

SAFETY ACROSS THE BORDER. February 11th , 2014

Collaboration :Lagos State Safety Commission with Ministry of Health
& Stream Pharmaceutical UK.

The Conference/Workshop was held at DeHall in Ikeja. The event was well attended by over 350 people from the Health Sector, including the presence of guest speakers: Dr. Yewande Adeshina Special Adviser to the Governor on public health, Director General Lagos State Safety commission, Mrs. Dominga Odebunmi, Dr. Ahmid Balogun, Permanent Secretary , Health Services Commission, and Dr. J. Arigbabuwo, Chairman Association of General Private Medical Practitioners of Nigeria(AGPMPN), and Dr Alero Roberts, who acted as moderator for the day. Pharmacist Kudi Ligali, Commissioner 3 Health Services Commission assisted during the panel sessions and gave a vote of thanks at the end of the day..

The Conference/Workshop commenced at 10.00 a.m. It began with an introductory talk from the Director General/CEO of the LAGOS State Safety Commission, Mrs Dominga Odebunni, stating the need of the medical practitioner to ensure that safety measures were included in their planning and operation of their facilities as it will protect themselves and also assist their patients.

The attendees were then divided into two groups, which followed parallel paths throughout the day, with the speakers alternating between the two groups.

The first speaker in the main hall was Mr Joe Crombie, an International Speaker from Stream Pharmaceutical UK. He spoke about the need for 'Contingency Planning' to enable 'normal service' to continue even if problems or unexpected events had arisen within the medical facility.

The second session was given by Professor Ayo Atsenuwa from the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal studies and consultant with Stream UK, on the subject of 'The Medico-Legal Perspective'. She stressed that considering the safety aspects of the environment will assist the medical practitioner in his work, and to ensure that the patient will receive the best possible treatment.

The session after lunch was given by Dr. Kofo Odeyemi, who is the Chairman of the Association of Public Health Physicians in Nigeria (Lagos Chapter). She spoke on the subject of 'Safety and Risk Assessment Protocol'. She demonstrated how to identify the nature of a risk and how much emphasis should be put on providing alternative ways to continue 'business as usual'.

The Conference/Workshop continued with a session from Dr. Odiri Dafinone, an engineer who has much experience of health and safety in the Oil and Gas Industry, and is currently working on a joint project in Nigeria between a major International Oil company and the Nigerian Oil companies. He spoke on the subject of 'there are no accidents'.

The conference/workshop concluded with a panel session where the attendees were invited to discuss their concerns. During the panel sessions Dr Yewande Adeshina, Mrs. Dominga Odebunmi and Dr A. Balogun further addressed the attendees on safety aspects and the best way forward. Everyone agreed that it had given the attendees much 'food for thought' and it had been a very informative day.

This was the fourth in a series of Conference/Workshops for the Health Sector. The series continues 1st April 2014 for the private sector, and 2th April 2014 for the public sector.

Up to 40% of those involved in the public health sector, and up to 15% of the private sector have attended these Conference/Workshops.

We would like to thank all who have attended these Conference/Workshops and hope they will find the information useful as they return to their place of work.