

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.