CHIEF OF STAFF COMMISSIONS TWO ULTRA-MODERN OXYGEN PLANTS AT THE KOMFO ANOKYE TEACHING HOSPITAL

Hon. Mrs. Akosua Frema Osei-Opare, Chief of Staff has commended the Board and Management of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) for the prudent use of internally generated resources to improve facilities and specialist clinical care at the Hospital.

She said the Hospital deserves the support of Government and the general public in its drive to upgrade and improve its facilities and services because of the responsible manner its Management has been using self-reliant initiative to address some of the critical challenges facing the Hospital.

Hon. Mrs. Akosua Frema Osei-Opare stated this when she inaugurated two ultra-modern oxygen plants at the Hospital in Kumasi on Tuesday 25th June 2019. The plants, reputed to be the biggest in this country, were acquired by the Hospital through a pre-financing arrangement with RikAir Company Limited, a Ghanaian owned hospital engineering firm. The cost of the plants is valued at Five Million, Four Hundred Thousand Cedis (GH¢5.4m) and would be repaid over the next three years from the Internally Generated Funds (IGF) of the Hospital.

The plants have replaced the obsolete one which could only produce 5% of the Hospital’s oxygen needs. The Hospital was sourcing for the remaining 95% of its oxygen need from a private source at the cost of GH¢12,000 a day until the acquisition of the new plants.

The historic event was also graced by other dignitaries including the Ashanti Regional Minister, Hon. Simon Osei-Mensah, Deputy Minister of Health, Hon. Alexander K. K. Abban and Hon. Osei Asibey-Antwi, Chief Executive of the Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly.

Hon. Mrs. Akosua Frema Osei-Opare observed that ordinarily, when there is an inauguration of a project of this magnitude it has always been either through a central government funding or support from donors. “Thankfully, today, through prudent and innovative leadership of the Board and Management of the Hospital, we are here to inaugurate these two ultra-modern plants that are capable of meeting all the oxygen needs of this hospital and can even bottle the excess production for sale to other hospitals in the country”.

Hon. Mrs. Akosua Frema Osei-Opare used the occasion to exalt other health agencies and establishments to learn from the example of KATH and “adopt innovative measures to improve the quality of healthcare services and make the Government’s agenda of promoting Ghana as a health tourist hub in West Africa a reality”. She said government will not hesitate to support all progressive-minded institutions to improve the quality of service delivery to the public if they pursue innovative ways to address some of their operational challenges.

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It is my pleasure to welcome all readers to the first edition of the “resurrected” KATH Newsletter. In my capacity as the Chairman of the Hospital’s Editorial Board, I am excited that after months of preparations, the foremost “mouthpiece” of the hospital is back in production after going defunct for the past couple of years. The reactivation of the newsletter forms part of the comprehensive strategy of Management to improve communication among the various stakeholders of the hospital. It is therefore, a platform that we want staff members and stakeholders to own and contribute to. The Editorial Board will therefore, like to encourage readers to submit articles and other write-ups for possible publication in the KATH Newsletter which will come out every quarter. Hopefully, we all will help to sustain the production of the newsletter in the months and years ahead of us. The newsletter is expected to be complimented by the website of the hospital, www.kathhsp.org, and the newly established official social media platforms on Facebook and Twitter as the key information management and enabling tools for the hospital. The official hospital’s Facebook page is Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (with the official KATH logo) and its Twitter handle is @komfo_anokye. You can search for @kathhospital for the Facebook also.

The Editorial Committee will particularly urge the Units and Directorates to take full advantage of these platforms to publicize and project their activities in the areas of specialist care, training and research to solidify the pedigree of the hospital and its clinical Directorates as one of the prestigious tertiary health institutions in West Africa. The Editorial Board can be reached on telephone number 0266018559, intercom ext 1056 or through email keb@kathhsp.org.

Permit me at this juncture to express the appreciation of the members of the Editorial Board to the Chief Executive and Management of the Hospital for granting us the opportunity to serve and reposing in me a lot of confidence which has challenged my team to come this far. On my own behalf and on behalf of my team I wish to extend a special gratitude to the KATH Governing Board for their support and cooperation.

Once again, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of the KATH Newsletter. Let us hear from you because we believe we can only grow and improve through your kind critique and contributions as we strive to make KATH a true center of excellence through effective communication. Thank you and may God bless us all.
FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DESK

It is my pleasure to connect with you through this important medium which has been revived after years of absence from the networks and newspapers. I am glad that after persistent promptings and encouragement from the Management and the Board the official mouthpiece of the Hospital, “KATH News” has been formally restored to improve on information sharing and communication among both internal and external stakeholders of the Hospital. It is the wish of Management that the reintroduction of this production and the re-launching of the KATH website are developments that should excite everyone. It should be sustained to broaden the consultative and dissemination of information avenues of the Hospital. I wish to encourage all members of staff to own these and use them as channels for not only marketing the Hospital and its services but as mutually beneficial platforms for information management for all stakeholders.

