

# EYE CLINIC - HAYDOM HOSPITAL 2006 REPORT AND PLANS FOR 2007

## ***Mission statement:***

The Eye Department at Haydom Lutheran Hospital endeavours to improve and safeguard the eyesight of those within its catchment area, regardless of their origin, beliefs or financial situation.

## ***Strategy:***

We aim to achieve this particularly by doing the following:

- Increasing availability of high quality cataract surgery
- Supplying affordable glasses for the community
- Improving uptake by targeted outreach, subsidy for the needy and local manufacture of low-cost good quality glasses.
- Teaching and training of members of our own staff and also other health professionals who join us periodically.
- Enrolling candidates in KCMC training schools in optometry and cataract surgery

## ***Since 1<sup>ST</sup> January 2006 up to 23<sup>rd</sup> November:***

- 455 eye operations have been performed
- 354 of these were sight saving cataract operations
- 155 of these have been performed on outreach
- 4178 new outpatients have been seen by the eye team
- 1940 of these were seen at outreach
- 47 outreach visits have been made to 7 surgical centres and 20 screening locations in 4 districts of 3 different regions.
- 5976km have been covered by the eye clinic car on outreach.

## ***Eye Clinic Policy:***

- We work as a team to provide an efficient service to each client.
- We acquire multiple skills useful in serving the clients.
- We all discuss important decisions in staff meetings.
- We take time explaining to clients the nature of their eye problem so they can decide on possible treatment.
- No client shall be prevented from getting essential treatment due to shortage of money.

### ***Plans for 2007:***

We plan to increase the numbers of patients benefiting from cataract surgery and glasses provision, as follows. We plan to do this in the following ways:

- Increase efficiency of the surgical outreach programme
- Improve advertising and counseling of clients and communities, to improve uptake of services.
- Build up the activities of the optical department, particularly displaying and advertising glasses and accessories, and providing a same-day manufacturing service for glasses.

### ***Thanks:***

We are grateful particularly to the following:

- Our own hard-working and motivated staff
- Health workers who enabled our outreach work to take place.
- The Cataract Finder Worker from Kilimanjaro Community Based Rehabilitation who has increased our surgery clients
- The International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE) for providing a starting stock of lenses and spectacle frames for manufacture of glasses
- The Norwegian Optometrists Association for supporting the attachment of an optometrist for 2 years, and for sponsoring a student on the KCMC Diploma in Optometry programme.
- Students from Buskerud College of Optometry, Norway, for providing a complete optical workshop which has been in operation since the end of April.
- Private donors who have funded a number of activities
- Ophthalmologists and nurses from Stavanger Hospital, Norway for interest, support, and visiting.

Dr B.R.Savage  
Ophthalmologist  
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