

Patient safety partnership (PSP) in Tanzania



University and Rehabilitation Clinics Ulm and Kibaha Education Centre Tumbi Designated Regional Referral Hospital, Tanzania

The challenge

The health care system in Tanzania, which is predominantly state-run, is hierarchically structured. A distinction is made between several levels of care: the structure corresponds to a pyramid, at the top of which are the central hospitals. Tumbi Hospital is a regional referral hospital at the second tier of the health care hierarchy.

Tanzania has an estimated population of 50 million. The current birth rate is 5,2 children per woman and 32% of women use modern contraceptives. 63% of pregnant women give birth in health facilities, and of these 64% deliver with a skilled birth attendant. The population-based caesarean section rate for Tanzania is 6% and varies according to the social background of the women. Maternal mortality was 556 per 100.000 live births (Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey, 2016).

Only a small section of Tanzania's population is covered by health insurance. Due to the limited resources available, it is difficult for local hospitals to achieve high standards in quality management. The technical and human resources of hospitals are dependent to a large extent on governmental funds and international donors.

Patient safety is an integral part of quality management and is becoming increasingly important in Tanzania. The diverse processes in hospitals need to be designed to ensure that patient safety is always the top priority.

Partnership activities

The partnership to improve patient safety focuses on three key aspects: waste management, drug administration and patient identity.

The partnership will begin by investigating and evaluating processes in the focal areas in the two hospitals (The University and Rehabilitation Clinics Ulm and Kibaha Education Centre Designated Regional Referral Hospital). Improvement potentials and possible solutions will then be identified and implemented in German-Tanzanian teams.

'The partnership promotes collaborative dialogue on personnel development in order to sustainably improve patient safety.'

Ms Moldaschel, University and Rehabilitation Clinics Ulm

To ensure the measures are sustainable and achieve supra-regional impact, the partnership will develop e-learning courses on the topic of patient safety, focusing on the above priorities. The entire hospital staff of both clinics can thus be trained in these areas. Capacity development measures will also be carried out, mainly in the form of workshops and training courses.

The activities within the partnership will be discussed in advance with the Tanzanian Ministry of Health to ensure coherence with national health policy.



Workshop of the partners in Tanzania © GIZ / Ulrike Moldaschel



Workshop of the partners in Tanzania © GIZ / Ulrike Moldaschel

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

- Implementation of optimisation potential in the areas of waste management, patient identity and drug administration
- Development of e-learning units for the selected fields of action
- Implementation of training measures as part of human resources development

The partners

There has been no previous collaboration between the two hospitals.

Institution in Tanzania

The Kibaha Education Centre Tumbi Designated Regional Referral Hospital (TDRRH) is a hospital with 254 beds and more than 500 patients per day. In 2011, the hospital was awarded the title of Regional Referral Hospital, meaning that it must provide services for the entire population of the Pwani region as well as people from other regions with approximately one million inhabitants.

Institution in Germany

The University and Rehabilitation Clinics Ulm (RKU) are clinics for maximum care focusing on orthopaedics with a paraplegic centre and neurology with a supra-regional stroke unit and neurogeriatrics. The RKU has 313 beds and treats 7.300 inpatients and 18.000 outpatients annually.

Overview

Name	Patient safety partnership (PSP)	
Impact	Improving patient safety by developing e-learning units for structured human resources development	
Countries	Tanzania	Germany
Cities	Kibaha Town	Ulm
Institutions	Tumbi Designated Regional Referral Hospital	University and Rehabilitation Clinics Ulm
Term	May 2017 – April 2019	
Budget	110.000 EURO	

Contact person for the partnership

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In cooperation with:



Implemented by:

