

- Educating communities on appropriate malaria treatment and how to create demand for quality anti-malaria drugs.
- Using information and communication technology such as a global satellite mobile phones to provide real-time support to PMVs and regulators.
- Exploring ways in which PMVs shops that meet certain quality standards in a form of franchising supply anti-malarial drugs for children at subsidised price and in exchange charge agreed retail price.
- Advocating for the national and global subsidies of ACTs to make them more affordable and monitoring the influence of such subsidies on local markets and consumer behaviour.
- Exploring new approaches for broadening participation in the dissemination of drug policy and in disseminating new policies widely especially among community members and PMVs.

Multilevel Longitudinal Modelling Workshop

A multilevel Longitudinal Modelling workshop using strata was held in Bangladesh 6 - 10 January, 2008. FHS Country Coordinator and two other participants with strength in quantitative methodology attended the workshop. Interactive training methods such as brainstorming, lecture, discussion, demonstration and sample practice were used.

The country coordinator hopes that FHS Nigeria will organise a similar workshop in the future for other FHS members, academic staff and students of tertiary institutions.

Country Coordinators Meeting

The FHS consortium Country Coordinators met between January 12 and 14 2008. Key issues discussed included:

- The mid-term review report DFID evaluators.
- Strengthening the consortium-wide and national communications strategies.
- Mechanism for obtaining fund for ambitious research work &/or continuing with base case research in case of no additional funding.
- Integrating cross-consortium work and pushing innovations in health systems.
- Finalising annual work plans and budgets for country teams, working groups, and communication team.

Interaction with the National Evidence to Policy Committee

Prof. Oladele Kale, the Chairman of the National Evidence to Policy Committee, Federal Ministry of Health was contacted by the Country Coordinator in December 2007 on the need to use the FHS malaria data to stimulate policy dialogue. Prof. Kale suggested a formal letter to the committee from the Country Coordinator. The letter, with copies of the FHS Nigeria publication (Series 1) and FHS Newsletters were sent to the committee. Feedback is being awaited.



Workshop participants in another session, FHS (Nigeria) team at the front table.

Election as the Dean of the Faculty of Public Health

Prof. Oladepo was elected as Dean, Faculty of Public Health, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan for a period of two years (2008 - 2010). Further more, he was given an award of merit for his contributions to the development of public health in Africa at the just concluded National Public Health Conference held at the Conference Centre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan between 27-30 July, 2008. While congratulating him on these achievements, FHS Nigeria also extends the same to Prof. Bill Brieger of JHU, Maryland, USA, who was also given the same award.



Prof Oladimeji Oladepo receiving the Award of Merit from the Provost, College of Medicine, Prof. Akinyinka Omigbodun

About Future Health Systems (FHS)

The aim of Future Health Systems (FHS) Research Programme Consortium is to find way to translate political and financial commitments to meet the health needs of the poor. The Consortium addresses the fundamental questions about the design of future health systems and work closely with actors who are leading the transformation of health systems in their own countries. Our research themes are:

- Protecting the poor against the impact of health-related shocks
- Developing innovations in health provision
- Understanding health policy processes and the role of research

FHS, Nigeria Newsletter! Summaries key activities of the Future Health Systems (FHS) Nigeria.

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Future Health Systems

Innovations for equity

Innovations and knowledge for future health systems for the poor

Newsletter No 3 July 2008



Snippets of achievements January – July 2008



Participants at the Multilevel and Longitudinal Modelling using the Stata workshop in Bangladesh (see page 2 for details).

Mid-term Review Meeting

A mid-term review meeting in respect of FHS work organised by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) was held in London 4 - 5 December 2007. A panel of independent assessors selected by DFID and FHS members from Nigeria, India, USA and the UK participated in the meeting. The aim of the meeting was to assess achievements and challenges of the FHS work to date through presentations and face-to-face interviews. Nigeria made a presentation on activities implemented to date and reviewed the proposed interventions. The composition of the consortium was also discussed. The assessors were impressed with the implementation of the FHS activities with special reference to Nigeria. Overall the consortium was given a score of 2 which is the highest rating ever awarded to any organisation DFID has worked with.

Inaugural Lecture

Professor O. Oladepo, the FHS Nigeria National Co-ordinator, delivered an inaugural lecture at the University of Ibadan with the theme "Down the miry clay avenue; Engaging the auxiliary gear". Part of the lecture featured FHS Nigeria activities.

Visit to Institute of Development Studies

The Country Coordinator, Prof. Oladepo visited the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) UK between 4 and 5 Dec, 2007 to discuss strategic collaboration with the institution the proposed FHS intervention in Nigeria. The interventions consist of:

- An effective supply chain for artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) and Insecticide-treated bed nets (ITN).
- Training Patient Medicine Vendors (PMVs) and drug suppliers to address the lack of knowledge about appropriate malaria treatment and on distribution of insecticide-treated nets.
- Reducing the opportunities of PMVs to knowingly supply sub-standard drugs through a combination of more effective government regulation and self-regulation by PMV associations.
- Increasing the roles of community in monitoring drug quality. Tasks can include looking for NAFDAC registration and expiry date and the use of simple technologies for testing drugs or scanning product identification.