Given that this is the maiden edition of the newsletter since my assumption of office, may I take this opportunity to convey my heartfelt gratitude to all members of staff and other stakeholders for their support and good counsel for which reason this Hospital is making steady progress towards its vision of attaining a tertiary medical center of excellence in the West African sub-region. Since the assumption of duty in September 2017, the Board has been pre-occupied with enhancing the operational capacity and the competitive edge of the Hospital in a bid to transform it into a robust tertiary health service, training and research institution capable of meeting its multifaceted-mandate in an effective and efficient manner. In the light of the above, heavy investments continue to be made in the development of the manpower base and acquisition of critical equipment using Internally Generated Funds (IGF) to help improve patient care at the Hospital. In the course of 2018 for instance among the equipment procured were power drills and accessories for Orthopaedic surgeries at the cost of Gh¢180,000.00, Haematology Analyser valued at Gh¢490,000.00, Ventilator for the Intensive Care Unit costing Gh¢150,000.00 and Gh¢300,000.00 worth of assorted equipment for the Physiotherapy Unit. Others were five Dental Chair units at the cost of Gh¢550,000.00, Specialised Microscopes at Gh¢144,000.00, Electric Dryer valued at Gh¢135,000.00 for the Laundry Unit, etc. Another significant acquisition made by the Hospital through IGF funding were two state of the art Oxygen Plants with accessories procured at the cost of five million, four hundred thousand Ghana Cedis (Gh¢5.4m). The installation of the plants was completed with a power source connection by the Power Distribution Services (PDS) Company Limited and the relaying of new distribution pipes to all user points costing Gh¢367,000.00 and Gh¢132,000.00 respectively. This critical project with a comprehensive cost of Gh¢5,953,000.00 was formally commissioned by the Chief of Staff, Hon Akosua Frema Osei-Opare on 25th June 2019. The acquisition which is arguably the biggest IGF-funded project in the country’s public health sector, would save the Hospital the daily cost of Gh¢12,000.00 it incurs in purchasing the product from private providers due to the obsolescence of the old plants which have since been decommissioned.

Management has completed works on various civil projects which included renovations and new structures at a total cost of Gh¢1,832,441.20 while work on the 47-flat housing project for House Officers at the Bansatama staff quarters also progressed to 65 per cent completion rate. The expectation is that this housing project which started in 2016 will be completed before the end of this year at a cost of Gh¢3,102,772.02. I must indicate that this project when completed would help to reduce drastically the cost of accommodating House Officers posted to the Hospital. It is also gratifying that the Hospital is currently witnessing a major transformation in its history with the rolling out of its computerization project in the quest to make all its operations paperless. The deployment of the Lightwave Health Information Management System (LHIMS) commenced in January this year at the Family Medicine Directorate and has since been implemented in the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat (EENT), Oncology, Oral Health and the Child Health Directorates. The Obstetrics and Gynaecology Directorate is the next scheduled for the roll out program.

I commend the Staff Members for good job done over the years for the Hospital to continue to operate optimally and remain competitive.
The system has already begun to impact positively on the operations of the Hospital. It has made it possible to detect financial leakages, track the performance of critical staff, reduced fraud through the detection of fake national health insurance cards and improved the integrity and management of patient records. Even though there are some teething problems with the roll-out of the system such as slow internet/intranet speed and inadequate hardware, Management is determined to see to its successful deployment and efficient application given its potential benefits to enhance all the services delivered by the Hospital.

The Hospital is recording tremendous growth in the operations of the 24-Hour Pharmacy established at the Accident and Emergency (A&E) Centre in November 2017. From virtually zero revenue, the Pharmacy which currently stocks over 450 different items, and counting, now has average weekly sales of GhC 85,000.00. It recorded Two-Million, Four-Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (Ghc 2, 400,000.00) in sales in 2018. The establishment of this Pharmacy has saved patients and relatives who in the past had to go to pharmacies outside the Hospital to get essential medicines, especially non-insured medicines at odd hours of the day.

It is based on this impressive growth that Management, with the approval of the Board, started the construction of a stand-alone structure right in front of the A&E Centre to help further improve on the availability and quality of pharmaceutical services at the Hospital, especially for emergency services.

Before I conclude, I would like to touch on the KATH Endowment Fund (KEF) which was launched on Friday, 30th November 2018. The launch of the Fund formed part of the Board's strategies for mobilizing the material and financial resources required for the comprehensive re-tooling of the Hospital. It is well known that the Hospital has not seen any comprehensive renovation and refurbishment since its construction in 1955, hence the need to explore all possible means to address the varying and chronic challenges confronting the hospital and its operations.

The Board has put in place an independent Board of Trustees under the able chairmanship of Mr. Opoku Boamah, CEO of Opoku Trading Company and other eminent citizens to manage the Fund. Under their prudent leadership, contributors are assured of the sound management of their donations.

As I conclude, I once again commend all members of staff for the good job done over the years. I must, however, stress that for the Hospital to operate productively and remain competitive, it is incumbent on all of us to ensure the judicious use of resources entrusted in our care including consumables and equipment and most importantly, prioritize the needs of our patients. It is also very important for all staff to adhere to the necessary discipline, integrity and the highest level of professionalism to assure ourselves and the general public of the best in quality health care.

Management pledges to do the best it could to explore additional ways to improve staff performance, attitude, motivation and involvement in the day to day administration of the hospital as part of the over-all strategy to make KATH more and more patient friendly and also the facility of choice of clients for specialist services. This, I believe will enhance patient care and treatment outcomes at the Hospital.

It is my expectation that all Unit and Directorate Management Teams will re-dedicate themselves to further improve upon their performances to enhance the quality of services to our clients and the fortunes of the hospital.

May the gracious God bless you all and may we have a productive year.

AERIAL VIEW OF THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY BUILDING

DISCUSSION OF A TRAUMA CASE BY EMERGENCY MEDICINE PHYSICIANS

TEAM OF MEDICAL PHYSICISTS WORKING ON INSTALLING NOUVELLE EQUIPMENT

VIEW OF THE PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY UNIT, CHILD HEALTH
BOARD MEMBERS OF KATH

NANA EFFAH-APENTENG, BOARD CHAIRMAN
Ambassador Nana Effah-Apenteng is the Chairman of the Board of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). He holds a Bachelor of Arts, BA (Hons) Political Science and Masters of Arts, MA in African Studies from the University of Ghana, Legon. He obtained a Diploma in Public Administration in 1974 and Certificate in Diplomacy in 1975 from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) and Oxford University respectively. Nana has spent most of his working life at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Ghana. He has a rich background and experience in foreign and international affairs and has served in various capacities at both local and international levels. Nana was the Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations, New York, from 2000-2007. Nana was the Chief of Staff of the eminent African personalities established by the African Union (AU) to mediate the 2007/2008 Kenya post-elections crisis which comprised, H.E. (late) Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General as Chairman, Ms. Graca Machel (Mandela) and H.E. Benjamin Mkapa, former President of Tanzania as Members. Nana is currently the Paramount Chief of Bompata Traditional Area and among the five Paramount Chiefs representing the Ashanti Regional House of Chiefs at the National House of Chiefs of Ghana.

Nana is a Member of the Otumfuo’s Secretariat at Manhyia Palace. Nana Effah-Apenteng is also serving on other bodies and boards including the Council of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Standing Committee of the Ashanti Regional House of Chiefs and the Middle Belt Development Authority.

DR. OHENEBA OWUSU-DANSO
Dr. Oheneba Owusu-Danso is the Chief Executive of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). He holds a Bachelor of Science (Human Biology) as well as MB ChB degrees from the School of Medical Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi. He also has a Postgraduate Diploma in Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) in Healthcare from the Bloomberg School of Public Health, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland in the United States of America. He pursued his specialist training in Plastic, Aesthetic and Hand Surgery at the Diakonie Hospital, Rotenburg-Wumme under the University of Goettingen, Germany. He is a Fellow of the Ghana College of Surgeons as well as the West African College of Surgeons. He is a strong advocate for best practices in quality assurance in a comprehensive health care delivery system. Prior to his appointment he was a Consultant Plastic, Aesthetic and Hand Surgeon and Head of the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Unit at the Directorate of Surgery of KATH.

PROF. DANIEL ANSONG
Professor Daniel Ansong is a Board Member of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) and currently the Dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Until his appointment as the Dean, he was the Deputy Director of Research and Development at KATH, a position he held for six (6) years. He was also the Head of the Paediatric Emergency Unit (PEU) of KATH for ten (10) years. Professor Ansong has on several occasions acted as the Medical Director of KATH. Professor Ansong is respected both in international and local circles for his broad academic and research experience. He has carved niche for himself in the area of research and thus, authored several articles and studies in paediatric health care and nutrition. He is a product of the KNUST Medical School.
DR. KOFI OSEI-AFOAKWA
Dr. Kofi Osei-Afoakwa is a Board Member (Government Appointee) of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital. He holds Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degrees in Accounting and Finance. He is a Chartered Accountant, with over 36 years working experience in teaching and financial administration in higher educational institutions and public accounting practice. Dr. Osei-Afoakwa is currently the Managing Consultant of Osei-Afoakwa Consult, a Chartered Accounting firm. Dr. Osei-Afoakwa is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana, Certified Fraud Examiners and Association of National Accountants of Nigeria. He has authored numerous peer-reviewed journal articles on Public Accounting.

PHARM. CHARLES DONTOH
Pharm. Charles Dontoh is a Board Member (Government Appointee) of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital. He holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi. Pharm. Dontoh has a rich experience in Pharmaceutical practice in both Local and International circles. He is a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH), Commonwealth Pharmacists Association and the International Pharmaceutical Federation. He is currently the Chief Executive of Fairmile Group, a position he has held from September, 2003 to date.

MRS. NAANA AKYAA ASANTE
Naana Akyaa Asante is a Registered Nurse with over 23-years of clinical experience in women and children’s health and home care nursing. She worked as a Nurse Practitioner in some of the most prestigious hospitals in New York including New York Presbyterian, Columbia Presbyterian, Good Samaritan, Vassar and Albert Einstein Hospitals in the U.S.A as well as the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital. Her background provides the KATH Board with broad expertise in international best care practices in health care. Mrs. Asante is particularly passionate about improving the quality of patient care provided at KATH. She is a product of the Charles E Shea High School, Pawtucket Rhode Island and Howard University, Washington DC. Mrs. Asante is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Isabella Health Care Services.

