African Union Communiqué on Eradication of ARF and RHD

Action Group 3 Meeting Minutes

12 September 2016

Venue: Skype Conference Call

Time: 14h00 – 15h00 (South African Time)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Ana Mocumbi
2. Attendees: Ana Olga Mocumbi (AOM), Maylene Shung King (MSK), and Janette Lombard (JL)
3. Apologies: Karen Siwa (KS), Amam Mbakwem (AM), Triphonie Nkurunziza (TN)
4. Summary of Meeting
   - Plan for technical paper to draw-up Guidelines
       - Used a Health System’s Framework which looks at different components of a health system, focusing on the system that’s in place for Reproductive Health Services (RHS) in Sub-Saharan Africa (Maternal health side – pregnancy, delivery and post delivery)
       - Very little literature available in Sub-Saharan Africa - services for woman with disabilities – had to look at international literature on woman in general (who needed access to maternal health services)
       - RHS and woman with RHD – capture in this review
       - Get 2nd smaller body of literature - Specific needs for woman with RHD
       - Summary: Maternal Health services not optimally functioning across African countries - Issues around Human Recourse Element
         i. Few in number/training of nurses and doctors
         ii. Financial allocations to maternal services
         iii. Leadership and governance
         iv. Drugs, pharmaceuticals and related equipment
       - Identify potential leverage points and needs of young women with RHD
       - Elements aside from numbers:
         i. Training and orientation
ii. Attitudes, values, believes, behaviour towards patients
iii. Aspects of pharmaceuticals and related equipment

- AOM: Right approach. We will acknowledge the student for her work.

B) AOM: Diagnosis of RHD/ARF
- Concentrate efforts on woman who already have complications and structural disease
- Review of techniques: little on clinical, rapid test (lab test) and ECG
- Not much on ECG Diagnosis
- Invasive Diagnosis – cardiac Catheterization/ Percutaneous dilatation
- Add Subtitle: Use of Imaging Techniques on Pregnant woman
- 3 Diagnosis:
  i. Recrudescence
  ii. Valvular Heart Disease
  iii. Invasive Diagnosis
- Incorporated 3 periods:
  i. Pre pregnancy (counselling, etc)
  ii. Pregnancy
  iii. Post Delivery

- AOM suggesting we follow the same approach: Pre pregnancy, pregnancy and post delivery.
- MSK: Age gradient to be considered (young woman/early adult period or older woman?) Emphasising on School health prevention activities?
- AOM:
  o the use of contraceptive methods by girls and women of reproductive age with RHD
  o diagnostic and management guidelines for women with RHD
  o the antenatal care and delivery counselling for pregnant women with RHD
  o the post-obstetric care and follow-up for women with RHD

D) AM: Epidemiology (What is available: pathology/path physiology/physiological aspects of disease)

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5. Management and Prevention (Paper from Karen/Ana & Vahanian)

- Prolonged secondary prophylaxis (Australia, New Zealand – Expert Opinion) - will give acknowledgement

- MSK: Technical paper should include: Prevalence of HIV, other common conditions that might co-exist
  - AOM: Co-morbidities: HIV, Malnutrition

- MSK: Will play a role as an outsider, to see if we can read it as a non-expert, cover unobvious questions/aspects

6. Next step, specific tasks

- MSK:
  - Please forward all references to AM & Share references to person working on certain aspect
  - Start writing the introduction of the statement, all can fill the gaps
  - Give input/suggestions on:
    - the use of contraceptive methods by girls and women of reproductive age with RHD
    - diagnostic and management guidelines for women with RHD
    - the antenatal care and delivery counselling for pregnant women with RHD
    - the post-obstetric care and follow-up for women with RHD

- AOM:
  - Raised 4 questions – Circulated the Layout Guidance paper for Inputs (Attached in mail)
  - To ask Australia, New Zealand – Expert Opinion on Prolonged secondary prophylaxis
  - Draft Survey Questions (Anyone doing research that relates with reproductive period/reproductive health services - any period/ clinical or health system issues)

- JL:
  - Send email out to all RHD Action Groups to please send any references/summaries/research in progress/drafted work outlines/concept notes
  - Forward drafted survey of AG 2 to
  - Find out from BM if this group can add 1/2 questions/ create own survey
  - Remind all in last week of September – to have ready a draft to share with group in October meeting

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- Monthly meetings to be scheduled for Every 2nd Monday at 14h00: **10 October 14h00 (South African Time)**
- Schedule meeting for AOM with Dr Triphonie Nkurunziza before next meeting (Monday after noon’s, Thursday mornings available)

- All to share their summaries/drafts so far

7. Any other business - none

8. Closing remarks