Navrongo Health Research Centre
Ghana Health Service
Ministry of Health

Abraham Oduro MBChB PhD FGCP
Director
Location and Contacts

- Behind War Memorial Hospital, Navrongo
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- Website: www.navrongo-hrc.org
Background

History

• Started in 1998 as Field station for the Ghana Vitamin A Supplementation Trial
• Upgraded in 1992 into Health Service Research Centre by Ministry of Health
• In 2009 became part of R & D Division of the Ghana Health Service

Current Affiliations

• Currently is One of Three such Centres in Ghana
• All under Ghana Health Service, Ministry of Health

Vision statement

• To be a centre of excellence for the conduct of high quality research and service delivery for national and international health policy development.

Mission statement

• To undertake health research and service delivery in major national and international health problems with the aim of informing policy for the improvement of health.
• Ghana Vitamin A Supplementation Trial, (Ghana VAST)

1988 - 1992

• Navrongo Health Research Centre, (NHRC-GHS)

Prof David Ross

Prof Fred Binka
Structure and Affiliations

Ministry of Health, Ghana
Ghana Health Service Council
Ghana Health Service
Research & Development Division

Regional Health Directorates:
UpperWest, UpperEast,
Northern

Navrongo Health Research Centre

FOUNDING MEMEBR OF THE INDEPTH-Network!
Navrongo Operational Area

- The 3 regions of the north of Ghana
  - Northern, Upper East & west
  - About 40% land mass
  - About 30% of the population
- Demographic Surveillance areas
  - Two administrative districts:
    - Kassena-Nankana Municipal
    - Kassena-Nankana West
    - Total Population 160,000
Human Resource

Areas of Expertise

- Bioethics
- Biostatistics
- Clinical / Field trials
- Demography / Population Health
- Database Development
- Epidemiology / Public Health
- Entomology / Parasitology
- Genomics / Genetics
- Health Systems / Economics
- Health / Bio-Informatics
- Information Technology
- Pharmacology
- Project Management
- Social Anthropology

Categories of Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designations</th>
<th>GHS</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellows</td>
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<td>Senior Members</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<td>Field workers</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>121</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>204</td>
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Health system

- Regional Health Management Team (RHMT)
- District Health Management Team (DHMT)
- District Hospital (1)
- Navrongo Health Research Centre
- Private Clinics (3)
- Health Centres (7)
- Community Health Compounds (27)
- Pharmacy Shops
- Chemical And Drug Shops
- Petty Traders And Peddler
- Herbalist, Faith-based and traditional healers
Map Displaying Health Facilities, Schools, and Boreholes Located in Kassena-Nankana Municipality and West, Upper East Region, Ghana

- **School** (green triangle)
- **Borehole** (blue circle)
- **Health Facility** (red cross)

Map credit: [Source Name]
Health & Demographic Surveillance System

• Established in 1992

• Two Kassena Nankana districts (1674 sq.km)

• Population 160 000 People

• Five zones: East, West, Central, South & North

• 247 clusters, 18,800 compounds & 33,000 households

• Three rounds in the year - every 4 months

• 77th round of data collection
NHDSS Routine data collection

- Births
- Deaths
- Migrations
- Marriages
- Pregnancies
- Vaccinations
- Other interventions
- Community Informant System
- Verbal autopsy techniques
- Geographic information system
Other regular data collection

Every two years data collection

– Socioeconomic indicators
– Household characteristics
– Education
– Assets
  – Household possessions
  – Radio and TV
  – Means of transport, bicycle, motor cycle, cars
  – Land ownership
  – Animals
Current Population pyramid

- Total population: 159,370
- Female constitutes: 52.3%
- Under 15 years: 35.8%
- 60+ years: 10.1%

Source: Navrongo Health and Demographic Surveillance System
SELECTED RESEARCH FACILITIES
QUALMAT Study

(Quality of Prenatal and Maternal Care)

- This study aims at improving Maternal and Neonatal care through implementation of performance-based incentives and a computer assisted clinical decision support system that reinforces provider competence.
Maternal Health Studies

EMBRACE Project
(Ensure Mothers & Babies Receive Adequate Care)

- This project is on Continuum of Care from Pre-pregnancy to Childhood by determining bottlenecks that impede progress on MNCH and promoting a flexible package of interventions.

CoC reorientation for HWs
Utilization of CoC Card

ANC 4+ Skilled delivery PNC <48h PNC 7 days PNC 6 weeks

24h retention after delivery Home visit PNC

CONTINUUM OF CARE
EMBRACE - GHANA

[Image of a group of people]
Clinical Trials and Services

• **Eurartesim studies:**
  – Evaluating the clinical safety and effectiveness of a fixed dose artemisinin-based combination of dihydroartemisinin / piperaquine therapy (Eurartesim®)

• **Artesunate extension study:**
  – Long-term neurocognitive assessment of children following an episode of severe malaria: Follow-up of the Pre-referral Rectal Artesunate Trial
Malaria Control

Undertaking entomological surveys and monitoring of the indoor residual spraying undertaken in the north by the AngloGold Ashanti Malaria Program
Clean Cook Stove Studies

- Distributing different cook stoves to household in the districts
- Investigating the impact of different cooking stoves on health.
- Efficient cooking would improve indoor and outdoor air quality and reduce the burden of diseases related to cooking smoke
Environmental & Cardio-metabolic Diseases

• investigating the interaction between genetics, environmental factors and cardio-metabolic diseases in Africans
Adolescent Health
Health Systems

• GEHIP

Evaluation and cost-effectiveness analysis of the Ghana Essential Health Intervention Project

• UNICO:

  – Comparative study of household needs, utilization and access to health care services in rural Ghana and Vietnam. To understand impact of universal health coverage on the poor and vulnerable.

QUALMAT:
Selected major projects in the past

- Ghana VAST and the Bednet Projects
- Insecticide Bednet Project
- Community and Family Planning Project
- Malaria Field Epidemiology Studies
- Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Project
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Drug Effectiveness and Safety Studies
- Ghana Essential Intervention Project
- LQAS Survey in Northern Ghana
- Malaria In Pregnancy
Academic Institutions

• Universities in Ghana
• University of Tokyo
• Columbia University
• University of Michigan
• University of Colorado
• Oxford University
• University of Melbourne
• University of the Witwatersrand
• University of Heidelberg
• London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
• Liverpool University
• Others
Selected Sponsors/Donors

- Ghana Government
- INDEPTH-Network
- USA - USAID, NIH, Gates Foundation, Universities,
- Europe: European Union, Universities
- Japan- JICA, University of Tokyo
- UN Agencies: WHO/ UNICEF / Etc
- UK- DFID, Welcome Trust, Universities
Other Contributions of The Centre

• Employment Generation
• Human Resource Development
• Health Care and Education
• Health Research Tourism
• Consultancies:
  – Clinical care
  – Demographic surveillance
  – Health and Demographic Research
  – Monitoring and Evaluation
  – Data Processing
Additional information

• Website:
  • www.navrongo-hrc.org

• Projects:
  • http://www.navrongo-hrc.org/projs/projects.html

• Publications:
  • http://www.navrongo-hrc.org/pubs/publications.html
Thank you!