MR. FRED EFFAH-YEOBAH
Mr. Fred Effah-Yeboah is the Director of Administration of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). He holds Masters of Public Administration and Bsc Administration (Health Service Management) degree from University of Ghana, Legon, and M. Phil in Development Management from the University of Development Studies, Tamale. His rich experience and leadership skills in health care management have over the years contributed in promoting quality health care delivery to the people of Ghana. He is a member of the Development Studies Association, UK, Institute of Directors Ghana and the Association of Health Service Administrators, Ghana. Prior to his appointment, he was the Area Manager of the Presbyterian Health Services in the then three Northern regions of Ghana with its office at Bawku.
PROF. BAAFUOR KOFI OPOKU

Prof. Baafuor Kofi Opoku is the Medical Director of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital. He obtained his Bsc. Human Biology degree in 1985 and MB, ChB in 1988 from the School of Medical Sciences of Kwame Nkrumah University Science Technology (KNUST). He has over the years served as a supervisor to several post graduate doctors and students of the Ghana and West African Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons and the School of Public Health, KNUST. Prof. Baafuor Opoku has authored and published several articles in the area of women’s health, family planning and obstetrics and gynaecology in both international and local peer reviewed journals. He is a Fellow of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons as well as the West African College of Surgeons. Until his appointment as the Medical Director, he was the Head of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G) Directorate of the Hospital.

PHARM. ANTHONY KOFI MENSAH

Pharm. Anthony Kofi Mensah is the Director of Pharmacy of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). He holds Bachelor of Pharmacy degree and Masters in Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and School of Pharmacy, University of London, UK respectively. He also holds an Executive Certificate in Leadership and Management from the Ghana Baptist University College, Kumasi. Pharm. Mensah has over 26 years working experience in both pharmaceutical Services and Teaching. He is a registered member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana, Government and Hospital Pharmacies Association of Ghana as well as a Fellow of the Ghana College of Pharmacists.

MS. GEORGINA AFUA SAM

Ms. Georgina Afua Sam is the Director of Nursing Services of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). She holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Education and Bachelor of Nursing with Psychology from University of Cape Coast and University of Ghana respectively. She has a rich experience in public health, nursing administration and leadership and served in different capacities at various health facilities in Ghana. She is a member of the West African College of Nursing and a Foundation Fellow of the Ghana College of Nurses and Midwives. Until her appointment, she was the Regional Officer of the Nursing and Midwifery Council in the Brong Ahafo Region, a position she held since May, 2012.

MR. ELVIS KUSI

Mr. Elvis Kusi is the Director of Finance of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). He is the Omanhene of Toase with the Stool name, Nana Yim Awere Ababio. He is a product of Opoku Ware School (OWASS). He holds Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Economics and Accounting. He is a Chartered Accountant and holds a Masters in Business Administration and Masters in Law (LLM) in international Business from Emporia State University, USA and University of Cumbria, Carlisle, UK respectively. He is a member of several professional bodies including America Institute of Certified Public Accountants (CPA), Chartered Global Management Accountants (CGMA), Institute of Public Finance Accountancy (CIPFA) as well as the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Ghana.

He has a rich experience and expertise in financial and strategic planning, budget and development management, accounting and financial operations and assets risk management as well as investment and system improvement management.
**Anaesthesia & Intensive Care Directorate**

Dr. Sanjeev Singh  
**Head**

The Directorate is responsible for intensive care, pain management and anesthesia. Its services include: pre-operative assessment, preparation and administration of anesthesia to patients and effective management of pre and post-operative patients. It holds mortality and critical incidence meetings periodically. It has subunits in all the 13 theatres in KATH. The Directorate is involved in the training of Senior and Junior Residents for Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons and West African College of Surgeons as well as Doctors in the West African sub-region in Regional Nerve Block in collaboration with World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists. Some of its current research activities include, effects of modular training in infection control in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), KATH and profile of ICU admissions.

**Public Health Unit**

Dr. Ruth Owusu  
**Head**

The Public Health Unit is an independent Unit under the Medical Director’s Office. It aims to provide Public Health Services comparable to any international standards and provides a comprehensive array of public health services to staff, patients and other clients of the hospital with a view to improving and promoting health and preventing disease. The Unit offers a variety of Public Health related services. They include: Disease surveillance, Outbreak investigation and disease control, Immunization and growth monitoring for children under 5 years and immunization for pregnant women, Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, HIV testing and counselling, Health promotion services and Occupational health.

We provide facilities for research into issues of public health interest and have collaborations with various international partners.

**Oral Health Directorate**

Dr. Daniel Kwesi Sabbah  
**Head**

The Directorate provides the best quality of oral healthcare to meet the needs of clients through motivated and skillful health personnel. Its services include general and specialist care for diseases and ailment of Oro-facial region. Its specialities include Oral Diagnosis and Community Dentistry, Orthodontics & Pediatric Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Restorative Dentistry. The Directorate offers post-graduate training and update of skills for nurses, doctors and other paramedical staff in Oral Health. It provides facilities for research into oral health problems and is currently in active collaboration with some international partners in the areas of training, research, and service.

The Directorate runs specialist services in all the units from Monday to Saturday as well as public holidays, and also run emergencies.
This is a highly specialized Directorate that offers specialist care to its clients between the ages of 0-14 years. The Directorate offers a 24 hour specialist care in emergency, outpatient and in-patient departments. Currently, it has eleven subspecialties, namely Neonatology, Pediatric Intensive Care, Endocrinology, Cardiology, Neurology, Nephrology, Gastroenterology/Hepatology/Nutrition, Pulmonary, Hematology/Oncology and infectious diseases. The Directorate is accredited by the GCPS for both membership and fellowship programs with post-membership training for residents in Nephrology and Oncology. It has a research office to house its numerous research activities and has developed strong long standing international collaborations with University of Utah and other institutions.

Microbiology (Bacteriology, Serology, Parasitology), Haematology, Biochemistry, together with the Pathology and mortuary services units forms the Laboratory Services Directorate, with a vision to becoming a center of highest quality Diagnostic Laboratory services and the most preferred point/facility in Medical Laboratory Services in Ghana and beyond. Together, the laboratories continue to provide quality analytical, diagnostic and public health services that contribute to maximizing the effective delivery of healthcare service at KATH. The Microbiology (Bacteriology section), Haematology (A&E section) and Biochemistry units offer 24-hour service all days of the week, including public holidays and weekends. The directorate serves as a center for training for allied health professionals in Ghana and abroad. There are various types of research work ongoing and there are research collaborations with many of the clinical directorates of the Hospital, other institutions, and the international community.

The HR unit aims to make Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital the preferred employer in the Health Sector through excellent human resource management and ensure that there are appropriate, adequate, well-motivated and productive Human Resource in all areas in the hospital. Our responsibilities include development and implementation/dissemination of HR policies, guidelines, plans and strategies; appointments (internal and external); managing the performance of staff; coordinating staff training and development; staff welfare, discipline and grievance handling; provision of advisory and support services to line managers/supervisors and staff on best practices in human resource management and employee relations. Additionally, we manage personnel database and compensation for the Hospital.
The Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital Board in line with its transformational agenda initiated a series of programmes and policies to strengthen the governance and operational capacity of the Hospital since its maiden formal meeting on 24th October 2017. These interventions have been designed to enable the Hospital to effectively and efficiently deliver on its core mandate of providing specialist clinical care services, training and research as enshrined in the Ghana Health Service and Teaching Hospitals’ Act, Act 525. The Board, in the course of its first year in office held 16 formal meetings including an emergency one to deliberate on burning issues at the Hospital.

Among the key interventions initiated by the Board in the pursuance of the aforementioned agenda for the period ending December 2018 were as follows:

1. SETTING OF BOARD’S VISION AND PRIORITIES

   The Board agreed that to serve as a compass and an objective tool for self-assessment, it was critical that it sets for itself specific objectives in line with its general vision of transforming the operations of the Hospital during its tenure. Consequently, the Board set for itself the following key priorities:

   A. Improve drug availability from 45 percent at the time of assumption of office to a minimum of 90 percent by the end of its term of office.

   B. Pursue measures to reform and renew governance structures at the Hospital to enhance productivity and accountability.

   C. Enforcement of discipline among staff through the strict application of the Hospital’s Disciplinary Code, Drug-free policy and the Bio-metric Fingerprint Attendance Registration system among others.

   D. Promotion of strong customer care culture among staff members that would generate a “word of mouth” endorsement of the Hospital by satisfied patients.

   E. Full computerization of the operations of the Hospital to improve efficiency, reduce wastages and leakages ultimately, the quality of care to patients.

   F. Increased resource mobilization through the establishment of the KATH Endowment Fund and other lobbying drives to ensure the ready availability of consumables and equipment for patient care.

   G. Check leakages and wastages through the institution and strengthening of controls and other value for money interventions to maximize revenues and contain expenditures and abuses.

H. Development and enforcement of protocols to guide the delivery of quality clinical and non-clinical services throughout the Hospital.

I. Invest in staff training to ensure the availability of skilled manpower for the provision of specialist and sub-specialist services to the public.

2. IMPROVEMENT IN PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KATH 24-HOUR PHARMACY

   The Board assumed office at the time the drug availability rate at the Hospital was around 45 per cent. To reverse this near tragic situation, the Board charged and encouraged Management to implement measures to improve the availability rate from the around 45 per cent to a minimum of 90 per cent by the end of its term. Consequently, a new 24-hour Pharmacy which had been on the drawing board for some time was set up in November 2017 at the Accident and Emergency Centre. From nothing, the well-stocked Pharmacy which sells non-insured pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical items was doing monthly sales of about One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢150,000.00) by the end of its first year.

   The net effect of the establishment of the Pharmacy had been that the spate of patient’s relatives having to go to Bantama and other surrounding private pharmacies for essential medicines has gone drastically thus ensuring timely care for critically ill patients.

