PASCAR/AU/3rd All Africa Workshop on Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease

Roadmap: Priority Actions and Investments
Group Members

- Abraham Halleamlak (Chair)
- Gene Bukhman
- Sahar Sheta
- Mohammed Alkebsi
- Albertino Damasceno
- Stephen Ogendo
- Bongani Mayosi
- David Watkins (Facilitator)

- Adeoye Abiodun
- Charles Mondo
- Agnes Mtaja
- Alaa Elghomrawy
- Mahmoud Sani (Rapporteur)
Methods

• All group members made contributions under the following headings

1. Their Roles in their various places of work/countries
2. Their Strengths and Weaknesses
3. Most important recommendations they will give their governments as regards control of RF/RHD

• Followed by extensive discussion on priority actions
Key issues identified

• Need for Data – Registries
• Penicillin: supply, training, task shifting/sharing
• Awareness – patients, providers, community
• Need for National action plan – multi-sectoral collaboration, national guidelines
• Centers of excellence
• Financing – programs, patient support
• ? Notification
• Echo/USS as a commodity for training
• Needs for Synergy with other NCDs
• Action plan that strengthens Health Systems
Group Articulated the above issues in 5 priority actions and investments for the AU to control/eradicate acute Rheumatic fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease
1. Every AU member state should develop an action plan on control of RF/RHD
   - based on disease burden and local needs
   - develop local guidelines for primary and secondary prevention as well as a referral system for advance care
2. The member states should establish and/or strengthen RF/RHD register
   - as a mechanism for oversight and case management
   - consider shifting/sharing tasks with dedicated nurses who can administer prophylaxis
3. The member states should increase awareness of RF/RHD among the health care providers as well as the general public
   - Public – the importance of sore throat and its link to RF/RHD
   - Providers – training of primary providers on guidelines on RF/RHD

4. The member states should strengthen existing supply chains for injectable penicillin
   - Process of procurement, quality assurance and distribution especially to underserved areas
5. The member states should have an integrated approach to NCDs that includes RHD specific issues across primary, secondary and tertiary levels of care addressing unique issues like

- Echo – training/screening
- Anticoagulation
- Cardiac surgery
- Family planning
- Robust financing mechanisms – Oversight governance
Thank you