



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 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 Sliwa (KS), Amam Mbakwem (AM), Triphonie Nkurunziza (TN)
4. **Summary of Meeting**
 - Plan for technical paper to draw-up Guidelines
 - A) MSK: Summarise Aspects from Master Student thesis (Sub-Sahara Systematic Review) could form introduction of paper (2013-2014) - 2015 & 2016 literature not included in thesis.
 - Used a Health System's Framework which looks at different components of a health system, focussing 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-Sahara 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

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- ii. Attitudes, values, beliefs, 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

C) KS: European Contraceptive RHD & Management (http://www.pascar.org/uploads/files/Contracep_EHJ2015.pdf)

- 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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- Introduce review on research (studies/registry – to show real, estimated burden and studies going on in Africa)
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

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