   Overall, the drug availability rate of the Hospital also increased to 62 per cent at the end of the first year of the Board.
KATH is HeFRA Accredited

KATH has become the first Teaching Hospital in Ghana to be given accreditation by the Health Facilities Regulatory Agency (HeFRA).

HeFRA officially presented a license to KATH at a ceremony in Kumasi after the facility was deemed to have met the licensing requirements of the regulatory body.

KATH scored 84.3 percent in the overall assessment of the facilities, personnel, equipment and services provided and as such satisfied the standards required for certification.

The Board Chairman of HeFRA, Nana Otuo Acheampong made this revelation at a brief ceremony organized on the premises of KATH to officially announce the acquisition of the license. He further mentioned that the assessment and validation process was being carried out at other teaching hospitals in the country by HeFRA.

He lauded the efforts of KATH and commended the facility for being the first teaching hospital to be licensed and admonished Management of the hospital to work assiduously to maintain or improve standards. He added that the accredited facilities will be monitored periodically to ensure that they comply with requirements.

Nana Otuo Acheampong warned that, any health facility that has not been duly certified and registered risk closure. This is to ensure that standards are adhered to and quackery is eliminated.

He intimated that some health facilities had applied to be registered by the authority but had discontinued the process and urged them to resume the process or be sanctioned.

He stated that the law mandates health facilities in the country to display their license at the premises of the facility and prompted the public to look out for the license when they visit such facilities.

On his part, Dr. Oheneba Owusu-Danso, Chief Executive of KATH said that the certification process was very critical to maintaining the highest standard of quality health care delivery. He stated that it would ensure that managers of health facilities will be proactive and efficient because of the continuous monitoring by HeFRA.

The Chief Executive said KATH has the personnel with the required skills-set to deliver the needed quality service and so the focus of the hospital was to improve on areas where there are deficiencies.

CHIEF OF STAFF COMMISSIONS TWO ULTRA-MODERN OXYGEN PLANTS

continued from front page

Dr. Oheneba Owusu-Danso, Chief Executive of KATH, indicated that the ceremony was taking place after 10-years of quest by the Hospital for the replacement of its obsolete 22-year old oxygen plants which were no longer able to meet the oxygen supply needs of the hospital.

He said the situation became dire when in 2015, a new plant procured by the Ministry of Health was said to have been destroyed in the fire incident that engulfed the Central Medical Stores in Tema. He said since then, all efforts by previous administrations to get the Ministry procure a new oxygen plant have been unsuccessful due to budgetary constraints.

“As a consequence, the hospital increasingly resorted to external supplies to a point where about 95 per cent of its oxygen needs was provided by a private supplier resulting in the accumulation of a daily debt of about Twelve Thousand Ghana Cedis (GHC12,000.00) for the 200 bottled oxygen procured every 24 hours” he disclosed.

Dr. Owusu-Danso said upon a thorough analysis of the cost and adverse impact of the oxygen supply difficulties facing the hospital, the current Board took a bold decision to seek the necessary approval for the use of a pre-financing module to purchase new plants. The repayments, he said, will be funded from the Internally Generated Funds (IGF) of the hospital over the next three years.

He said the new oxygen plants have been running in perfect condition since 27th May 2019. He was quick to add that, the contract involved a warranty and planned preventive maintenance components from RikAir Company Limited.

Dr. Owusu-Danso pointed out that the production capacity of the new plants are about six times that of the old one and 600 cubic metres in excess of daily requirement of the hospital. “The excess capacity would not go waste as the new plants have bottling capacity which means that hospitals in this part of the country in need of oxygen can bring their cylinders here to fill at affordable fees” he assured.

He concluded his speech by appreciating the government of His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo for the approval of 155 Million Euros for the completion of the over 44-year old Maternity and Children’s block project.
As part of measures to provide improved clinical services to the public, Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital has instituted an Intramural practice Scheme since October, 2018 under which busy corporate and business executives as well as other individuals can access expedited specialist care at the Hospital.

These clinical services, to be provided exclusively by Consultants and Senior Specialists, are available at the Directorates of Surgery and Obstetrics & Gynaecology on appointment basis for interested institutions and individuals. The Surgery Directorate will under the above scheme provide services in the following specialist areas:

1. General Surgery
2. Paediatric Surgery
3. Urology
4. Plastics, Reconstructive and Burns Surgery
5. Neurosurgery
6. Cardiovascular and thoracic surgery

The Obstetrics and Gynaecology Directorate on the other hand will provide the full range of Obstetrics and Gynaecology services under the scheme.

You may kindly call the under listed numbers for further information and appointment:

- Clinical Receptionist - 0500709522
- Surgery Directorate Coordinator - 0504526686
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology Directorate Coordinator - 0541188806

The clinic days and time are as follows:
- Mondays-Fridays: 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturdays: 7:00a.m-12:00p.m
- Holidays: 7:00a.m-12:00p.m
KATH SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL PEOPLE’S HOSPITAL OF CHINA TO PROMOTE SPECIALIST TRAINING AND SERVICES

The Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) has strengthened its relationship with the Guangdong Provincial People’s Hospital in China through the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to expand the existing collaborations between the two institutions.

