Overview of the Navrongo Health Research Centre
GHS/Ministry of Health

Dr. James Akazili
History of Navrongo Health Research Centre

Started as Ghana Vitamin A Supplementation Trial site in 1988 by three collaborators:

- Ministry of Health, Ghana
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- University of Science and Technology, Ghana

- The study tested the effect of repeated large doses of Vitamin A on child Survival
- Key finding was 20% reduction in all cause mortality in children
- In 1992 the Ministry of Health, Ghana converted the site into a Research Centre
Current Affiliation and Mandate

Ministry of Health, Ghana
Ghana Health Service
Research & Development Division
- Navrongo Health Research Centre
- Kintampo Health Research Centre
- Dodowa Health Research Centre

Vision statement
To be a centre of excellence for the conduct of high quality research and training for national and international health policy development.

Mission statement
To undertake health research in major national and international health problems with the aim of informing policy for the improvement of health

Founding Member 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
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>
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<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellows</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Members</td>
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<td>Field workers</td>
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<td>121</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</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 of health facilities, schools & others

Map Displaying Health Facilities, Schools, and Boreholes Located in Kassena-Nankana Municipality and West, Upper East Region, Ghana.
A compound with a number of HHs
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
Navrongo Demographic Surveillance System

Characteristics

- Established in 1992
- Two districts and 160,000 People
- Zones (5): East, West, Central, South & North
- 247 clusters, 18,800 cps / 33,000 HHs
- 77th round; Three rounds a year

Map of Kassena Nankana District showing the DSS zones
NHDSS Routine data collection

- Births
- Deaths
- Migrations
- Marriages
- Pregnancies
- Vaccinations
- Other interventions
- Community Informant System
- Verbal autopsy techniques
- Geographic information system
Current Population pyramid

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

Source: Navrongo Health and Demographic Surveillance System
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
- Meningitis Carriage Studies
- Others – Vaccine and drug trials
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
What else?

Contribution to national economy:

- Employment Generation
- Human Resource Development
- Health Care and Education
- Health Research Tourism

Consultancies:

- Demographic surveillance
- Health and Health System Research
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Data Processing
- Proposal, report & manuscript dev’t

Contact information

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Email:  Director@navrongo-hrc.org
Projects:
  ➢  www.navrongo-hrc.org/projs/projects.html
Publications:
  ➢  www.navrongo-hrc.org/pubs/publications.html
Additional information

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Thank you!