



The Pan-African Society of Cardiology (PASCAR)
Department of Medicine Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Cape Town
Observatory 7925
Cape Town, South Africa

PO Box 26716, Monument Park, 0105 South Africa

African Union Communiqué on Eradication of ARF and RHD

Action Group 2 (Penicillin) Meeting Minutes

3 October 2016, Skype Conference Call

Time: 16h00 – 17h00 (South African Time)

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** - Sulafa Ali
2. **Attendees:** Sulafa Ali (SA), John Babbaste Nikiema (JBN), Geoffrey Madeira (GM), Aiden Long (AL), Jonathan Spector (JS) Alaa Ghamrawy (AG), Janette Lombard (JL)
3. **Apologies:** Nicky Kramer (NK)
4. **Summary of Meeting:**
 - Penicillin Survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NBV67W2>)
 - Only 5 responses – resend weekly reminders
 - AL wants to see feedback from countries on penicillin allergy
 - Feedback on Sandoz Meeting (with Florain Falch and Rosemary Wiber)
 - Agreed to work on a Guideline on the Administration of Penicillin
 - Send “raw” material to FF
 - Possible video (Australia video had great responses)
 - Suggestion from RW – 2 components:
 1. Preparing and Administration of drug
 - General Administration Guide (basic for health workers)
 2. More detailed reference, with sub sections
 - Dealing with Penicillin Allergy
 - FF wants to hear from PASCAR in what countries it would be a priority to make the drug available
 - Zambian Experience (AL)
 - Manuscripts has been submitted to CVJA (under review)
 - Significant fear of administration of Penicillin

PASCAR Governing Council - Prof Bongani Mayosi, South Africa, President; Prof Samuel Omokhodion, Nigeria, Immediate Past Secretary General, Dr Benedict Anisiuba, Nigeria, Secretary General; Prof Karen Sliwa-Hahnle, South Africa, Treasurer; Prof Patrick Commerford, South Africa, Editor (Cardiovascular Journal of Africa); Prof Serigne Ba, Senegal, Vice-President West; Dr Saad Subahi, Sudan, Vice-President North; Prof Ana-Olga Mocumbi, Mozambique, Vice-President South; Prof Elijah Ogola, Kenya, Vice-President East; Dr Anastase Dzudie, Cameroon, Acting Vice-President Central; Dr Harun Otieno, Kenya, Assistant Secretary General East; Dr Awad Mohamed, Sudan, Assistant Secretary General North; Prof Johan Brink, South Africa, Assistant Secretary General South and Prof Toure Ali Ibrahim, Niger, Assistant Secretary General West.

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- Since Educational Initiative:
 - i. Less fear
 - ii. Uptake in use of BPG
- Should have standardised education in other countries to overcome fear

- JS: 4 Important issues/concerns – hope to address them all, through different mechanisms
 - 1. Providing education to health workers (Educational Module)
 - Great next step after Administration guide
 - 2. Administration Guide (with Sandoz)
 - a) Won't be able to address quality or allergy
 - b) Might touch on these issues
 - c) Guide will assume person is using good quality Penicillin
 - 3. Allergy
 - 4. Drug Quality

- SA concern over Drug Quality
 - JBN – WHO Quality Report
 - 1. Assessment of medicines regulatory systems in sub-Saharan African countries (document attached) – not targeting Penicillin
 - 2. Scarcity of data on Penicillin
 - 3. Need Quality Assessment (in selected African Countries)
 - Centre for Quality Assurance of Medicines (CENQAM) - RSA does Drug Quality Testing (WHO collaborating centre)
 - 4. Expensive project - needs funding

- GM: Collect experience from Syphilis programme at maternal services
 - Penicillin also used for treatment of Syphilis
 - Has a contact with pharmaceutical department in Mozambique (they requested a letter) to give data and report on side effects (SA suggests all to participate in the Penicillin Survey)
 - Shared his concern over the storage of the penicillin in Mozambique

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- JBN: Drug Registration
 - Registration of drugs in countries very important (as Penicillin can come from many sources)
 - Possible to train health workers on issues related to good prescription of Penicillin?
 - i. Good administration - Guideline can be developed for that
 - WHO has a guideline and process to train health workers at primary care and hospital level (can discuss collaboration at later stage)
- SA: Sandoz has registered Penicillin in Sudan (expensive related to other brands)
 - How many countries make use of Sandoz? (Question for FF)
- SA made contact with WHO EMRO (NCD person in Cairo) interested to join group, but no further replies

5. Next step, specific tasks

- JBN:
 - Will contact Mr Briggs from CENQAM (copy SA) on preliminary draft with cost proposal
- GM: Send JL contacts on persons at pharmaceutical department and working on the Syphilis programme
- JL:
 - Resend Survey to Addis Ababa 2016 Delegates, also to GM's contacts in Mozambique
 - Schedule next meeting:
 - Every first Monday of the month at 16h00 (South African Time): 7 November 2016 at 16h00 (CAT)

6. Closed with thanks

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