The Ministry of Health & County Hospitals have partnered in a collaborative project to support improved data collection and use of hospital data with KEMRI Wellcome Trust Research programme and the Kenya Paediatric Association.

The initial focus is in-patients paediatric wards. This partnership seeks to: improve routine mortality and morbidity data, to improve data available to hospitals, to develop systems for enhanced data collection, to work with hospitals to use data, to develop systems for reporting data to hospitals, counties and nationally and to explore whether better information improves quality of care.

**DATA COLLECTION**

Anonymous data on care and patient outcomes is collected from medical records of paediatric admissions in the health facility by a trained data clerk under supervision from the hospital and its Records Team / Health Records Information Officers with support from the CIN KEMRI team who conduct quality assurance checks.

**Clinical Information Network (CIN) partner hospital locations**

- Machakos
- Embu
- Kiambu
- Kerugoya
- Nyeri
- Mama Lucy
- Kisumu
- Kisumu East
- Mbale
- Vihiga
- Kitale
- Busia
- Kakamega

In health facilities, quite often children admitted present with multiple diagnoses. The venn above summarises the admission patterns as recorded in the clinical information network (CIN). The top four most common illnesses here are pneumonia, malaria, dehydration and meningitis, which are indicated together with their comorbidities. For instance: Children admitted with:

- Pneumonia alone - 1177 (11.84%)
- Pneumonia + Malaria only - 398 (4.01%)
- Pneumonia + Malaria + Dehydration + Meningitis - (0.09%)
Dr. Grace Irimu takes participants through a CIN training session at KEMRI - Wellcome Trust Nairobi offices in February 2014.

The Kemri Wellcome Trust Research Programme conducts periodic trainings to strengthen and build capacity of health records officers and data clerks in health facilities in the Clinical Information Network.

Using the PAR enables hospitals to achieve good quality medical records

The use of paediatric admission records (PAR), helps clinicians reliably capture important information about children’s illnesses and severity of disease. It thus improves clinical diagnoses/judgment and subsequent clinical decisions. The PAR also enables consistent data to be collected on patients that can be used to understand the challenges faced by different hospitals.

All the following hospitals have managed to achieve more than 70% usage of the PAR for their patients: Kiambu, Machakos, Mama Lucy, Mbagathi, Kerugoya, Karatina, Nyeri. Of the other hospitals Kisumu East and Kitale are close to achieving this level of success too.

SPECIAL MENTION MARCH 2014

- Thanks to those in CIN’s busiest hospitals, Kiambu and Mama Lucy, for the efforts they are making to improve care and data.
- For efforts to ensure there is a clear primary diagnosis at admission - we congratulate Mbagathi, Busia and Kitale who are the top three for achieving this.

Knowing clearly the outcome for a child admitted, whether they live or die or are referred for example is obviously critical for a hospital. This is still proving a challenge in Mbagathi, Karatina, Nyeri and Kisumu East but we know all are working to improve this.