



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 4 Meeting Minutes

8 November 2016

Venue: Skype Conference Call

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

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** – Liesl Zuhlke
2. **Attendees:** Liesl Zuhlke (LZ), John Meda (JM), Emmy Okello (EO), Fidelia Bode-Thomas (FBT), Janette Lombard (JL)
3. **Summary of meeting**
 - LZ: Sent around brief summary of previous discussions: (Attached)
 - Decentralized awareness raising (easiest to implement)
 - Point-of Care Echocardiograms
 - Point-of Care INR
 - EO: Could possible combine 2 and 3 (Point of care Echo and INR)
 - LZ agree - using existing models and scale them up
 - Have already wired programs out there – could easily be scaled up and distributed in all of the regional centres
 - Using those to identify nurses/community workers/non experts who could be interested. Create then an arm to go on to be trained for v-scan and trained in INR (to work within the same unit)
 - LZ: Costing – thinking of a program to implement OR grant application to be able to do this (finances for tablets, translation English and few local languages)
 - Cost of 3 pilot sites: easiest is to do Decentralising Awareness Raising
 - Easy to get ethics approval for
 - Types of infrastructure we need is “teach the teacher/train the trainer” mechanism with someone with internet access
 - Not very labour intensive (opportunity for us to identify school teachers and community health workers, non-experts to eventually train other people)

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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- Awareness Raising will need some funding, PASCAR might help us with that, but with other two points, we'll need substantial funds
 - Pilot sites – 3 countries: (Easier to write a grant for only 3 countries)
 - JM: Tanzania (Outside Dar Es Salaam: Dodoma to consider as pilot site)
 - EO: Uganda (Outside Kampala: Going east – near Mount Elgon)
 - FBT: Nigeria (Outside Jos: possible site 50 km from Jos, easily to be reached)
 - Aim towards Local District hospital with 100 km radius circle around
 - Get information from areas through Survey (number of people and health recourses in that area)
 - LZ:
 - We are using algorithms that already exist in the Awareness Raising
 - Adapt what “EO Model” used Point-of Care Echocardiograms
 - Current algorithms for Point-of Care INR (how it can be used by a non-expert)
 - Next steps
 - Send around a Survey to 3 possible areas for pilot sites – to get a sense of where those three pilot zones are (needs assessment ex. Computer needs, number of doctors/nurses, schools, patients)
 - LZ will send Survey questions out
 - Start writing protocol with these three arms as major way we imagine how we can decentralise
 - Start with what we've got and what we need, put the draft on top of that, could form our Rationale Design Paper for a Decentralise Program – Present in Cairo to try and get grant for that
 - LZ will expand on draft to look like Rationale Paper – add the survey feedback
 - Recycling between group to build this draft, call BM in when we get closer to final draft
 - Next meeting
 - LZ in London 1st week of December (can do Skype but later in the evenings, UK Time)
 - Tuesday 6 December (time to be confirmed through Doodle Poll)
4. Any other business - none
5. Closed with thanks

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