

Our children MUST live to see their 5th birthday!. Combating pneumonia – Lessons from capacity development for pneumonia management in Kenya

Sarah Kosgei
Amref Health Africa, Kenya



Abstract

We lose approximately 2400 children a day due to Pneumonia which is responsible for about 16 percent of under-five mortality. This means if not combated, our children especially in the sub-Saharan Africa have no chance of seeing their 5th birthday. In Kenya, according to the county integrated development plans, health facilities lack adequate essential commodities to treat pneumonia and health workers have limited capacities to tackle respiratory illnesses. Like asthma, pneumonia is often misdiagnosed and data is recorded under other respiratory diseases. This causes challenges in diagnosis, management and data for decision making. Amref Health Africa implemented a pneumonia management and control project funded by GSK in selected counties in Kenya from May 2018 to date. The project seeks to build the capacity of frontline health workers to effectively manage and control pneumonia, strengthen community health systems to increase public awareness, improve the supply chain for increased access to medicines and use evidence for advocacy and to influence action. Thus far, 2,835,038 people have been reached with health education on prevention, control and management of Pneumonia. Already 21,422 put on treatment and managed successfully. There is improved integrated community case management of pneumonia and other childhood illnesses. Health facilities are actively putting requisitions for commodities and equipment for management of pneumonia. Women of reproductive age have formed mother to mother support groups that enable them to continuously share experiences on matters health and improving their livelihoods through initiation of income generating activities. In conclusion, capacity building of health workers should be supported with community awareness and matched with supply of the services at health facility level for better health outcomes

Amref health Africa is an international NGO head-quartered in Nairobi Kenya with a vision of lasting health change in Africa. Amref has offices in 10 countries in Africa and provides training and health services to over 36 countries in Africa through the regional programmes and the Institute of Capacity Development. Amref Health Africa's Institute of Capacity Development (ICD) was founded on the need to continuously produce and develop Human Resources for Health (HRH) in Africa. It focuses on building the technical, leadership and management skills of health sector staff and decision makers in Governments, Parastatals, NGOs, the Private sector and CBOs

11th Annual Congress on Pulmonology and Respiratory Medicine

March 18-19, 2020 Amsterdam, Netherlands

Abstract Citation:

Our children MUST live to see their 5th birthday!. Combating pneumonia – Lessons from capacity development for pneumonia management in Kenya, Pulmonology 2020, 11th Annual Congress on Pulmonology and Respiratory Medicine Amsterdam, Netherlands

<https://respiratory.annualcongress.com/abstract/2020/our-children-must-live-to-see-their-5th-birthday-combating-pneumonia-lessons-from-capacity-development-for-pneumonia-management-in-kenya>



Biography:

Sarah Kosgei has a masters in Global Health (Leadership and Management) from United States international University (USIU- Africa). She is the programme Manager at the Institute of Capacity Development at Amref Health Africa.