

RAISING AWARENESS OF PAEDIATRIC KIDNEY DISEASE IN BLANTYRE MALAWI

8TH APRIL TO 13 APRIL 2024



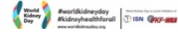
Raising Awareness of Paediatric Kidney Disease in Blantyre Malawi

📍 **Blantyre Youth Centre**

📅 **13 th April, from 08:00 am**

Kidney Health For All

Advancing equitable access to care and optimal medication practice



1. MEDIA CAMPAIGN

We engaged several major media houses in the country namely MBC, Mibawa, Islam TV and nation news paper

The campaign kick started the with an interview on the state broadcasting media house on their show called good morning Malawi where Dr Ethwako Mlia Phiri talked about the event. The purpose of the campaign was to raise awareness about paediatric kidney disease especially shedding light on how many children are affected, the causes and management. The main take home message was if a child is sick, seek help very early for some of the causes of AKI are preventable. She also featured on radio program talking about paediatric kidney disease.

The team from MBC /Mibawa/ Islam TV also visited the hospital to see what we were doing as part of the campaign i.e. (measuring blood pressure, doing urine dipsticks and health talks about kidney diseases). Mibawa Tv featured paediatric kidney diseases on one of the health shows called Zenera la Moyo (see link)

On the final day of the awareness campaign the media houses also came to the event where they also talked to guardians of patients who are being followed up in renal clinic.

The media campaign was coordinated by the Malawi Liverpool welcome trust (MLW) media team

Malawi has a total population of about 20 794 353 as of 2022. It is estimated that 45.78 percent of the population is 14 years and below.

Blantyre district is located in the southern region and has a population of about 809 397. It has the largest central hospital which is also the teaching hospital namely Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH).

World kidney Day is commemorated every year on 2nd Thursday of March and this year it was on the 14th march 2024. QECH Paediatrics department joined the rest of the world in commemorating this day by doing a campaign to raise awareness of paediatric kidney disease in Blantyre Malawi. The main objective of the campaign was to **increase awareness of paediatric kidney diseases and management of common paediatrics kidney diseases in Blantyre Malawi** by educating health workers on management of common kidney diseases and educate the public on paediatric kidney diseases. The main activities of the awareness campaign were from 8th April 2024 to 13th April 2024. To achive these objectives several activities were done.



Links:

<https://www.facebook.com/mbctv.malawi/videos/1824643068032493/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/iyabZT9JWaqRMGKv/?mibextid=cR73hX>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/UJDw8gkNWRWt7tJa/?mibextid=cR73hX>

2. HYPERTENSION SCREENING AND URINE DIPSTICKS

During the week of the awareness campaign, 556 children were seen between 8am-5pm in the paediatrics accident and emergency department. About 60% of these children, apart from having their routine triage assessments done, had their blood pressure measured, urine dipstick done and documented in their health passports before the clinicians assessed them.

Apart from the screening, health education talks were also done as the guardians were waiting to be seen by the clinical team about paediatric kidney diseases, what to look for and the importance of taking their children to the hospital early when they are sick.

The screening was done by the nurses, and nursing students working on the triage area. During this screening the team was reminded the importance of checking blood pressure in a child the right way especially by using appropriate sized cuffs. This was also a good learning opportunity for the nursing student on how to use the manual Bp machines.

The urine dipsticks, urine sample bottles were and manual blood pressure machines were supplied as part of the campaign.



3. WEBINARS ON COMMON PAEDIATRIC KIDNEY DISEASES

During the week of the awareness campaign, a webinar on nephrotic vs nephritic syndrome was done. This was just the start of these webinar series on common paediatric renal diseases and these will continue throughout the year



4. 5KM FUN RUN AND AEROBICS

On the last day of the campaign, we had 5KM fun run followed by aerobics session. This was to encourage people to stay active and fit #kidneyhealthgoldenrules.

The guest of honors for this event were our patients and guardians from our renal clinic who came to share their stories.



Our youngest runner 9 year old Tsidkenu Phiri taking part in the 5km FUN RUN

LINK TO FUNRUN AND AEROBICS PHOTOS

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/mBJQF RYFLjrXs5js/?mibextid=cR73hX>



Our guest of honors for the day: Patients and Guardians from renal clinic