ICT Hubs for Rapid Adoption of Samoa Pathway and SDGs

Example: World Hypertension Telemedicine Hub

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Robert St. Thomas, IBM
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Our Objective: ICT for Rapid Adoption of Samoa Pathway & SDG

Samoa Pathway, Section 109 (Capacity Building -- Human & Technology) -
• (Para h) To establish national and regional information and communications technology platforms and information dissemination hubs in small island developing States to facilitate information exchange and cooperation, building on existing information and communication platforms, as appropriate;
• SDGs: Support the 17 Pillars through ICT

Our Vision: ICT Hubs as Centers of Activity (Virtual, Physical, Mixture)

Our Approach: Use of Computer Aided Planning for Rapid Deployment of Hubs

Rural & Regional Hubs
Health
Education
Disaster
Communications
National Hub
JOHN KENERSON, MD
Director
World Hypertension Action Group (Whag)

GLOBAL HYPERTENSION CHALLENGES
Detailed Example: Hypertension Telemedicine Hub

Medical Professional and Nurses

Hypertension Telemedicine Hub

Decision Support & Business Intelligence

World Hypertension Action Group (WHAG) Site

Other Sites
- Nursing Education
- WHO, CIC
- Faith-based Organizations

World Hypertension League (WHL) Site

Rural TM Portal

Regional TM Portal

National TM Portal
WHY HYPERTENSION?
FRAMING THE QUESTION

UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
(Endorsed 2015)

#3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Also Priority Area for Samoa Pathway (NCDs)

World Hypertension League

Colleagues In Care
WHY HYPERTENSION?
FRAMING THE QUESTION

• WHO estimate prevalence 1.5 billion by 2025

• Responsible for 8 million premature deaths

• Asymmetry:
  80% global burden of disease in low and middle income countries
WHY HYPERTENSION
FRAMING THE RESPONSE

- WORLD HYPERTENSION ACTION GROUP (WHAG)
- Redefining global hypertension strategy
- Sharp point of community entry with BP screening, public education, diagnosis, prognosis with management point of impact
- Critical role of ICT for education, training, and data review
WHY HYPERTENSION
FRAMING THE RESPONSE

- NO POTENTIAL RESOURCE (OR PARTNER) LEFT BEHIND
  
  - Defined tasks, with certification and standards for education and training
  - Faith Based Medical Mission groups
  - Small to medium NGO partners in country
  - Partnering with Ministers of Health
  - Partnering with appropriate professional organizations
Decades of effort by good people have not moved the needle for Healthcare enough.

1 in 16 MATERNAL MORTALITY Rate

Highest Mortality rate for HYPERTENSION in North America

Highest Mortality rate for STROKE in North America

Alexandre Widner, MD, Director, Baptiste/Belladere Border Health Telemedicine Center

The Facts
FMP UEH Medical Student Certification Training
Belladere Community Outreach Training
Baptiste Clinic BP Screening
Concluding Comments

Q1: Biggest achievements and successes
- Expansion of Partners (from 3 to 12)
- Grant from IBM for ICT Hubs in Health, Education, Public Safety & Public Welfare
- Hypertension Telemedicine Hub in Haiti

Q2: Challenges, lessons learned, steps to overcome them
- Main challenge: Failure rate is too high (around 80%)
- Main Lesson Learned: Computer aided planning tools reduce failures in initial phases
- Capacity building and funding are still problems in later phases

Q3: Best practices for SIDS and other partnerships
- Develop a detailed project plan based on agile methodology
- Do not declare victory or failure too soon
Thank You

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