The new MoU is meant to establish a partnership in building capacity and sharing experiences in key specialty services in the areas of Cardiovascular Medicine, Nephrology, Dialysis, Intensive Care, Cardiac Surgery and Endocrinology.

The MOU was signed on behalf of KATH by its Chief Executive, Dr. Oheneba Owusu-Danso and president of the Chinese hospital, Dr. Yu Xueqing. The three-member KATH delegation to China led by the Chief Executive included Ms. Georgina Afua Sam, Director of Nursing Services (DNS) and Dr. Isaac Owusu, Head of the Cardiology Unit of the Medicine Directorate of the Hospital. The Chinese would assist KATH to perform up to 30 operations per year covering catheterization for congenital cardiovascular disease, pacemaker implantation, percutaneous coronary intervention and open heart surgeries.

Beyond the surgeries, the two Hospitals will pursue the establishment of a China-Ghana Heart Centre for friendship to promote continuous studies in cardiovascular epidemiology in Ghana through improved data collection, analysis and publications on such studies. This is expected to ultimately help Ghana adopt the best strategies for the prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases in the country.

Also, the Chinese government is to assist KATH with the establishment of a Nephrology and Dialysis Centre and to build the capacity of Specialists to carry out dialysis treatment and management of chronic kidney diseases in Ghana. The MoU also mandates the Chinese hospital to carry out screening of diabetes in Ghana and share its expertise and experiences in the prevention and control of diabetes in Ghanaian communities.

The MOU, which will be reviewed jointly by the two hospitals every two years to track the growth and impact of the partnership, will also entail extensive academic exchanges and participation in high level academic conferences and top-level medical summits in Ghana and China.
URINALYSIS OF PREGNANT WOMEN VISITING ANTENATAL CLINIC AT KOMFO ANOKYE TEACHING HOSPITAL, KUMASI, GHANA

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2. Department of Clinical Microbiology, KNUST, Kumasi
3. Parasitology Sub Unit, Laboratory Services Directorate KATH

BACKGROUND: Antenatal care given to pregnant women is used to screen, diagnose and monitor clinical conditions that may complicate pregnancy. Urinalysis, which is one on the antenatal cares routinely performed for all pregnant women at every antenatal visit helps to detect asymptomatic pregnancy complications. Urinalysis consists of macroscopic examination, dipstick chemical analysis and microscopic examination of urine. While all these components are equally important, the practice over the years have been to routinely perform the urine dipstick at the antenatal clinic and only refer those with abnormal dipstick results for a complete urinalysis. This study was primarily to assess the effectiveness of using only the dipstick method to screen pregnant women at the antenatal clinic in KATH.

METHODS This was a cross-sectional study, where mid-stream urine samples collected from patients attending the Antenatal clinic at KATH was examined for formed elements, cells and chemical components in urine using the dipstick and microscopic examination.

RESULTS: A total of 292 pregnant women in their various trimesters participated in the study. Of these, 67(22.9%), 104(35.6%) and 121(41.4%) were in their first, second and third trimester respectively. Majority of pregnant women who had abnormalities were at the extreme ages, multiparous and has more than five previous pregnancies. The urine dipstick was able to detect 86 abnormalities. The prevalence of abnormalities detected by the urine dipstick were: proteinuria 25.6%, ketonuria 22.1%, leukocyturia 19.8%, leukocyturia 17.4%, urobilinogen 5.8%, haematuria 5.8%, glucosuria 3.5%, nitrite 3.5%, and bilirubin 2.3%. Urine microscopy detected most of the abnormalities as compared to urine dipstick. Abnormality in pregnancy was most common in multiparous and women at the extreme maternal age. It is therefore recommended that routine urinalysis for pregnant women visiting Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital should go beyond a dipstick test done at the antenatal care clinic to a complete urinalysis comprising all the three urinalysis components.

CONCLUSION: Urine microscopy detected most of the abnormalities as compared to urine dipstick. Abnormality in pregnancy was common in multiparous and women at the extreme maternal age. It is therefore recommended that routine urinalysis for pregnant women visiting Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital should go beyond a dipstick test done at the antenatal care clinic to a complete urinalysis comprising all the three urinalysis components.
BED DONATION

The Deputy Chief of Staff, Francis Asenso Boakye, has donated modern hospital beds worth US$80,000 to the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) in Kumasi. This donation was made on Saturday, December 29, 2018 as part of his support for the KATH Endowment Fund. During the presentation ceremony, Asenso Boakye said he was involved in a road crash some months ago and he was rushed to KATH for treatment. He disclosed that during his short stay at KATH for treatment, Management appealed to him to support them to get enough modern beds to properly treat patients. Commenting on the donation in a statement to the media, the Deputy Chief of Staff said “we thank God for the opportunity to contribute to the development of our dear country.” He again stated that “And as a citizen of the land, I have heeded to their passionate appeal for support by providing these beds and I will willingly support KATH again whenever I get the chance”. Asenso Boakye entreated corporate bodies and other individuals to come to the aid of KATH so they can give off their best in terms of health delivery. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of KATH, Dr. Oheneba Owusu-Danso assured him that the beds will go a long way to enhance the delivery of quality health care by the hospital, which has been serving as referral center for several regions in the country and beyond.

