

KORLE BU'S ACTIVITIES FROM 2015 TO 2017 - NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE



Head of Biostatistics, Mr. Alex Arhin

SERVICE INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017
OPD ATTENDANCE	328,832	323,234	339,128
ADMISSIONS	43,626	43,542	43,616
DISCHARGES	35,249	34,947	35,587
DEATHS	3,261	3,515	3,181
PATIENT DAYS	334,285	318,463	318,239
% OCCUPANCY	58.2%	56.9%	56.9
AVE. LENGTH OF STAY	8.7days	8.3days	8.2days
OPERATIONS (MAJOR/MINOR)	20,519	20,179	21,638
	12,061 8,458	12,284 7,895	12,312 9,425
DELIVERIES	9,215	9,294	9,597
CAESARIAN SECTIONS	4,331	4,393	4,363
C/S RATE (%)	46.6	46.9	45.5
MATERNAL DEATHS	49	60	58
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (per 100,000 live births)	528	641	604

There has not been any significant downward or upward trend in the Hospital's service indicators in the last three years.

Figures collated from the various UDSs indicate that Korle Bu's OPD attendance, admissions and discharges, deliveries, operations and maternal mortality rates have been generally stable.

Between 2015 to 2017, the Hospital's OPD Attendance was between 323,234 to 339,128 with the highest attendance in 2017 (339,128).

The Hospital registered 3,181 deaths in 2017 while 2016 and 2015 had 3,515 and 3,261 respectively.

Maternal mortality rate for the three years under review also did not show any significant change. Figures for the three years were 528, 641 and 604 respectively.

For a premier specialist health facility such as Korle Bu, overall figures collected in the last three years is of concern. The *Korle Bu Bulletin* asked the Head of Biostatistics to give possible insight into the figures.

Speaking to the Head of Biostatistics, Mr. Alex Arhin, he agreed that data for the last three years had been flat. He however noted that a number of reasons could be attributed for these figures.

Mr. Arhin said currently, many health facilities had sprung up especially in Accra, giving patients options on where to go for care. "This multiplicity gives clinicians options on where to refer their cases to", he added.

"Another major reason which can account for our flat data is the unfortunate perception that there are undue delays when accessing care in Korle Bu", he said.

The result of this impression, he said, is that patients go to other facilities for care and will only come to Korle Bu as a final alternative and not as a first choice referral point.

He also noted that the shutting down of the surgical theatres in 2016 could have accounted for the low figures for operations undertaken in the Hospital for that year.

Even though the Hospital seems to be facing challenges on the health front, the Head of Biostatistics noted that all is not lost yet. He said Korle Bu has the most skilled medical personnel and state-of-the-art equipment and we are still the best in healthcare delivery.

"The Hospital needs to embark on an aggressive campaign to inform the public about some of our unique services and success stories", he added.

February is a Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Remember : Get Screened!!! Early Detection Can Save Your Life

2018 BEST WORKERS TO TAKE HOME CARS



Dir. Pharmacy Department, Mrs. Elizabeth Bruce, receiving the keys to the Hyundai Accent from an official of the company. Other senior Management members were on hand to assist her.



The overall best worker will receive this Hyundai Accent

The Ag. Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Felix Anyah, has donated two cars with customized numbers (KBTH 1-18 & KBTH 2-18) to the Hospital as seeds to reward hardworking staff this year.

The theme for the Award is: Motivating Korle Bu Teaching Hospital staff towards benchmark operational standards in medical tourism for desired revenue to the Hospital, Staff and the nation.

The awards criteria and other details as well as other awesome prizes will be communicated to staff in the course of the year, in consultation with the KBTH Board.



The 2nd Overall Best Worker will receive this Hyundai I10



Rear view of the car

Clinical Areas lighted up

For some time now, streetlights in the clinical and residential areas were non-functioning, posing a threat to staff at night.

In the quest by the Hospital to provide opportunities for staff to function better, Management has initiated plans to fix the streetlights. Currently, the security of staff and patients, especially in the night is assured.

The street lights in the clinical areas have been fixed with solar and LED bulbs, making movement in the evening safe.

Staff and patients alike can now safely use these areas at night without fear of being attacked.

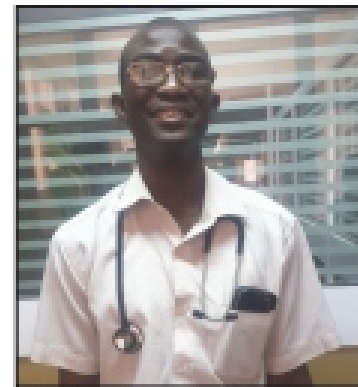
The *Korle Bu Bulletin* is grateful to Management for fixing these street lights.



Ayekoo!!



Dr. Roberta Lamptey
Deputy Director of Medical Affairs



Dr. Robert Djagblatey
Consultant Anesthetist

The Deputy Director of Medical Affairs, Dr. Roberta Lamptey and Dr. Robert Djagblatey (Consultant Anesthetist, Anaesthesia Sub-BMC) have been awarded with distinction from various academic institutions.

Dr. Lamptey had a distinction in Master of Science degree in Diabetes from the Cardiff University. She received her certificate in December, last year.

Dr. Djagblatey also had distinction in two Diplomas from the University of Montpellier. The Diplomas were in Regional Anaesthesia and International Pain Medicine. He received his certificates in January, this year.

The Hospital, Staff, Management and the *Korle Bu Bulletin* congratulate you and hope that the award will motivate your colleagues to achieve higher academic laurels and also spur you on to provide optimal care for our cherished patients.

Dr. Roberta Lamptey and Dr. Robert Djagblatey,
Ayekoo!!!

Cost of Pap Smear Reduced for Patients

From February to June 2018, the cost of undergoing pap smear screening has been reduced from GHc150 to GHc50.

The move is to encourage more women to check their status on cervical cancer.



Participants at the launch of the Cervical Cancer Awareness programme.

Over 1,500 Die from Cervical Cancer: It is Time to Take Action

Translating knowledge gained on cervical cancer into positive action is the only way to reduce the disease condition.

The action, such as reporting early for treatment and undergoing cervical screening tests and governmental support will ensure that incidence of mortality through the disease condition will be reduced and eventually eradicated. It is not enough that the public is aware of the disease condition.

Prof. Anyetey Lassey, Obstetrician/Gyneacologist Specialist said this at the launch of the Cervical Cancer awareness month, under the theme; "Knowing and doing".

He said being aware of the condition the public needs to take the next steps to protect themselves.

"Over 1,500 women in Ghana die of cervical cancer yearly due to lack of knowledge or inability to take steps to prevent themselves from cervical cancer", Prof. Lassey said.

He said, various interventions such as abstinence from sex, vaccination and pap smear tests were all available to ensure that women do not die from Cervical Cancer. Cervical cancer is a chronic infection caused by the Human Papiloma Virus (HPV), which is sexually transmitted. The HPV 16 and 18 are associated with 70% of cervical cancers. When the virus gets into contact with the transformation zone of a woman's

cervix, it can take between 15 to 20 years to progress into full blown cancer.

In a presentation on cervical cancer, Dr. Kwaku Asah-Poku (Obst & Gynae) said 528,000 new cases of cervical cancers are diagnosed yearly worldwide with about 266,000 women dying from the disease.

"In Ghana, 3,052 women are diagnosed with cervical cancers every year with 1,556 of the total number dying. It is estimated that every five (5) hours, a woman dies from cervical cancer", he said.

Dr. Asah noted that cervical cancer is the commonest gynaecological cancer brought to the Hospital, with the average age of being 51 years.

He said the disease condition constituted 51% of all deaths from gynaecological malignancies in 2017.

He noted that early detection of the disease condition can ensure prevention and treatment. He therefore urged the public, especially women who are sexually active to get tested for cervical cancer and also encourage others to do same.

For those who are not sexually active or children between ages nine to 12 years, they could be vaccinated against the disease condition, Dr. Asah said.

New Equipment For Minimal Invasive Surgeries

The Genito-Urinary Unit has received an endoscopic camera system for minimal invasive surgeries. The equipment, which comprises a monitor, light source and a camera, is used during major surgeries to aid the doctor create a small incision and see inside the patient, with the help of the camera.

This intervention helps to conduct surgeries without major cut or openings. Patients can therefore be discharged the same day or the next day after surgery.

Receiving the equipment, Head of Urology, Dr. J.E Mensah said the machine helps in speedy patient recovery after surgery. He said the inclusion of the monitor is very important as it enables medical professionals to be trained in the course of a surgery.

Mr Samuel Akotuah Atweri, the Director of HR, thanked Tropical Cables and Conductor Limited for their donation and assured them that the equipment will be put to good use under the watch of Dr. J.E. Mensah.

He also used the opportunity to call on other corporate organizations to invest strategically in healthcare because their donations will go a long way to change patients' experience at the hospital.

The Endoscopic camera system was donated by Tropical Cables and Conductor Limited to the Genito-Urinary Unit at a cost of \$5,500.



Dir, Human Resource, Mr. Samuel Akotuah receiving the equipment from the Managing director of Tropical Cables and Conductor Limited.

Patient Care Enhanced at NICU

Treatment of jaundice in babies has received a boost with the donation of a phototherapy machine.

To enhance the care of babies with jaundice, officials from GECAD Healthcare Limited presented a phototherapy machine to NICU. The donation, which forms part of the company's corporate social responsibility was also in recognition of the plight of clinicians and patients in optimal patient care outcomes.

Presenting the machine, Mr. Jonas Afriyie Boateng, the CEO of the GECAD Healthcare said he was overwhelmed with the work load at the Unit and the care staff there give to patients.

He promised that he and his workers will be donating to the Unit often in order to enhance quality of care given to the patients.

Matron Juliana Adu-Danso, who received the

machine on behalf of the Unit thanked GECAD Healthcare Limited for their gesture.

She said the Unit is always overwhelmed with lots of jaundiced babies who require the phototherapy for treatment. She said the Unit does not have enough therefore such babies had to be taken to Children's emergency for treatment.



A Phototherapy Machine

KBTH TO BEGIN COCHLEAR IMPLANTS SERVICE



Management of the Hospital with officials from Med-EL

The Hospital will soon begin cochlear implants service to assist people with profound hearing loss to regain the ability to hear and speak.

The project is being planned by the Hospital and Med-EL, a medical electronics company headquartered in Austria.

In line with this plan, the Hospital has initiated newborn screening to identify babies with hearing disabilities so that the defects can be corrected in time.

This was disclosed when a team from Med-EL met with our Ag. Chief Executive, Dr Felix Anyah and his Management as well as the Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) consultants.

Dr. Felix Anyah, said the introduction of this new service is in line with the Hospital's plan of introducing medical tourism. He said when the procedure is finally introduced it will be available not only to Ghanaians but patients from neighbouring countries such as Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cote d'voire, Burkina Faso, among others.

The Africa Development & Regional Manager of Med-EL, Mr. Mohammed EL Disouky said they will support KBTH in the development of the requisite

infrastructure and equipment for the service.

Mr. Disouky called on the government and tax authorities to review the high rate of tax that is slapped on hearing aids. He said this had contributed in making the price of the implant expensive and out of reach of patients.

Prof. E.D. Kitcher, an ENT consultant said the introduction of the cochlear implants service will help Ghanaians who are currently unable to hear to overcome that disability.

He noted that about 10% of the Ghanaian population suffer from one hearing disability or another. He called for the support of all stakeholders to enable the Hospital successfully introduce the service.



A child fitted with a cochlear implant

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CERVICAL CANCER

Cervical cancer is caused by the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV).

- HPV is sexually transmitted
- The HPV is found in 99% of cervical cancers (with HPV 16 & 18 associated with 70% of cervical cancers).

Risk Factors

- Early sexual intercourse
- Multiple sexual partners
- Too many frequent births
- Early marriage
- A partner whose wife has died from cervical cancer
- Smoking
-

Signs and Symptoms

It takes between 15-20 years from the time of HPV infection for it to progress into full blown cervical cancer. During this time, there are no symptoms to show that one has the disease condition.

The following symptoms may be observed when the condition is in its far advanced stages.

They are;

- Abnormal vaginal discharge
- Lower abdominal pain
- Weight loss
- Retention of urine
- Lower back pain
-

Management

1) Pre-cancer Stage:

- Follow up
- Freezing
- Excision

2) Cervical Cancer Stage:

- Early stages: At the early stage of cervical cancer, surgery or radiotherapy may be employed to stop further progression
- Late stages: Radiotherapy is the option
- Very late stages: Unfit for radiotherapy, therefore Palliative care

