



MUHIMBILI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

FAMILY MEDICINE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA

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WHAT IS FAMILY MEDICINE?

Family medicine is a medical specialty that provides continuing and comprehensive health care for individuals and families across all ages, genders, diseases, and parts of the body, within the community and linked with community wellness and prevention.



BEST FITS W.H.O “FIVE STAR DOCTOR”

Care-provider, Decision-maker, Communicator, Community leader and Manager

ROLE OF THE FAMILY PHYSICIAN

Care-provider – able to work independently at all facilities in the district

Consultant – to the primary care services

Capacity-builder – teaches, mentors, supports, develops other practitioners



Supervisor – of registrars, interns, medical students, clinical associates

Leader of clinical governance

Champion of COPC– engages with the community served

COPC- Community Oriented Primary Care

WHAT IS FAMILY MEDICINE?

- Family Medicine combines primary care for all ages, with strong psychosocial and preventive care.
- Family Medicine doctors are able to provide quality primary care for 80-90% of all patients.



WHY DOES TANZANIA NEED FAMILY MEDICINE?



- Tanzania is moving quickly to universal health coverage in line with UN & W.H.O declarations*
- Non-communicable and other complex medical conditions needing continuity of care are rapidly emerging outpacing the NPC reliance
- Quality clinical care needs to be substantially improved, especially at the district and Health Center levels

*UN - United Nations, W.H.O - World Health Organization

WHY DOES TANZANIA NEED FAMILY MEDICINE?

Study to identify the non-responding health indicators shows In-hospital mortality at regional and tertiary levels are high due to dysfunctional referral system at the primary care level.

WHY DOES TANZANIA NEED FAMILY MEDICINE?

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 1. "The Resolution underscores the role of strong primary health care in ensuring countries can provide the full range of health services necessary throughout a person's life."
 2. The resolution also for more action of NCDs "On non-communicable diseases (NCDs), Member States agreed on a decision to accelerate and scale up action on NCDs and to meet global targets to reduce the number of people dying from NCDs like cancer, diabetes and heart and lung diseases.". A new cadre of health care provider (i.e Family Doctor) is needed to help the GOVT meet the above goals.

FAMILY MEDICINE PROGRESS



- The Aga Khan University, MMed in Family Medicine since 2004
- Tanzanian Commission for Universities (TCU) approved MMED Family Medicine training program at Aga Khan 2004
- Medical Council of Tanganyika (MCT) recognized Family Medicine graduates as specialists in 2010

FAMILY MEDICINE PROGRESS



- The AKU hosted a national/international conference to defining Tanzanian FM competencies in 2020.
- FM team presented to the NHIF team in Dodoma 2020
- FM team met with Minister for Health Hon. Ummy Mwalimu 2021
- MUHAS, FMWG and international partners held MUHAS FM curriculum consultative forum in 2022.
- MUHAS held FM Curriculum convention in January 2023.

PARTNERS



• LOCAL PARTNERS

- Dr Peter Wangwe – Dean MUHAS School of Medicine
- Dr Enica Richards – Principal MUHAS School of Medicine
- Prof. Paschal Ruggajo – Director Curative Services, Ministry of Health
- Dr Riaz Ratansi – Head of Department FM, the Aga Khan University
- Dr Eric Aghan- Director SEET FM Development and Research Centre/ MUHAS FM Consultant

PARTNERS



- **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS**

- Distinguished Prof. Bob Mash, University of Stellenbosch
- Prof. Donatus Mutasingwa, University of Toronto
- Prof. Shabir Moosa, WONCA Africa President
- Prof. Shailey Prasad, University of Minnesota
- Dr Bryan Johnston, University of Wisconsin
- Dr Henry Ziegler, President Health Tanzania Foundation
- Dr Esther Johnston, The Wright Center National Family Medicine Residency at HealthPoint, USA



THE WAY FORWARD 1

- FM Planning Year for MUHAS FM development 2023-2024
- Identify MUHAS FM Department faculty and structure.
- Complete national FM curriculum.
- Obtain TCU approval for MUHAS FM MMED training program.
- Identify resources for clinical and teaching: MUHAS, BAHC and Kisarawe.

THE WAY FORWARD 2



Establish Multi-University FM Development and Research Centre at SEET

- Formalize multi-university-SEET agreements for Centre.
- Public Universities participation in Centre.
- Identify International FM Department partners
- Ongoing Virtual FM research forum and development discussions
- Digital library FM articles and initiatives

THE WAY FORWARD 3



Plan Family Medicine Rollout 2023-2024

- Joint planning: MOH departments (Planning, Curative, Prevention), public universities, Family Medicine Centre
- Examine blended in-community FM training models:- telemedicine, monitoring, and teaching visits
- Role out plan for FM training at district and health center training hubs



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THANK YOU

Eric

