Project brief

Background

Kenya has a goal of achieving universal coverage with high quality health care for all. The Clinical Information Network is a collaborative partnership aiming to contribute to this goal with an initial focus on improving inpatient paediatric care wards. The partnership includes The Ministry of Health, County Hospitals, the Kenya Paediatric Association and the KEMRI Wellcome Trust Research Programme. The KEMRI Wellcome Trust Research Programme has supported research in Kenya for 25 years. At the centre of the project is the principle that policymakers, managers and care providers need 'Quality information for Quality Care'. The partners in the Clinical Information Network are therefore working to support improved collection of clinical information so that this is rapidly used to improve the quality of care.

This partnership involves working with people at all levels from the interns, nurses, paediatricians and medical officers who make initial contact with patients. The health records personnel, who generate the data that is used currently to providing guidance and support that helps health workers deliver the best care. As part of this project the Clinical Information Network seeks to: improve routine mortality and morbidity data, to improve information available to hospitals for quality improvement efforts, to promote development of health information systems that support quality care and improved health care planning, and to explore the impact of better information on quality of care.

Hospitals in the network

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

Milestone

- There have been over 63,000 admissions since September 2013 to present within hospitals in the network.
Hospital updates, capacity building and reporting feedback

The CIN team meets for updates and to discuss a range of issues. Training of data clerks and site visits to support hospital teams is done periodically.

A recent meeting at Brackenhurst, Limuru on June 5th 2015, where hospital representatives from the hospitals in the Clinical Information Network and implementors - 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 team feedback and next steps for research. Dr Agnes Mithamo shared a discussion on site experience in Nyeri County Hospital, one of our CIN sites.

Next steps

- Working with hospitals to identify particular areas for improving quality of care.
- Working to deliver better information to the national Health Information System.
- Working with the Kenya Paediatric Association, the hospitals and the Ministry of Health to promote the adoption of recommended best practices for sick children.
- Working to develop a similar approach for sick newborns needing care on newborn units in hospitals.

Contacts

For additional information on CIN you can contact the following:
Office Tel: +254 730 162 000 or +254 722 290087
E-mail: cin@kemri-wellcome.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/kemri.cin

General information on CIN including upcoming meetings: Steven Adala Tel: 0708 770564

CIN Group photo in Brackenhurst, Limuru