African Union Communiqué on Eradication of ARF and RHD

Action Group 2 (Penicillin) Meeting Minutes

5 January 2017, Skype Conference Call

Time: 15h00 – 16h00 (South African Time)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks - Sulafa Ali

2. Attendees: Sulafa Ali (SA), Aiden Long (AL), Jonathan Spector (JS), Nicky Kramer (NK), Janette Lombard (JL)

3. Absent: Geoffrey Madeira (GM), John Babtiste Nikiema (JBN), Alaa Ghamrawy (AG)

4. Summary of Meeting:

- Penicillin Survey
  - No new responses (25 responses in total)
  - SA used summarised results presented in graphs for slide to present in Cairo

- Cairo Meeting
  - SA Presentation
    - Discuss graphs from Survey
    - Cover 7 points
      - Penicillin unavailable in many countries - No medical kits
      - Skin testing widely practised - Drug reactions
      - Lack of confidence in administration of Pen - Quality of Penicillin
      - Administration guide and training
  
  - Enablers
    - Collaboration with Partners (Sandoz etc) - Administration Guide
    - BPG is on Essential Drug List
  
  - Barriers
    - Availability - Administration
    - Quality

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- AL: Opportunity in Cairo to validate answers on Survey
  - Some filled it in incorrectly (John Musuku on allergy and skin testing)
  - High number of reactions
  - Quality and availability (almost all indicated PEN is on Essential Drug list, but not necessarily available)

- NK on AL availability point
  - Being able to get it from the manufacture/wholesales
  - Agreed vendor sometimes cheaper and not concerned about the quality

- NK comments on slide
  - 11: Free Drug List: Costing that varies, mention the frustration

- JS: Where only 24 responses, mention that it is only a pilot Survey
  - Mention how many countries participated
  - Slide number 7: Important slide (Administration Guide)
    - FF will be presenting on another topic, SA should strengthen this slide
    - Medical team working on first draft
  - AL Manuscript (will be mentioned in AL’s presentation as an example)
  - NK barriers (not ready to give “one-liner”)
  - JS will help edit slide afterwards

- AL’s presentation on Penicillin Allergy Testing
  - Briefly review all the world literature to form a framework for discussions and decisions
  - Will be open-minded and get everybody’s input
  - Hopeful to reach a consensus on what to do

- AL on final slide, bullet 4 (Investigating BPG quality/ change to better brands)
  - Do we have a plan? How and when – routine poses?
    - WHO: Nikiema said he would help - CENQAM
    - Rosemary Wyber also offered help

- AL’s Manuscript is accepted and approved for publication

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Helpful for everyone to see what has been achieved
We’ve encountered a high level of concern of Penicillin Allergy
  ➢ By introducing an education Module, Training and Treatment kit, it significantly lowered the barrier of fear
  ➢ Risk of allergy is never ZERO, there will be reactions, but very low

5. **Next steps**
   - All: To look at SA Slides for Cairo and comment

6. **Closed with thanks**