

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



GoSL & MoHS launch Presidential Taskforce on Mental Health



Connaught Hospital Ends Free Eye Surgeries to the Public



MoHS to Receive Saudi Funded Ultra-Modern Hospital in Lungi

### GoSL & MoHS launch Presidential Taskforce on Mental Health



Government of Sierra Leone, together with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, has set up and formally launched a Presidential Taskforce on Mental Health on Tuesday, 16th May, 2023 at Radisson Hotel, Freetown.

Vice President, Dr. Juldeh Jalloh, explained in his keynote address the essence of soliciting high-level and multi-sectoral support in responding to mental health conditions. He referenced the Minister of Health & Sanitation, Dr. Austin Demby's Life Stages Approach in ensuring a compound approach that caters for the complete well-being of everyone.

Presidential Advisor on Mental Health, Dr. Carol Labor, dilated on the physical and socio-economic impact of mental health and the urgency of care it requires. The event attracted delegates from Africa CDC, Nigeria, Namibia, Kenya, Zambia, Liberia, Burundi and Eswatini

The National Eye Care Program within Connaught Hospital has, from 16-18th May, 2023, provided free oculoplastic services such as swellings, tumours, injury, scars including, other deformities around the eyes.

In partnership with the Himalayan Cataract Project and Mama Pikin Foundation, a team of oculoplastic surgeons from America and Nepal were in-country and hosted a surgical camp at Connaught Hospital where these free eye care services were provided to multiple patients.

Furthermore, the National Eye Care Program Manager, Dr. Jalikatu Mustapha has, for the first time, done Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgeries in Sierra Leone (MIGS). MIGS refers to a range of implants, devices and techniques all aiming to reduce the pressure in the eye in order to reduce or prevent optic nerve damage.

### Connaught Hospital Ends Free Eye Surgeries to the Public



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### MoHS to Receive Saudi-Funded Ultra-Modern Hospital in Lungi



The Government of Sierra Leone and the Saudi Development Fund have on Thursday, 18th May, 2023, reached an agreement for the site identification and construction of a \$50 Million state of the art hospital in Lungi.

The proposed 150 bed facility will augment standard healthcare delivery and widen accessibility for people within and outside the Lungi community. The two-year project will come with general surgery, operation rooms, emergency wards, paediatrics, inpatient wards, obstetrics and gynaecology, nursing and technical and administrative units etc.

The Saudi Fund Mission Lead, Abdulrahman Alharbi, thanked the Government of Sierra Leone for their cooperation and hospitality during their stay in Sierra Leone and issued strong words of support towards accelerating quality of care and health infrastructure.

Mercy Ships, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, has registered nearly 4,000 complex surgical cases due for operation in August.

The registered cases range from general surgery (hernias) and orthopaedics (bowed legs), to maxillo-facial (facial tumours, swellings to face, head, mouth, neck, cleft lip and palates, those with missing parts or deformities to face due to infection) as well as eye care services.

The largest ever ship to set shore in Sierra Leone will be in-country in August for period of ten months to deliver zero cost medical services to registered cases. In addition, the team will capacitate the local health workforce with surgical, dentistry and anaesthetics training.

### Mercy Ships Set to Administer Surgical Services to Nearly 4,000 Complex Cases



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### University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospital to Establish Neurosurgical Service at Connaught



**T**he University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospital Complex, through the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, is on the verge of establishing neurosurgery capabilities and capacities at the SL Teaching Hospital at Connaught.

In partnership with Stanford University/World Federation of Neurological Societies & Mission Brain, the establishment will be critical in addressing the burden of paediatric and adult neurosurgical cases as well as extending research capabilities and expertise to better understand the dynamics of neurosurgical conditions in Sierra Leone.

The University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospitals Complex exists to enhance quality healthcare delivery in Sierra Leone by providing holistic care to every patient through integrated clinical practice, training and research