosted the second Ch-Nursing Officer meeting (matrons and nurses) in Lusaka district on September 12th 2024, to facilitate exchanging the ideas and best practices from exchange visits between First Level Hospitals and the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) on September 9th 2024.

The exchange program was agreed upon on July 11th when the Chief Nursing Officer for Lusaka province, Ms. Inutu Mbangweta made an impassioned speech on the need to improving the current situation in hospitals as well as taking the opportunity for exchanging and sharing best practices from various health facilities.

Presentations on the best practices learned were made by various matrons and nurses-in-charges who have so far benefitted from the exchange program. For instance, Ms. Fanny Mvula Sikazwe from Chipata First Level Hospital shared hers and her counterparts experience at UTH. Ms. Sikazwe

who showed staff in UTH from neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), triage, high dependency unit (HDU), labor ward and theatre, as well as the obstetrical intensive care unit (OICU).

She shared that there is a comprehensive handover of nursing duties and the staff adhere to reporting time. Ms. Sikakwe also noted how the departments consistently practice 5Ss (Set, Sort, Shine, Standardize and Sustain) and prominently displayed nursing protocols. She further stated her wish to see first level hospitals to reach a good nurse to patient ratio like that observed at UTH.

UTH also received feedback on areas to they could generally improve upon such as waste segregation, adherence of prescribed uniforms by staff as well as the long waiting hours for theatre cases.

Apart from sharing the best practices, the nursing leadership in Lusaka district took time to discuss the results of the nursing audit which focuses on various issues such as documentation and infection and prevention control (IPC).



Dr. Simulyamana Choonga making his opening remarks during the nurses and matrons exchange visit update meeting



Participants sharing their experiences during the exchange meeting



Dr. Shinsuke Murai during his presentation at the meeting



Sister Fanny Mvula Sikazwe from Chipta First Level Hospital sharing her experience from the University Teaching Hospital during the nurses exchange program meeting

LUSAKA FIRST LEVEL HOSPITALS MEET TO DISCUSS PROGRESS ON SURGICAL SITE INFECTION REDUCTION

Under the invitation of the Provincial Health Director, Dr. Simulyamana Choonga of the Lusaka Provincial Health Office, Infection Prevention Control (IPC) teams from the five first level hospitals which consist of an IPC doctor, IPC nurse, environmental health technician (EHT), IPC focal lead, as well as a laboratory representative gathered at the Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO) for the IPC quarterly meeting held on September 11th, 2024. The agenda was a discussion on the current situation concerning the surveillance of surgical site infections (SSI) at the facilities as well as to discuss ways in which they can be mitigated.

Ms. Cathel Chiboola, who is the Senior Environmental Officer at LPHO stated that the objective if the meetings was to review and discussion of the SSI data collected from the five first

level hospitals; to monitor and assess SSI rates, to evaluate various interventions as well as offer practical action points.

A representative from each hospital made a presentation on the SSI incidences as well as the possible causes of the infections. Recommendations from attendees ranged from facility fumigation to proper hygiene practices of medical personnel. Some of the issues raised from the discussions was that some facilities did not have adequate equipment for sterilization of medical equipment and some facilities had issues accessing fumigation machines to aid in their operations.

Dr. Choonga emphasized the need to curb incidences of SSI in the hospitals. He also thanked JICA Cassiopeia Project in providing technical support and training on SSI surveillance. Dr. Choonga hopes that the project would also consider spreading the surveillance to the whole province in order to

build capacity which in turn would reduce SSI incidences.

In his presentation, Dr. Shinsuke Murai who is the JICA Cassiopeia Project Chief Advisor urged the meeting participants to investigate and find – within their own facilities and when they are at home – where the sources of infections were coming from. From the data made available, hospital staff are investigating the causes of high SSI incidence. Dr. Murai emphasized broadening the scope of analysis. He recommended mapping contact points with patients and considering possible causes of the infections as the first step.

The hospitals present were tasked with drafting a map of how patients move throughout the hospital and to identify points at which patients maybe at risk of infection and to offer possible countermeasures to stop the infections. The FLHs were also tasked to share their finding with the IPC committee and hospital management.



Ms. Michiko Nyanga, Japanese expert in Infection Prevention Control (IPC) with the Kanyama First Level Hospital IPC team



Ms. Memory Chewe, Lab Officer and Ms. Nelly Daka Environmental Health Technician at Chipata First Level Hospital

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Ms. Michiko Nyanga - Japanese expert on IPC with Matero FLH Matron Jane Botha and Ms. Florence Mwanza Hospital Administrator during a GEMBA walk on September 2nd, 2024



Ms. Annie Chisanga (2nd from right), Environmental Health Officer at Lusaka Provincial Health Office joined an Infection Prevention Control round at Chawama FLH on September 7th, 2024



Ms. Nyanga attending a monthly data review meeting at Chipata FLH on September 17th, 2024



Dr. Shinsuke Murai, Project Chief Advisor for the JICA Cassiopeia Project giving a presentation at the Zambia National Surgical (Peri-Operative) Healthcare Plan Revision Stakeholder's Workshop held from 9th to 13th September, 2024



Ms. Nyanga supporting Bauleni Mini Hospital with (Infection Prevention Control) IPC materials (24th September, 2024)



Ms. Nyanga supporting Cheltone Mini Hospital with IPC materials. Pictured with Ms. Angela Nanyangwe Kapila, the Nursing Officer at the hospital (16th September, 2024)



Ms. Michiko Nyanga; Mr. Prince Bwalya (CFLH); Sister Bridget Sitima (MFLH); Dr. Muemba Mashili (MFLH); Sister Jacqueline Mulako (CFLH) and Mr. Ezekiel Kankoloto (MFLH) after Matero FLH IPC Team visited Chawama IPC Team to observe and participate in an IPC round

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