Preventive Medicine in Ghana: Role of Private Practice

Vice-President
ACCRA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
OUTLINE

• Introduction
• Health in Transition
• Role of Private Sector in Health
• Need for Private Involvement in Preventive Medicine
• Role of PP in PM
• Challenges
INTRODUCTION

- Ghana our motherland.
- Salutation
HEALTH IN TRANSITION
Health in Transition

• Epidemiological
  – Double whammy – IDs & NCDs

• Health coverage & financing

• Demographic
  – low fertility, ageing, urbanization, increased wealth

• Nutritional & life style
  – Globalization
Preventable Diseases

• The major cause of death in all age groups and in both sexes

• Children –
  – infections, accidents & injury
  – Diarrhoea

• Adults
  – NCDs
NEED FOR PRIVATE INVOLVEMENT
Public Sector

- Overwhelmed by treatment of acute and chronic illnesses
  - IDs
  - NCDs
- Human Resource lack
  - Few available only for policy and data collection
- Finance - priorities?
Public Sector

• Public Health system structured for
  – Treatment
    • Not enough time for counselling and education
    • Too many sick people deterring the non-sick
    • Long waiting time
Public Sector

- Public Health system structured for
  - Community/Public Health
    - Infant and child diseases
    - Maternal Mortality
    - Immunizations – childhood and maternal

- Not able to deal with all health issues
Private Sector

• Private sector participation in health care and prevention of ill health
  – 55% of all health care for all Ghanaians everywhere

• Ghanaians have a preference
  – Disadvantages of the Public
  – ?Better health care
  – NHIS equalization
Figure 4.30. Main Reason for Provider Choice (percent)

- **Public facilities**
  - Other: 15
  - Short waiting time: 46
  - Low price: 26
  - Accepts another health insurance card: 18
  - Accepts my NHIS card: 22
  - Good quality services: 21
  - Only facility in my area: 45
  - Nearest to my home: 14

- **Private provider**
  - Other: 16
  - Short waiting time: 45
  - Low price: 22
  - Accepts another health insurance card: 41
  - Accepts my NHIS card: 18
  - Good quality services: 21
  - Only facility in my area: 47
  - Nearest to my home: 13

- **CHAG provider**
  - Other: 14
  - Short waiting time: 41
  - Low price: 18
  - Accepts another health insurance card: 21
  - Accepts my NHIS card: 13
  - Good quality services: 21
  - Only facility in my area: 47
  - Nearest to my home: 13

- **Total**
  - Other: 13
  - Short waiting time: 47
  - Low price: 21
  - Accepts another health insurance card: 47
  - Accepts my NHIS card: 21
  - Good quality services: 21
  - Only facility in my area: 47
  - Nearest to my home: 13
Private Sector

- Companies & Industry
  - Provide health care for employees
  - Mainly curative
  - Some also preventive
    - Occupational health
    - General preventive medicine
THE NEED IS THERE
# Bank Executives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Known</th>
<th>New</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Cholesterol</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity/over weight</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcoholism</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

♂ □ = 19
♀ □ = 2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over weight</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obese</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morbid Obese</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypercholesterol</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hep B</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prediabetes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaemia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Condition</td>
<td>Number Of Staff</td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overweight</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaemia</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raised Cholesterol</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal Urine</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raised Blood sugar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeat viral test</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete test</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G6PD Full Defect</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G6PD Partial Defect</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underweight</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>86</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ROLE OF PRIVATE PRACTICE
National Policy for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases in Ghana

August 2012
8 Strategic Areas

8.1 Primary Prevention

8.1.1 Tobacco
8.1.2 Alcohol
8.1.3 Diet

8.1.4 Physical Activity
8.1.5 Immunization

8.2 Early Detection and Clinical Care

8.2.1 Early Detection
8.2.2 Clinical care

8.3 Health System Strengthening

8.3.1 Human resource capacity
8.3.2 Provision of Essential Drugs and Supplies
8.3.3 Integration of Services and Partnerships
8.3.4 Financing
Others

- Cancer screen for early detection
  - Prostate
  - Cervical
  - Breast
  - Non alcoholic liver fibrosis
Occupational Medicine

• Two types of company doctor
  – The Occupational medicine doctor – The Doctor to the Company
  – The curative medicine doctor – the Doctor to the workers
General Preventive Medicine

• Early detection screening and management
Challenges & Solutions

- Finance
  - Cost
  - Health Insurance
- Human perception of prevention medicine
  - Non attendance – follow up
  - Non payment
Challenges & Solutions

• Weak health system
  – Diagnosis and Imaging

• Human Resource
ACCRA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
About Accra College of Medicine

- Incorporated in 2014 as a limited liability wholly owned Ghanaian company
  - Aim is to provide high quality private medical education in Ghana
  - The Best (Premier) private and independent medical school in Ghana, ...
Overview

Vision

To be a leader in the provision of medical education in Ghana and Africa
Overview

Mission

To provide world class medical education that is relevant, research oriented, tailored toward solving Ghana and Africa’s health problems and producing unique graduates, who are excellent, committed to excellence and have ‘heart power’
THANK YOU