Complications

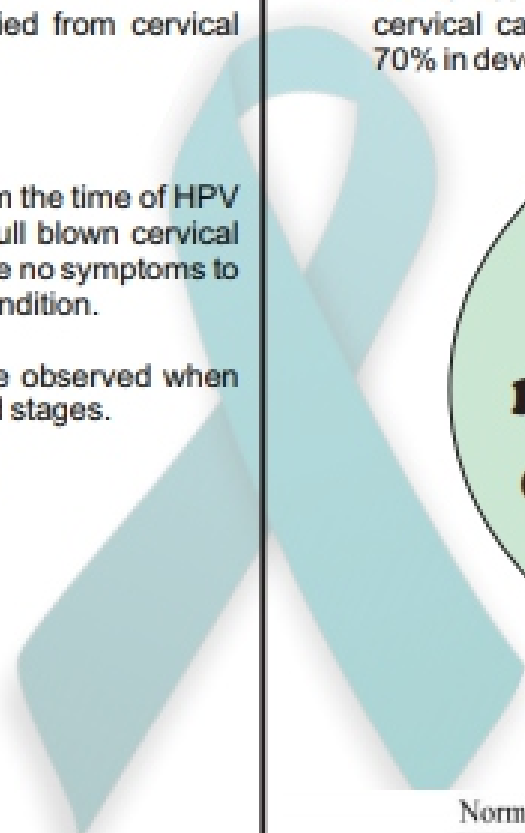
This is especially when the condition has progressed. They are;

- Bleeding
- Obstruction of the ureter
- Kidney failure
- Fistula formation

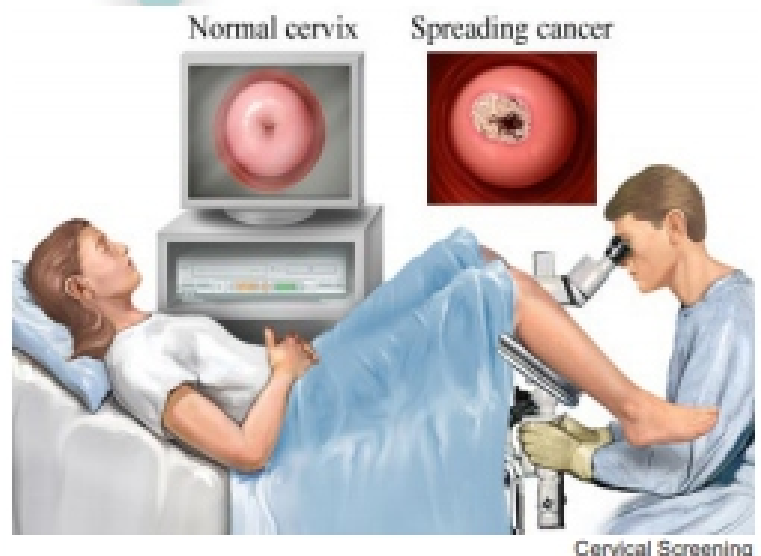
- Infection
- Spread to other parts of the body

Prevention

- ABC of prevention of sexually transmitted diseases
- Abstinence
- Being faithful to one sexual partner
- Condom-use
- Delay in onset of sexual intercourse
- Education
- PAP Smear Tests- this has reduced incidence of cervical cancer by nearly 80% and death by 70% in developed countries.



**HPV
is the
main cause
of cervical
cancer**



Cervical Screening

Tit Bit in Pics



The Minister of Health, Dr. Kwaku Agyeman-Maru, paid a working visit to Korle Bu in February. During the visit, he met with the Ag. CEO and Management and also went to some departments to interact with staff and patients.



The newly renovated Ward N (Female Orthopaedic Ward) has been fitted with state-of-the-art equipment at a cost of GHc450,000. The renovation was undertaken by the Accidents Centre Sub-BMC and GCB Bank Ltd.



Mariam Elizabeth Adjei has been donating various items such as water, rice, chicken to staff and patients since last year. In February she presented baby clothes and products to the Social Welfare Unit for babies who may need it.



Mrs. Shirley Tony Kum celebrated her birthday with inpatients at the Children's Department. The children were treated to face painting, toys and food by the celebrant and her friends



Officials from Kasapa Fm presented GHc5,000, baby products and assorted items to patients at the Maternity Department during this year's Valentine Day celebration.



Ghandour Cosmetics presented 33 cartons of baby products to the Maternity Department as part of the CSR. Ms. Alexandra Ayeribi-Acquah, Marketing Executive of the Company made the presentation the PNO, Joyce Dodoo



Awake Mineral Water presented GHc120,000 to the Cardiothoracic Centre as their proceeds accrued from selling their product.

Remember our Philosophy !!!
**The PATIENT
 COMES FIRST
 all the time**