

NEAPACOH: Seminar on TB and Lung Health

Background

The annual meeting of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) aims to facilitate sharing of lessons and experiences on how parliamentary committees of health can more effectively address health challenges in their countries. The meeting also provides a platform to enable the committees to develop concrete commitments and actions to champion and address critical health challenges.

This seminar will tackle the pervasive problem of TB/Lung health in Africa.

Globally, it is estimated that 1 billion people suffer from acute and chronic respiratory conditions which are a major cause of illness and death. Although there is a relative lack of data and evidence on lung health illnesses beyond tuberculosis (TB) in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), their estimated regional burden is large and growing. The problem of lung health diseases in SSA is exacerbated by many factors, including poverty, under-prioritisation, under-treatment and weak preventative measures.

Objectives

The seminar presents an opportunity for parliamentarians to engage with emerging evidence on TB/lung health and to explore actions they can take to champion efforts to address this issue in their countries.

Expected outcomes:

1. Increased awareness of the importance of TB/Lung health among parliamentarians
2. Agreement on the possible commitments that the committees can take to promote prioritisation of and actions to address TB/Lung health

Participants: members of parliamentary committees of health, committee clerks and other stakeholders

Date: October 27th 2020 (10:30-12:30 EAT)

Facilitators: The evidence will be presented by researchers from the International Multidisciplinary Programme to Address Lung Health and TB (IMPALA) implemented by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) and other partners.

IMPALA is comprised of international partners and over 15 organisations across 10 sub-Saharan African countries: the Sudan Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa, Cameroon and Nigeria. The four-year collaborative programme launched in 2017 is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

Proposed Programme

Tuesday, 27 October 2020 [10:30-12:30 EAT]		
Time	Content	Facilitator/Presenter
15 Minutes	Introduction	Dr. Eliya Zulu
	Overview: Rationale and Objectives of IMPALA TB/Lung Health Disease Burden and Scope of problem	Dr. Angela Obasi
45 Minutes	Presentations	
	1. It's not TB, what could it be – 10 minutes	Brenda Mungai
	2. Post-TB Wellbeing – 10 minutes	Jamilah Meghji
	3. Socioeconomic impacts of chronic lung disease on patients and their families in Sudan and Tanzania – 10 minutes	Elizabeth Shayo
	4. How ready are the health systems to provide chronic lung health services? Evidence from Kenya, Sudan and Tanzania – 10 minutes	Uzochukwu Egere
	5. Patient voice – 5 minutes	Nick Wambugu
1 Hour	Discussion & Potential commitments for action	Dr. Eliya Zulu and Dr. Angela Obasi
	Next Steps	
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