GRASS TELEFACTOR AND ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAM (EEG) MACHINE DONATION

Prof Sam Dzodzomenyo, a paediatric neurologist and sleep specialist based in the USA has donated a Grass Telefactor and Electroencephalogram (EEG) machine to Child Health Directorate of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital to improve Specialist Neurologist services to children in Ghana. The equipment valued at 35000 US dollars will help to diagnose conditions such as seizures, epilepsy, head injuries, dizziness, headaches, brain tumors and sleeping problems. It can also be used to confirm brain death. Prof Baafuor Kofi Opoku, Medical Director of KATH expressed the gratitude of the hospital to Prof Sam Dzodzome for the donation and support for the provision of specialist neurological service at the hospital over the years. Prof Baafuor Kofi Opoku said for instance the hospital’s first EEG machine was donated by Prof Sam Dzodzomenyo and has in addition organized several training programs for staff of the Child Health Directorate of the hospital in the area of improving Paediatric Neurological care in the hospital. Prof. Baafuor Kofi Opoku, regretted that the country has not done much in the area of training of medical doctors in Paediatric Neurology and this has impeded the provision of specialist care in this area despite the growing incidence of neurological conditions including epilepsy among children in the country. The Medical Director said with only two (2) Paediatric Neurological Specialists in the country, it has become imperative that a lot more investment is made in encouraging doctors to specialize in this area so that children with neurological disorders can be given the best of specialist care. He was hopeful that the hospital can continue to count on the support of Prof Sam Dzodzomenyo, in the hospital’s drive to train more specialists in this area. Prof Sam Dzodzomenyo, who graduated from School of Medical Sciences, KNUST in 1985, commended the hospital for training a doctor to specialize in paediatric neurology which he said will go a long way to improve access to specialist neurological care to children in this part of Ghana.

CARDIAC MONITOR DONATION

The Management of MDS Lancet has donated to a Cardiac Monitor valued at Forty Thousand Ghana Cedis (GHS 40,000.00) to Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). This donation is part of the company’s contribution towards the recently established KATH Endowment Fund meant to mobilize financial and material resources to improve facilities and clinical care at the Hospital. The monitor, allocated to the Emergency Medicine Directorate is to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with acute cardiac conditions. It was donated on behalf of the company by its Chief Executive Dr. Paul Sekyere Nyantakyi. The Chief Executive of KATH, Dr. Oheneba Owusu-Danso, expressed appreciation to MDS Lancet for the donation. He said as the only tertiary facility in this part of the country, there was a lot of pressure on the Hospital. He said public support in addressing some of the infrastructure and equipment challenges was therefore necessary to enable the hospital cope with the growing need for specialist care to the public.
CHIEF OF STAFF COMMISSIONS TWO ULTRA-MODERN OXYGEN

He was also grateful to the Chief of Staff for facilitating the acquisition of the plants which are going to make a huge difference in the delivery of emergency care at the hospital. It was a watershed moment of joy bubbling in the faces of the members of the Board and Management and each health worker in the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital over a long quest and justifiable expectant wait for a dependable, quick and affordable supply of oxygen which has now finally realized. In a speech read for the Hon. Minister of Health, the Deputy Minister of Health, Hon. Alexander K. K. Abban affirmed that the inauguration of two new ultramodern oxygen plants would improve healthcare delivery and prevent avoidable death. He said one of the first appeals that the Hon. Minister received from the Management of this Hospital soon after he assumed office was the need for a new Oxygen Plant but budgetary constraints prevented the Ministry from procuring one for the hospital. “It is not a common feat for a public institution to acquire such multi-million cedi asset on the strength of its own financial muscle and therefore, for a public hospital like KATH to successfully procure such state-of-the-art plant valued at Ghc 5.4 million without any external help or guarantee deserves commendation” he asserted. Hon. Alexander K. K. Abban revealed that, the Ministry is aggressively pursuing the computerization of all Hospitals in the country through the deployment of the Lightwave Health Information Management System (LHIMS) project. The system which has been piloted at health facilities in the Central Region, including the Cape Coast Teaching Hospital, is now being deployed at KATH with the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital soon to come on board to help improve capturing of patients’ data and track performance of staff and revenues of hospitals. “With such improvements, it is expected that health facilities should be able to fund expansion of existing medical infrastructure and even the construction of new projects on their own just as KATH has done today”.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OTUMFUO OSEI TUTU II ON HIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY AND 69TH BIRTHDAY

The Board, Management and Staff, of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) have the pleasure to extend a special felicitation to his Royal Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of his ascension to the Golden Stool and Happy 69th birthday

As a key beneficiary of your support over the years, the Hospital deems it a great honour and responsibility to join the good people of Asanteman, Ghana and the world at large in congratulating you on such an auspicious occasion. It is our wish that God grants you many more fruitful years of good health and wisdom as you take Asanteman to the next level of development through quality and effective traditional leadership.

Nana, nya nkwa daa!

Board, Management and Staff of Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital