

The MoHS Weekly Activity Bulletin summarizes key activities, including meetings of the preceding week, carried out by the Offices of the Minister and Chief Medical Officer, Directorates, Programmers, and Agencies of the Ministry.

Top stories



National Eye Care Programme to Perform Free Corneal Transplants



Health Ministry Holds Emergency Meeting on KUSH Crisis



MoHS Celebrates World Antimicrobial Awareness Week

National Eye Care Programme to Perform Free Corneal Transplants



Corneal blindness is the fourth leading cause of global blindness, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). Infectious aetiologies like trachoma and onchocerciasis continue to be principal causes of corneal blindness.

The National Eye Care Programme, in the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, will from 5 -9 December 2022 conduct the 3rd Corneal transplant campaign at Connaught Hospital, Freetown.

The campaign, to be conducted in partnership with Duke University in the United States, will aim to conduct 16 Corneal transplants by Sierra Leone Ophthalmologists under guidance of a Duke University Corneal Specialist.

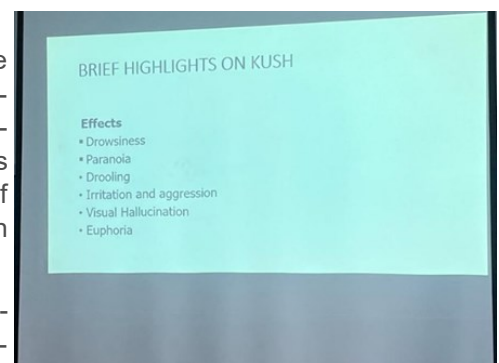
People with corneal blindness or scars are therefore advised to report to Connaught Hospital Eye Department from Tuesday 29th November to Friday 2nd December, 2022, from 8am-12pm.

Ministry of Health and Sanitation has, in response to the nation-wide KUSH predicament, summoned a multisector action meeting on Wednesday, 23rd November 2022 at the MoHS conference room.

Chaired by the Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Public Health), Dr. Alie Wurie, the meeting brought together representatives from WHO, Ministry of Social Welfare, FoRUT, Youth Ministry, Police etc. to brainstorm and develop concrete recommendations in dealing with this rapidly growing destructive substance. The Medical superintendent of the Kissy Psychiatric Teaching Hospital made a clinical presentation outlining the nature and effects of Kush.

Health Ministry Holds Emergency Meeting on KUSH Crisis

The meeting wrapped up with recommendations including public education, political commitment, pharmaceutical and security sector interventions.



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MoHS Celebrates World Antimicrobial Awareness Week



World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is a global campaign that is celebrated annually (18-24 November) to improve awareness and understanding of AMR and encourage best practices among the public, One Health stakeholders and policymakers, who all play a critical role in reducing further emergence and spread of AMR (WHO).

The Health and Sanitation Ministry has commemorated this occasion by engaging Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), journalists, media practitioners, academic institutions and youth groups to increase knowledge on antimicrobial resistance (AMR). AMR occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites change over time and no longer respond to medicines, making infections harder to treat and increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness and death.

This year's theme, "Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance Together" implored all sectors to promote the judicious use of antimicrobials as well as a concerted One Health Approach in strengthening AMR preventive measures.

MoHS & Partners Initiate National Forum on Alcohol and Substance Abuse

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation, joined by FoRUT and the Sierra Leone Alcohol Policy Alliance (SLAPA) have on Thursday, 24 November 2022, followed through with a national forum on alcohol and substance abuse at Sierra Palms, Freetown.

The engagement carried the theme "Reducing Alcohol and Drug Related Harm" and is indicative of the dire need to address the substantial rate of alcohol and drug abuse especially among young people as well as paying keen attention to mental health implications.

Participants were sourced from both government and private institutions including PiH, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, WHO, IMC, Police Board etc. and at the end of the discussions, were able to agree on practical steps in combating alcohol and substance abuse including prevention, response and rehabilitation.



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MoHS Opens Registration for Cleft Lip and Palate Surgeries



Deutsche Cleft Kinderhilfe, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation will soon be performing free maxillofacial cleft lip and palate surgeries for children in Sierra Leone.

and runs cleft projects in Asia, South and Central America and will for the first time, commence operations in West Africa beginning with Sierra Leone.

The Ministry is therefore entreating healthcare workers, parents and the general public to register children with cleft lips and palate condition so they can be eligible for free surgery.

Deutsche Cleft Kinderhilfe e. V. (DCKH) is a German organisation that has been working to help children with cleft lip and palate since 2002. The organisation is internationally established