Strengthening the Health System’s Response for NCDs

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MINISTER OF HEALTH & WELLNESS, JAMAICA
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Ministry of Health and Wellness’ Strategic Objectives

1) To increase by 10%, the access to equitable, comprehensive and quality health care for patients living with non-communicable diseases who use the public health sector by 2024

2) To reduce mortality from priority communicable diseases by 5% by 2024

3) To strengthen the stewardship of the Ministry by implementing the monitoring and evaluation, risk management and quality management systems by 2024

4) To advocate for an average annual increase of 6.5% of the budget allocated to the health ministry and its agencies to attain WHO benchmark of 6% of GDP for government expenditure on health by 2030
Ministry of Health and Wellness’ Strategic Objectives

5) To reduce the critical human resources for health (HRH) skills gap by 5% by 2024

6) To reduce the attrition rate of critical health workers by 5% by 2024

7) To improve the collaboration with other MDAs to achieve health in all policies to address the social determinants of health

8) To ensure 85% of major infrastructure projects are completed within scope, schedule and budget by 2024
Health Systems Building Blocks Approach
1. Leadership & Governance

- National Committee on NCDs launched
  - Multisectoral Advisory Group

- National Policy for Model of Care (Chronic Care Model) for NCDs developed in 2020

- Evaluation of current, and development of a new National Strategic Plan for NCDs to 2030 in progress

- Primary Care Renewal Policy which gives focus to improving the Integrated Health Service Delivery Network
1. Leadership & Governance

- Tobacco Control Act: Joint Select Committee in progress
- Harmful Use of Alcohol Policy submitted to the Cabinet
- National Food Industry Task Force
  - Interim Guidelines for Beverages in Schools implemented in 2019
  - National School Nutrition Standards developed
  - Production Reformulation workshops with manufacturers (sugar reduction)
2. Service Delivery: COVID-19 & Mental Health

- Multi-media messages/tips, and presentations on mental health care
  - Families, older persons, frontline workers, private sector
- Group and individual mental health sessions in partnership with Jamaica Psychological Association, Jamaica Psychiatric Association and the Jamaica Red Cross
- 24-hour Mental Health Helpline
- Staff at COVID-19 isolation/quarantine facilities trained in delivering Psychological First Aid
2. Service Delivery: Jamaica Moves

- JM in Schools
- JM in Workplaces
- JM in Communities

Wellness Booklet developed to support engagement in preventive care/screening
2. Service Delivery: Ja Moves/Communities

- Physical Activity and COVID-19 Guide developed
- Work out sessions aired
- Physical Activity videos produced
- Physical Activity Radio ads placed
- Market pop ups
- Home garden wellness kits distributed
- “Better For You” menu initiative launched with 8 major Quick Service Restaurants
2. Service Delivery: Ja Moves/Schools

- Physical Activity Guide for Physical Activity breaks developed
- National Schools Move Day (April 2020)
- Physical Activity & Nutrition signage placed
- Nutrition video presentations completed
- Online engagements regarding substance abuse
- School health/NCD registers distributed

*activities supported by a JMIS Coordinator
2. Service Delivery: Ja Moves/Workplaces

- Corporate Wellness Manual developed
  - Wellness Coordinator’s checklist
  - Physical Activity Toolkit and Guide
  - Guide for the Promotion of Health Eating in Workplaces
  - Nutrition Environment Assessment tool
- Physical Activity videos produced
- Healthy Eating videos produced (targeting employers and employees)
- GOJ nutritionists trained to support workplaces
2. Service Delivery

- Launch of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) for NCDs in 2020
  - Shared care initiative with private practitioners for diabetes and hypertension

- Improvement in Sickle Cell Disease Management – public sector drug access for private sector patients approved by the Cabinet

- Enhancing Health Care Services delivery Project (2019) – PPP - access the diagnostic and radiology services – over 22,500 tests conducted
2. Service Delivery: Guidelines & Service Standards

- Food Based Dietary Guidelines
- National Screening Guidelines for NCDs completed in 2020
- Interim guidelines for the management of Diabetes and Hypertension completed in 2020
- Protocol for the Nutritional Management of NCDs completed in 2019
2. Service Delivery

IDB-supported activities

- Infrastructure upgrades of 3 hospitals and 10 health centres
- Support for the implementation of the Chronic Care Model for NCDs
- Care pathways and protocols for NCDs
- Continuous quality improvement for M&E
- Telemedicine to support mentoring of clinicians
- TeleECHO to train and mentor HCWs
- NCD App to support behaviour change
  - Wellness component
  - Disease Management component
3. Health Information

- Front of Package Warning Label study (PAHO)
  - Black "high in" octagon label preferred

- Trans-fat Study (UTECH)
  - First in the Caribbean
  - Almost 40% of commonly consumed foods have trans fats

- Electronic Health Records to be rolled out (IDB-supported)
4. Medicines & Technologies

- Purchase of medical equipment (IDB-supported)
  - Improve screening and diagnostic capabilities to improve clinical and resolutive capacity

- In-country capacity to analyze for trans-fats (only Caribbean country)

- Expansion of HbA1C Programme for Diabetes to include Point of Care testing in Health Centres in progress
5. Financing

- Consistent allocation of funding from the MOFPS
  - Allocation/Expenditure guided by the burden of disease
- National Health Fund
  - Screening activities
  - Health promotion activities

6. Human Resources

- Almost 18% increase in the number of HCWs especially in primary care
  - > 1,000 Community Health Aides recruited and trained
  - Will serve to strengthen Primary Health Care beyond the COVID-19 response
On the Horizon

- Public Education under the Jamaica Moves Brand
  - Unhealthy Foods
  - Labeling
- NCD Website
- Physical Activity Web-page
- NCD Screening “Know Your Numbers” Campaign
- Public Education Campaign – Tobacco, Harmful Use of Alcohol

Formal Surveys
- Sodium/Salt in Foods
- Marketing of Foods to Children
- Research for Wellness
- Physical Activity
- Jamaica Health and Lifestyle Survey IV
- Needs Assessment among Persons with Sickle Cell Disease
Thank you.

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