Quality of data impacts on the quality of healthcare provided to patients

Professor Grace Irimu conducted an afternoon symposium for medical students who have just completed their final year exams and due to graduate next year. The symposium was held on the 19th of Nov 2015 at the University of Nairobi.

The symposium enabled the new doctors to familiarise themselves with best practices in use of hospital data in the county hospitals with a focus on work around the Clinical Information Network.

“I think its important to know how data can be used to measure key indicators that are the main causes of infant mortality. As new doctors we cannot know how well hospitals or health facilities are doing without data. Data provides a yardstick to be able to measure patient outcomes and I think that through use of updated hospital records, one can be able measure performance of hospitals towards providing quality of care to patients.

It was good to learn how much is being done by the Ministry of Health and partners towards this. The symposium has enabled me to know what to look for and what to pay attention to when going through the hospital forms to ensure data is accurate and reliable. The symposium has enabled me to know what to look for and what to pay attention to when going through the hospital forms to ensure data is accurate and reliable, there has also been an emphasis on teamwork - working closely with the hospital teams including the health records officers to ensure quality of data. As you know quality data in clinical settings has a direct impact on patient care or continuum of care.”

Victoria K. Mbithi - Medical student at the symposium.
Exploring new opportunities for CIN in 2016

CIN data analysts and data management team

Mercy Terer

Thomas Julius

Bonnie Makone

Morris Ogero

Participants at a recent CIN meeting in Nairobi at the Gracia Garden Hotel in October 22nd 2015.

The meeting was convened to discuss the next phase of the project where discussions were on how best to generate knowledge aimed at improving care of sick children based on the data coming from hospitals in the network.

To date there have been over 63,000 admissions through the CIN hospitals since the CIN project begun in September 2013.

Picture on the left: Participants at a Clinical Information Network (CIN) meeting in Nairobi, October 2015. Picture on the right: Representatives of hospitals at a CIN meeting engage in discussions at the Brackenhurst, Limuru on June 5th 2015.

The Ministry of Health, met to discuss the hospital reports and combined reports, paediatric care, understanding mortality, electronic medical records, authorship of reports, understanding and using feedback and next steps for possible research opportunities data generated from CIN.