KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

Remarks

By

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Family Medicine Conference

Tuesday, 19th May, 2015
Representatives from the Ministry of Health;
County Executive Officers;
Chief Officers;
Medical Doctors;
Other Key Stakeholders in health;
Staff;
Students;
Ladies and gentlemen.
Good morning.

May I take this opportunity to welcome you all to Kenyatta University and to this World Family Medicine Day Conference. As you will realize this is a great opportunity for you all to reflect on theme of universal health care. As a University, we are privileged to host this
conference on family medicine.

It is exciting to note that in this conference, we have representation from key institutions and organizations that deal with health namely; the Ministry of Health, County Executive Officers, Chief Medical
Officers, Medical Doctors among others. We are therefore certain that the conference will impact various levels of operation because of your critical roles in the society.

You will have noted that the theme of the conference is quite relevant for this country especially with
devolution now being reality.
The theme is: ‘Towards Universal Health Coverage in Devolved Governments: Strengthening Health Service Provision through a Family Medicine Approach.’

As most of you will be aware, there is a world-wide movement of realigning
health care to people’s needs and expectations, be they physical or emotional needs, that involves individuals and members of their families during their treatment.

This is because health care should be:-

Accessible
Safe
Of good in quality and delivery
Of good coverage
Equitable
Cost effective
Efficient
Ethical with a human rights based approach and
Sustainable
Kenyatta University has responded by developing a Masters programme in Family Medicine which has been approved by the University Senate. Plans are underway to advertise the programme and have the first intake in September 2015. The University Management has agreed to
grant 2 Scholarships to our first Cohort of students to study the M.Med course. Kenyatta University is also constructing its modern and state of the art Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital which is envisaged to be operational from October. The Hospital will have a Patient-Centered
Care Model. Our past best medical students will be considered for appointment in this hospital. Indeed, Family Medicine is our 1st Postgraduate course in our School of Medicine. We plan to launch other postgraduate courses in medicine and fellowships in due course. We are also developing a
Diploma in Mortuary services programme. This will be a very relevant programme for the counties.

Kenyatta University joins other institutions that are now offering Family Medicine namely; Moi, Aga Khan, Maseno and Kabarak Universities. The County
Governments’ mandate for the provision of Primary Health care provides excellent opportunities for partnerships between Kenyatta University and County Hospitals in Family Medicine Training, investment in Primary Health Workers training, Mentorship and conducting of
operational and primary care research.

I am informed there will be presentations on MoH Policy on Community strategy, County experiences on universal health coverage, Family Medicine and Patient Centered care concepts, Partnerships of Kenyatta
University with Funzo-Kenya Project in conducting in-service training of health workers to improve delivery of health services in Kenya and building capacity of selected institutions in managing medical programmes and enhancing innovative learning
approaches such as e-learning.

I believe that out of all these presentations, you will come up with the way forward and recommendations. I advise you to present them in a realistic and achievable format for short term,
medium term and long term periods.

At this point, I would like to thank the organizers of this conference, led by Dr. Titus Kahiga. I would like to thank the participants who have turned up for this conference. Through the discussions, I believe that
pertinent proposals will emerge on the innovative strategies for enhancing health care provision. To all the participants, I wish you all interesting discussions, good work and the most pleasant stay in Kenyatta University.
With these remarks, may I officially declare this one day World Family Doctors Day Conference officially opened.

Thank you.