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ASAFO STAR
ST. JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL

Post Office Box 9, Sefwi- Asafo via Wiaowo
WIAOWSO DIOCESE-Western Region (Ghana)

Ed.

THIS EDITION

- *Performance at St. John of God Hospital Asafo for the year 2016*
- *St Joseph Hospital (Koforidua) exonerated from extortions*
- *Asafo accredited as a training centre*
- *Little Issaka Adama Junior*
- *Dr Mark Joseph Egan (pathologist) UK*
- *Ebola and meningitis awareness creation*
- *Br. Andre' Sene comes to Ghana*
- *Health services workers union meritorious award*
- *The pharmacy production unit*
- *Laboratory and pharmacy project at St. John of God Clinic Oseikojokrom*

PERFORMANCE AT ST. JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL ASAFO FOR THE YEAR 2016

The Hospital has a total workforce of two hundred and ninety-nine (299). Two hundred and twenty-three (233) are permanent staff while the remaining are casual/rotational staff and volunteers.

During the period under review, the out patients consultation were 67,330 compared with 65,230 in 2015 (3.7 % higher compared with 2015). Admissions within the year saw a rise from 11,102 in 2015 to 11,608 in 2016; 4.6% higher. Similar improvement were recorded with respect to under five death rate; 0.9% as against 1.1% in 2015. A lower ratio of maternal mortality ratio was recorded at 83 deaths per 100,000 live births. Indicators for prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV and AIDS and still births rate saw a remarkable improvement during the year under review. Below are some activity reports during the year

Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total scans performed	5,223	4,528	4,016	5,039	5,295	5,727
Attendance at the Eye Care Centre		3,845	4,264	5,079	4,525	4,519
X-Rays		1,328	1,524			297
Surgical Procedures		1,811	2,114	2,112	2,034	1,551

Safe Motherhood and Maternal Report From 2011 – 2016

		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 Targets	2016 Achievements
Total ANC Registrants		1,091	1,412	944	982	1,200	891
Total ANC Attendance		9480	7,730	8,388	8,719	10,000	8,707
Total Delivery		2,480	2,391	2,445	2,452	2,500	2,404
Total PNC		1,891	2,129	2,056	1,254	2,500	2,483
Total Still Birth	Fresh Birth	18	7	3	14	0	9
	Macerated	11	17	11	19	5	8
Maternal Death		2	2	3	1	5	8
Maternal Death Notified		2	2	3	1	0	2
Maternal Death Audited		2	2	3	1	0	2
caesarean Section		755	803	806	838	0	2
E O U - Abortion Complications		271	376	319	309	5	8
IPT – 1		2,488	1,131	1,738	1,815	2,000	1,801
IPT – 2		2,018	875	1,455	1,675	2,000	1,566
IPT – 3		1,359	645	887	1,035	1,500	867

ST JOSEPH EXONERATED FROM EXTORTIONS

Daily Graphic 02 April, 2017



A report by Daily Graphic (Ghanaian newspaper) on the 2nd of April, 2017 stated that St. Joseph Hospital at Effiduase in Koforidua has been exonerated by a seven-member committee set up last year to investigate media allegations of extortion levelled against it.

The hospital was alleged to have charged patients undergoing knee and hip replacement surgery a fee of GH¢6,100 each. About 50 patients were shortlisted to undertake the surgeries sponsored by ‘Operation Walk Syracuse’, an American charity organisation.

“No payment or donation of US\$100,000 was ever made to the St Joseph Hospital towards the surgical operations,” a statement signed by the Executive Director of Christian Health Association of Ghana, Mr Peter K. Yeboah.

The statement said it was gratified and pleased to announce that the American Charity, Operation Walk Syracuse, was returning to St Joseph Hospital—Koforidua in October this year for another batch of humanitarian and restorative surgeries for the poor and needy.

ASAFO ACCREDITED AS A TRAINING CENTRE

The hospital since two years ago has been accredited by the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons as a training centre for Physician Assistants (PAs) for their one year internship. Last year four physician assistant interns were posted to the hospital. The current postings are two physician assistants and one anaesthetist intern. In a conversation with Ms. Rita Owusu-Ansah (PA intern), she said the doctors provided effective teaching and space for them to practice, she however lamented on the stressful nature of the work here because of the huge number of clients.

The hospital has also been accredited for the training of Specialist doctors in family medicine by the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Emmanuel Coomson (Essam Government Hospital Medical Superintendent) is the first to begin this program at the hospital and management is hoping to receive more doctors in pursuance of this program.

LITTLE ISSAKA ADAMA JUNIOR

On the 23rd of April, 2017 an abandoned day-old male child was picked up in a farm at Sefwi-Anyinabrim and brought to the hospital. The emergency in charge; Ms. Juliet A. Oppong who received the baby reported of his bad health condition. The hospital took full responsibility of the baby’s treatment and medical bills till he was discharged on the 3rd of May, 2017. Alhaji Issaka Adama whose farm the baby was found has since been given custody of the baby as the police and social welfare continue their investigation of the case.

DR MARK JOSEPH EGAN (PATHOLOGIST) UK



Dr Mark Joseph Egan

Dr Mark Joseph Egan (Consultant Pathologist-Cell Path UK); a friend and a benefactor of St. John of God Hospitaller Brothers on the 4th of April, 2017 paid Asafo a day working visit to discuss with management his plans and proposals for the Hospital.

In 2005 Dr Mark decided to give back to the society and after looking round he thought the most cost effective way to do so is in Africa because he said it is cheap to save lives here unlike Europe. Even though this is his third trip to Asafo, he visits Ghana once every year since 2007. Dr Mark by chance got drawn to St. Joseph Hospital Koforidua when he was going back to Malawi for his clinical in tropical medicine after he had honoured an invitation by one pathologist in Kumasi in 2007. At Koforidua he met Br. Steven and Dr Lyster who helped built and deepened his relation with St. John of God Hospitaller Brothers in Ghana.

Dr Mark continues to provide pathologist diagnosis services for Koforidua through DHL; he has helped established a modern European standard mortuary at St. Joseph Hospital and is working hard to replicate same here at Asafo; He has sponsored two laboratory assistants to become laboratory scientists; he is sponsoring a Doctor to be a residence Pathologist at Koforidua; he is currently working on two containers which will supply mortuary fridges to Asafo and Koforidua after which he says he will send engineers to come fix them. During his second visit to Asafo he provided autoclave to the theatre. Mrs Dr Sophie Quarshie, Dr Mark's daughter who is married to a Ghanaian volunteered six months at Koforidua as a Psychiatric Consultant (Nov 2015-Jul 2016).

In his meeting with management he discussed with them his plans to come back in some few months' time to organize cervical and breast cancer screening for the local people at Asafo.

When asked about his impression about Ghana he said Ghana is safe compared with other African countries he's been to. "Ghana has got brighter weather and good food, my colleagues at St. Joseph Hospital Koforidua are very professional and it is rewarding" He was however fascinated about the fact that, he said "people will not pay for health but will pay for the dead" He expressed that for him "giving back is an establishment of calling" that is a calling to give help to the people of Ghana.



In a chat with psychiatric nurse at the psychiatry Asafo A visit to the mortuary Asafo

EBOLA AND MENINGITIS AWARENESS CREATION



The Reproductive Child Health Clinic Unit (RCH) on the 24th of April, 2017 started a month-long awareness creation of Ebola Virus Disease, Meningitis and other diseases at the OPD. This education is as a result of recent outbreak or reported cases of Ebola in Congo as well as Pneumococcal Meningitis in the Ashanti and Northern Regions of the country. The education which is started at 7:30 am every day is led by the RCH in-charge Ms. Comfort Appiah and actively supported by her Unit members.

BR. ANDRE' SENE COMES TO GHANA

Rev. Br. Andre' Sene, General Secretary of the Hospitaller Brothers in Rome (Curia General) arrived in Ghana on the 3rd of May, 2017 from Lome (Togo) after the CREA meeting. His mission was to hold a session with the Brothers of St John of God in Ghana from 8 to 10 May on the Identity of the Brothers and Mission in the church. Even though this program took place at Koforidua, he used the opportunity to visit Asafo on the 5th of May, 2017. Br. Sene loves Ghana, the last time he was here was in October 2015 during the commissioning of the Amrahia Clinic and closure of General Canonical Visitation in the Province.



Br. Andre' Sene holding a session with fellow Brothers at Koforidua

HEALTH SERVICES WORKERS UNION MERITORIOUS AWARD

Regional Health Services Workers' Union of the Trade Union Congress of Ghana on the 1st of May, 2017 (workers' day in Ghana) in a ceremony held at Takoradi (Capital City of Western Region) presented a Regional Meritorious Award to Jacob Adu Gyamfi (Driver) in recognition of his tremendous contribution to the activities of the union in the region and hard work at St. John of God hospital Asafo. After the ceremony the Member of Parliament for Sefwi Wiawso Constituency who doubles as the Western Regional Minister Dr Kwaku Afriyie invited the team which represented the hospital at the ceremony to his residence. At this meeting the Minister talked about his plans for the constituency and to some extent the hospital.



The team poses for a picture after the ceremony



At the Minister's residence

THE PHARMACY PRODUCTION UNIT

The pharmacy since 2015 has established a production unit at the hospital to see to the production of some medicines and chemical solutions locally. At the moment the unit is producing only liquid soap, hand sanitizer and parazone, however the concept of the production unit was to prepare medications like ferric ammonium citrate, diphenhydramine cough syrup, mist magnesium citrate (antacids) and the like. The idea is to drastically reduce the high cost of some medications the hospital purchase from suppliers and the delay of some requested drugs. This ultimately will increase profit generated from the pharmacy and also prevent the shortage of some medications.



Production in progress



liquid soap and hand sanitizer

LABORATORY AND PHARMACY PROJECT AT ST. JOHN OF GOD CLINIC OSEIKOJOKROM



Beginning of works

St. John of God Clinic, Oseikojokrom since its establishment in September 2007 has had no appropriate laboratory and pharmacy facilities. Management of St. John of God Hospital Asafo which doubles as management for the Clinic has therefore seen it as a matter of urgency to embark on a laboratory and pharmacy project.

The project estimated to cost around 28,637 Euros is generously being sponsored by Mr. David Hayes of Holland. This project is considered a dying need of the Clinic and when completed will complement the status of the Clinic's upgrade to a Health Centre with a Physician Assistant.



Inspection of the on-going Laboratory and Pharmacy

Project at Oseikojokrom by Provincial, Br Oppong, Mr. Asensu Mensah,

Br. Jose M^a Viadero and his entourage on the 16 of March, 2017.