

PASQUALE – Partnership to Improve Patient Safety and Quality of Care in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire



**HOSPITAL
PARTNERSHIPS**

Robert Koch-Institute and the University Hospital in Bouaké in Côte d'Ivoire and the Faranah Regional Hospital in Guinea

The challenge

The health systems in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire face a number of major challenges: there is a high prevalence of tropical and poverty-related diseases and the health system is severely underfinanced. Guinea ranks 179th and Côte d'Ivoire ranks 171th out of 187 countries in the United Nations Human Development Index.

The health indicators in both countries are among the worst worldwide. In Guinea, life expectancy at birth is 55.9 years (2012). The maternal mortality rate was 610 per 100.000 live births, and the infant mortality rate was 65 per 1000 live birth. In Côte d'Ivoire, life expectancy at birth is 50.4 years (2012). The maternal mortality rate was 400 per 100.000 live births, and the infant mortality rate was 76 per 1000 live birth.

The prevalence of communicable diseases remains high including epidemic and vaccine-preventable diseases. Through the high prevalence of infectious diseases, hospital-acquired infections occur frequently. The Ebola outbreak in West Africa has exemplified the fact that hospitals in West Africa are making a significant contribution to the spread of pathogens and can cause many preventable illnesses among patients and health care workers. The establishment of functional structures and the qualification of personnel are therefore of great relevance for the provision of high-quality services.

Important measures for the prevention of nosocomial infections are the improvement of hand disinfection and the establishment of a hygiene commission within the hospitals.

Partnership activities

Strengthening hospital hygiene and quality management can make a significant contribution to improving patient safety, especially in an environment where resources are scarce, such as the University Hospital in Bouaké and the Faranah Regional Hospital in Guinea.

Within the Partnership a hygiene commission will be established and supported in both hospitals. Key aspects of infection prevention will be identified by the commission and measures for the reduction of nosocomial infection will be implemented.

'The partnership will improve hygiene standards to create a safer environment for patients and hospital staff.'

PhD. Dr. Borchert, Robert Koch Institute

Another focus of the partnership is the improvement of hand hygiene as an important instrument for the prevention of nosocomial infections. For this purpose, questionnaires and recommendations developed by WHO specifically for low-income countries will be used to raise awareness and implement adequate hand hygiene. Furthermore several workshops and training courses will be conducted in both institutions.



First meeting of the partners in Faranah, Guinea © GIZ / Laszlo Schindwein



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development





Needs assessment on hand hygiene © GIZ / Laszlo Schlindwein

Financing

The funding program University and Hospital Partnerships in Africa makes part of the Hospital partnerships Initiative – Partners strengthen health. The Initiative is funded by the Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development and Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation and is a member of the ESTHER Alliance.

Results

- Establishment of a hygiene commissions in both hospitals for the planning and coordination of measures to prevent hospital-acquired infections.
- Increased awareness of the importance of hand hygiene as an important tool for preventing nosocomial infections
- Measurable improvement of the quality of the previously identified priority areas

The partners

Institution in Guinea:

The partner hospital is the governmental Faranah Regional Hospital. As a reference center for the Faranah region, it offers standard and specialized care in obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, pediatrics and laboratory medicine. In the aftermath of the Ebola epidemic, an isolation ward for highly infectious diseases was set up. In the Faranah region, there has been a cooperation with the Charité Berlin, now continued by Robert Koch Institute, and the Bernhard-Nocht-Institute Hamburg on the topic of Lassa fever for several years which will include the regional hospital from 2018. The proposed cooperation will strengthen this commitment to health care and patient safety.

Institution in Côte d'Ivoire

The University Hospital in Bouaké has 306 beds. There is a long-standing partnership with the Robert Koch Institute, including a project on the investigation of viral zoonotic pathogens in tropical regions of Africa and the clarification of possible transmission pathways, as well as an initiative to implement the diagnostic capability of Ebola virus.

Institution in Germany:

The Robert Koch Institute (RKI) is a federal institute within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Health and is the central institution of the Federal Government in the field of disease monitoring and prevention, and in the field of applied and action-oriented biomedical research. The RKI's main tasks are the identification, prevention and control of diseases, including infectious diseases.

Overview

Name	PASQUALE – Partnership to Improve Patient Safety and Quality of Care	
Impact	Patient safety is enhanced by strengthening hospital hygiene and quality management at Bouaké University Hospital (Côte d'Ivoire) and Faranah Regional Hospital (Guinea).	
Countries	Guinea Côte d'Ivoire	Germany
Cities	Bouaké Faranah	Berlin
Institutions	Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Bouaké DG Hôpital Régional de Faranah	Robert Koch Institute
Term	July 2017 – April 2019	
Budget	169.890 EURO	

Contact person for the partnership

Robert Koch Institute (RKI)

Strengthening Global Health and Biosecurity

PhD. Dr. Borchert

Email borchertm@rki.de

Member of:



In cooperation with:



Implemented by:

