



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 6 Meeting Minutes

6 April 2017 | Time: 16h00 – 17h00 (South African Time)

Venue: Skype Conference Call

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** – Chris Hugo-Hamman
2. **Attendees:** Chris Hugo Hamman (CHH), Sherri Schwaninger (SS), Jeremiah Mwangi (JM), George Nel (GN) and Janette Lombard (JL)
3. **Apologies:** Frank Edwin (FE)
4. **No RSVP:** Steven Shongwe (SS)
5. **Summary of meeting**
 - Country Champion Letters for RFP
 - CHH received the draft letter: *Request For Proposal* - for Advocacy Activity (PASCAR grant: Advocacy for RHD prevention - promoting the AU Communiqué)
 - **WHF grant** available for us to run a Competition between the participating countries (17)
 - USD 2,000 reward for 5 successful countries (each)
 - They have to write proposal with clear deliverables
 - CHH made some changes to letter, will send to GN
 - Proposal Submission date: 1 June 2017 (implementation within 6 months)
 - CHH: BM mentioned that 5 countries should present their proposals and or report back during the PASCAR Sudan Meeting in October.
 - Final Deliverable (at completion) - Report with narrative & expenditure to be submitted by end January 2018 (if not earlier)
 - GN: What are we pursuing? Advocacy and or policy changes in government?
 - CHH: Looking for deliverables on all 7 point of the AU Communiqué - “Advocacy” is an action in itself
 - JM: Distinction is to hit all 7 points, emphasis on engaging decision makers in positive directions

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- GN: We will evaluate on possible impact of the communiqué becoming a cornerstone of their government policies/activities?
- JM: Matrix on how we will evaluate (list of criteria) – GN did send template
 - Amounts are small – the expectation should be fairly measured
 - WHF would like to see increased engagement between the CBD community and government
 - Even a single element is of value because it's a conversation to build your programme from there
- CHH: Competition run by AG 6 – our mandate: Pursue the goal of sustainable progress on in-country implementation of the 7 steps - focused on integrated multi-sectoral RHD Prevention Programmes
 - Not looking for people to run Penicillin training/workshops (won't be included in this activity)
- Panel indicators: Bongani Mayosi, CHH & JM
- GN: Timeline suggestions
 - CHH: very short, should push back
 - JM: Shouldn't rush timeline for Sudan
- RHD Action also launching their 5 small grants application
 - GN: We just want to make sure we don't confuse the market, be specific on our objectives
 - RHD Action grants differ a bit in their objectives:
 - Priorities Pyramid
 - *People and Communities*
 - *Medicines and Technologies*
 - *Systems and Services*
 - JM also involved in RHD Action Grant – Global call
- Advocacy Toolkit
 - Zambian Training Module
 - SS: Background – working in Zambia on National Control Programme focus on Health care workers on the ground in the clinics
 - We developed the RHD Educational Flip Chart through Novartis

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- Used the tool in Zambia, did pre-training & post-training surveys on 112 health workers in Lusaka
 - To help them distinguish between strep throat, ARF & RHD
 - Differences in how each country would treat – this chart specifically to Zambia
 - Also developing it in an electronic module format specifically for Zambia
- Important to have tool for countries to adapt on their own situations/standard
 - Sudan also working on Module (Flip chart)
- We would like some clinicians to review this for information accuracy/accessible for prevention & treatment

- CHH made some suggestions to Module
 - Draw clear line between what audience it is intended for – that will determine the language and focus of the Module
 - Namibians would not want to use BPG after viewing this presentation – to much focus on the risk of taking penicillin
 - SS: Action Group 2 (Penicillin) would propose to take the whole section on Penicillin allergy and make complete separate training Module
 - SS: A lot of nurses in Zambia afraid of BPG because of allergy – after training the fear decreased (we provided allergy kits)
 - This section would not be included in the final Module
- CHH: Would Novartis be willing to make this slide-set template available through PASCAR?
 - SS: Novartis would be willing (depends on the cost & complexity)
 - PASCAR will write letter to Novartis to request modification of the Module
- JM: Quick observation is that the Module is rather a Training tool than an Advocacy tool
- JL: PASCAR Website under RHD Tab – Communication Toolkit:
 - Tips Document
 - Zambian Module
 - BM's video (Take Heart – road to Addis) <http://www.pascar.org/news/entry/take-heart-africa-road-to-addis>
 - CHH Interview with Namibian MoH: <http://www.pascar.org/news/entry/a-namibian-broadcasting-corporation-interview-with-dr-chris-hugo-hamman-and>
 - Prof Magdi Yacoub Gala video: <https://vimeo.com/140169061>
 - Talking points (Action Group 7 discussion)
 - PowerPoint presentation on Report of RHD Action Groups

- Action Group 1: Marketing strategy

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- JL: Dr Mark Engel would like us to mention in our next communication to Country Champions that Action Group 1 is willing to help with the set-up & registration of the E-Register App
- CHH: Next communication will be in a month time, to send out our Education Toolkit & include message of E-Register

6. Next steps and specific tasks

- CHH: Provide comments & input to the RFP letter, send to JM (done)
- JM:
 - Provide further comments & input to the RFP letter (Joanna Markbreiter from WHF supplied comments – done)
 - Provide feedback on Zambian Training Module to SS
- GN:
 - Will send CHH RHD Action Guidelines for application (done)
 - Circulate “matrix/evaluation sheet” template to all (done)
- JL:
 - Write letter to Novartis to create/modify Module template to be made available through PASCAR (done)
 - Communicate to all the Action Groups the Communication Toolkit we are putting together on the PASCAR Website – to not duplicate efforts
 - Schedule next meeting: **Thursday 4 May - 16h00 (CAT)**

7. Any other business – None

8. Closed with thanks

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