

KPA report – Dr Ombeva Malande

REPORT ON KPA 16TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE IN MOMBASA, KENYA

3RD May 2016

By Dr. Ombeva Malande

APFP Fellow,

Senior Registrar, Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Red Cross Hospital

I am grateful to the APFP for sponsoring my return ticket to attend the KPA 16th Annual Scientific Conference in Eldoret, Kenya.

I chaired a parallel Vaccinology Symposium on 29th April 2016.

I also co-authored a presentation in the symposium titled: *Upcoming vaccinology course for Health Professionals: Concept, Target Groups and expected impact*. Working with other stakeholders, the East Africa Centre for Vaccines and Immunization (ECAVI) has designed a course which will seek to address immunization related training gaps and challenges unique to Easter Africa. For example, Uganda has just introduced HPV vaccine for girls. Emerging reports indicate that lack of proper training for health workers and inadequate community sensitization are major challenges to HPV vaccine roll out. Other challenges include inadequate community mobilization, negative messaging, cultural beliefs and taboos, and inadequate involvement of cultural and religious leaders. These are some of the issues to be addressed in the 5 day course specifically designed for vaccine handlers. It is intended that through this course, trainees from East Africa will be better equipped as champions and advocates for these new vaccines being rolled out, and serve as trainers and conveyors of correct messages to lower cadre vaccine handlers and the general public. 50 trainees will be trained in Uganda in July 2016 and another 50 in August 2016 in Kenya. The goal is to have trained a critical mass of mid-level vaccine managers (target 1000 in the next 5-10 years) across East Africa. These will then serve as trainers and support system to lower level vaccine handlers at health centres, dispensary and community level, and provide necessary linkages and advocacy support to complement ministry of health EPI immunization agenda in their localities. The ultimate focus is on the community as a critical part of the immunization chain that most deals with immunization to the masses.

Previous APFP fellows attended the symposium:

1. Lawrence Owino – He is currently a consultant paediatric rheumatologist and lecturer at University of Nairobi. He organised and chaired and presented in the Rheumatology pre-congress. He also presented at the vaccinology Symposium on: *Vaccination for the immunocompromised*.
2. Dr. Waceke Ng'ang'a - who is now a paediatric gastroenterologist at Aghakhan University Teaching Hospital, Nairobi.
3. Juliana – who is a paediatric gastroenterologist at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi.
4. Polycap Mandi - who is now a paediatric gastroenterologist at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, Eldoret.

At The KPA AGM held on 28th April in Eldoret, Dr. Lawrence Owino was elected as new *Vice Chairperson of KPA*. *I (Ombeva) was elected executive committee member. We hope to use this opportunity to champion the rights of the child in general and immunizations in particular.* Dr. Lawrence Owino and I

have further been included in a team of vaccine advocacy KPA members called “Champions” through the collaboration between the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and KPA. These will be key focal persons to design policy and advocacy activities for immunization in Kenya under KPA. The first meeting is in Nairobi the week of 1st – 7th May 2016.

Below are some of the pictures from the conference.



Dr. Ombeva chairing the vaccinology Symposium.



Dr. Lawrence Owinu making presentation on TOPIC: Vaccination for the immunocompromised.

SYMPOSIUM 6: (PARALLEL SESSION) – 29th April 2016**SESSION CHAIRS- Dr. Ombeva Malande**

TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER
11:00 – 11:10 a.m.	Upcoming vaccinology course for Health Professionals: Concept, Target Groups and expected impact	Dr. Ombeva/Rachel Afaayo
11:10 – 11:35 a.m.	Paradigm swing in Pneumococcal disease prevention: New Algorithm	Dr. A. Elgouhary
11:35 – 11:50 a.m.	The PCV 10 Vaccine: Updates on effectiveness and impact	Dr. W. Mwiti
11:50 – 12:05 p.m.	Rotavirus serotype surveillance: Results and Experiences in Tanzania	Dr. A. Hokororo
12:05 – 12:20 p.m.	Investment in Rotavirus Vaccination Programme	Dr. V. Muturi-Kioi
12:20 – 12:35 p.m.	Communication vaccine safety and Community Involvement in vaccine programs: Dealing with vaccine hesitancy and negative messaging	Dr. E. Mworozzi
12:35 – 12:50 p.m.	Vaccination for the immunocompromised	Dr. L. Owino
12:50 – 1:00 p.m.	Question & Answer Session	All Presenters

KPA report - Assoc. Prof. Chris Scott

I would like to thank you and the APFP for the support you provided for my trip to Kenya to attend the annual Kenya Paediatric Association Meeting from 26 to 29 April 2016.

During this meeting I was able to contribute to the goals of the APFP in the following ways:
Contribute to the rheumatology examination workshop organized by Lawrence Owino Okong'o a recent graduate from the APFP program who has now established himself as the first ever Paediatric Rheumatologist in Kenya having been appointed permanently by the University of Nairobi.

- Give two further talks on rheumatic diseases topics, emphasizing aspects relevant to local pediatricians and encouraging attendees to make use of the new service at their disposal.
- Have numerous informal meetings and discussions with senior academics and policy makers to emphasise the goals and achievements of the APFP.
- Interact with numerous delegates who expressed an interest in the APFP.
- Meet up with many of our Alumni (Dr Adil Waris and Dr Ehmet Twahir) who have become key role players and having discussions about taking the next step, i.e training paediatric fellows in Nephrology and Pulmonology locally. These sub-specialities have had numerous delegates trained by the APFP.
- I am happy to report that Dr Okong'o has been voted vice chairman of the KPA.
- I met up with several international speakers such as Prof Tony English and Marilyn Bull, and made them aware of APFP training opportunities and successes.

This was a highly successful and interactive conference and APFP alumni were represented in virtually every single session at the meeting, proving that they are having tremendous local impact.

Thanks for your support in enabling my attendance.

Kind regards
Ass Prof Chris Scott

