

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF UASIN GISHU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY

FIRST ASSEMBLY

FOURTH SESSION (2016)

AD HOC COMMITTEE AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

FIRST REPORT

**ON INVESTIGATION OF SHORTAGE OF DRUGS IN UASIN GISHU
COUNTY HEALTH FACILITIES.**

CLERK'S OFFICE

26th SEPT, 2016.

ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS,

ELDORET.

1.0. PREFACE.

Mr. Speaker Sir, on behalf of members of the Ad-Hoc committee and pursuant to the provisions of **Standing Order No 193(1)**, it is my pleasure and duty to present to the House the committee's report on the issue of drug shortage in Uasin Gishu county health facilities which was committed to the Ad-Hoc committee through a motion tabled on 1st September, 2016.

2.0 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Ad hoc committee and the committee of Health Services as constituted by the House comprises of the following members:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Hon. Patrick Bundotich | -Chairperson Health |
| 2. Hon. David Tarus | -deputy chair |
| 3. Hon.Jeremiah Sang | - Member |
| 4. Hon. Daniel Sanga | - Member |
| 5. Hon. Tirus Ting | - Member |
| 6. Hon. Isaac Kirwa | - Member |
| 7. Hon. Anne Jemutai | - Member |
| 8. Hon. Hillary Mutai | - Member |
| 9. Hon. Pauline Tuwei | - Member |
| 10. Hon. Isaac Terer | - Ex Officio |
| 11. Hon. Josphat Lowoi | " |
| 12. Hon. Ramadhan Ali | " |
| 13. Hon. Hillary Keter | -Member |
| 14. Hon. David Singoei | - Member |
| 15. Hon Joseph Koech. | - Member |
| 16. Hon. Moses Barteng | - Member |
| 17. Hon. Rosebellah Singoei | - Member |
| 18. Hon. Francis Muya | - Member |
| 19. Hon. Rebeccah Sugut | - Member |
| 20. Hon. Peter Sugut | - Member |
| 21. Hon Obadiah Kosgei | - Member |

3.0 COMMITTEE MANDATE.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Ad-Hoc committee was formed to investigate and inquire into matters relating to shortage of drugs in Uasin Gishu county health facilities pursuant to **standing order no. 193(1)**.

4.0 INTRODUCTION

Mr. Speaker sir, following a motion moved by Hon. Josphat Lowoi on 1st September, 2016 in regard to public outcry as a result of drugs shortage in Uasin Gishu County health facilities, despite the fact that huge sums of money have been allocated to health department, the house resolved to constitute an Ad-Hoc committee on 6th September, 2016 comprising of seven members and three ex-officio members to work alongside health committee members.

5.0. COMMITTEE SITTINGS

The Ad hoc Committee had its sittings on 12th, 16th, 19th, 21st, and 23rd Sept 2016, and agreed on modalities of collecting data and engaging the various stakeholders in the county health sector through Interviews, Questionnaires and Observations from site visits.

Mr. Speaker sir; during investigations, the Ad-Hoc committee made visits to the following selected health facilities on 16th Sept 2016.

Namely:

- i. Soy/Turbo
- ii. Eldoret Town
- iii. Kesses/Kapseret
- iv. Moiben/Ainabkoi

The facilities visited specifically are as follows:

1. Turbo Sub-County

- a) Sugoi 'A' Dispensary
- b) Sugoi 'B' Dispensary

2. Soy Sub-County

- a) Moi's Bridge Health Centre
- b) Mogoan Community Dispensary

3) Moiben Sub-County

- a) Moiben Sub-County Hospital
- b) Meibeki Dispensary
- c) Torochmoi Dispensary
- d) Tugen Estate Dispensary
- e) Kapkei Dispensary
- f) Elgeyo Boarder Dispensary
- g) Uhuru Dispensary

4) Eldoret Town Area

- a) Eldoret Sub-County Hospital
- b) Pioneer Health Centre

5) Kesses/Kapsaret Sub-County

- a) Cheptiret Dispensary
- b) Lingwai Dispensary
- c) Cengalo Dispensary
- d) Matharu Dispensary
- e) Ngeria Dispensary

6.0 .COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

Mr. Speaker sir, the committee made the following general observations and findings from the said site visits.

That:

- a) There is drug shortage in most facilities reason being that either the drugs haven't been supplied from the sub-county stores to the facilities or they haven't been supplied from the main supplier KEMSA.
- b) There is a challenge in the means of transportation. There is only one pickup to distribute drugs which has a challenge especially during the rainy season in reaching all the facilities.
- c) There are inadequate pharmacists and lab technicians staff in most facilities hence workload
- d) The staff in most facilities is demoralized due to heavy work load and overdue promotions.
- e) The promotion of some staff is not done on merit.
- f) There is inadequate space to store drugs and poor working environment in most facilities.
- g) There is poor coordination and communication in most facilities affecting service delivery.
- h) There is lack of necessary tools and equipment to aid in report writing and requisition of drugs(bin cards)
- i) There is no power supply in most facilities which affect storage of drugs sensitive to temperature changes for instance vaccines and some reagents.
- j) There is inconsistent drug supply in most facilities since there is irregular supply of drugs from the sub-county stores to the facilities.
- k) There is rampant dishonouring of drug requisitions from various facilities and at times there is no feedback from the concerned stake holders especially when ordering is done by many officers.
- l) There is interference by Ward Administrators in both the management of health facilities and distribution of drugs more so as experienced in most of the health facilities.

- m) There seems to be existence of brokers and cartels thus making medics prescribe 'unexisting' drugs.
- n) There is poor supervision in most of the facilities where some junior staff supervises their seniors.
- o) There is absenteeism of clinicians, pharmacist, nurses and those in-charge in most facilities.
- p) There are non-functional maternity units in almost all facilities due to lack of necessary drugs and necessary reagents.
- q) There are no well equipped laboratories with modern machines in most facilities. The few facilities that have laboratories lack reagents and personnel.
- r) Pioneer health facility has nearly all the drugs but the facility is underutilized.
- s) There is general laxity and lateness among health personnel in most of the facilities.

Mr. Speaker sir ; the committee sat on 19th September, 2016 and made a resolution, in light of the site visit findings, to invite the following stakeholders to get their views and inputs as to the cause of this menace in the county.

- i. Eldobase Chemist- Local supplier
- ii. KEMSA
- iii. County Chief pharmacist
- iv. Chief executive committee member- Uasin Gishu County Health department
- v. Chief Officer- Health, Uasin Gishu County

Mr. Speaker sir; the committee made the following general observations and findings from the engaged stakeholders.

That:

- a) There is insufficient budgetary allocation for health department
- b) There are a lot of inconveniences caused by improper means of transport (pickup)
- c) There is delayed payment to the suppliers by the county more than often.
- d) There is a poor storage of drug since the main drug store for the county is still under construction.

- e) There is contradicting statement about construction of county drugs store.
- f) There is rampant cancellation of requisition of basic drugs resulting in shortages of the commonly used drugs.
- g) There are cases of missing invoices, LPOs and signatories in the finance department.
- h) There is poor mode of delivering drugs i.e. drugs should be delivered directly to the facilities by the supplier rather than through the sub-county stores.
- i) There is no clear guideline in the organogram that indicates the roles of senior health officers and whom they should report to.
- j) There is long berucacy in procurement processes and payments resulting in the delay in supply of drugs.
- k) There are questionable transfers of health personnel due to patronage and undue influence.
- l) There are contradicting statements about constructing of the storage facility between the Chief Officer and the County Executive Committee Member of Health.
- m) There's poor forecasting and quality control of drugs.
- n) There is understaffing in pharmacies and laboratories in most facilities.
- o) There is poor coordination and communication among health management and the stakeholders.
- p) There is an accumulated debt owed by the county to the suppliers.
- q) There's poor working relationship between the office of the Chief Officer and the County Executive Committee Member of Health.

7.0. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr Speaker Sir, the committee makes recommendations that;

- i. The county government should embrace KEMSA's policy of direct drug delivery to health facilities..
- ii. The county government should increase budget allocation for drugs.

- iii. The county government should reorganize the existing fleet of vehicles to enhance proper coordination in the department and enhance efficient delivery of drugs.
- iv. The county government should do a need assessment on staff capacity and undertake staff reorganization and employ on need basis.
- v. The county government should consider assessment of staff in view of promotions as per the guidelines in the County Public Service Board.
- vi. There is need for the county government to have a drug store and liaise with KEMSA to make use of their available stores, for effective services delivery.
- vii. Supervision should be regularly done in all health facilities.
- viii. Health department through the division of ICT should organise for laptops and computers to enhance internet connections for easy record keeping, making requisitions and communicating through e-mails.
- ix. The county government should prioritize connection of power supply in all the health facilities.
- x. The county government should ensure prompt payment of suppliers to ensure consistency in drug supply.
- xi. All health facilities should order drugs through the office of the County Chief Pharmacist.
- xii. The county government should see to it that ward administrators do not interfere with the activities of health facilities and their duties be clearly defined.
- xiii. The drug prescribers should strictly follow the therapeutic committee guidelines.
- xiv. The County Public Service Board should liaise with the County Health Management Committee to make placement in conformity with the organogram.
- xv. The public should be equipped with awareness through campaigns and sensitization to ease congestion in County hospital and make use of other health facilities e.g. Pioneer Dispensary.
- xvi. The county government should capacity build its staff to enhance efficient and effective service delivery.

- xvii. The County Executive Committee Member has violated the County Government ACT Section 72(1) by usurping the responsibilities of the Chief Officer by haphazardly deploying public officers hence causing disharmony in
- xviii. the department.
- xix. County Service Board should employ a substantive County Chief Pharmacist to enhance efficient service delivery.
- xx. We recommend the transfer of County Executive Committee Member of Health to another docket since she cannot manage Health Department effectively.

Mr. Speaker sir, I urge this honourable House to adopt this report as presented without amendments.

SIGNED BY:

SIGN----- DATE-----

HON. PATRICK BUNDOTICH
CHAIRPERSON, AD HOC / HEALTH COMMITTEE.

*******END OF THE REPORT*******

