The Role of Sudan Medical Association in supporting health system through research

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The Health system/research

- FMOH
- SMOH (15 states)
- Directorates
- PHC main strategy
- Programs: External funding
Research within FMOH

- Research directorate:
  - National research strategy
  - Ethical guidelines and procedures
  - Partnerships: SMA strong representation
  - Programs (External funding): Health system research funding linked to programs priorities
Governance of Professional Associations

- Sudan Doctors union (Health Partners)
- Council of Professional Associations
  - Professional association
  - Professional association
  - Professional association
The professional Associations

- Established since 1949
- Total number of associations (30)
- Types: General, subspecialty Societies
- Range of membership:
  - Large (100-450), small (25-100.)
- Total membership: 3325
The professional Association

- Elected president
- Elected deputy president
- Elected members (10-15)
- Two years term,
- Membership: MOH, Universities, Military and Police medical services, Private sector, NGO’s
- Funding: membership dues, drug companies sponsorship
Main Duties

- Representing the interest of the profession and serving as the public voice at national and international level.

- Ensuring that the public receives the highest possible standards of care by maintaining and enforcing training and practice standards, as well as ethical approaches in professional practice.
Main Duties

- Influencing national and local health policy development to improve health care standards and ensure equitable access to quality, cost-effective service.

- Protecting the profession by guiding terms and conditions of employment.
Main Duties

- Supporting the health system through consultations, research and CPD programs

- Establishing and development of partnerships at national, regional and international levels
Contribution to the Health System

- Planning and policies: FMOH, SMOH
- Profession development: Services, training, guidelines
- Regulation and standards: SMC
- Training and CPD: SMSB
- Research: FMOH, SMOH, Research Institutions
Examples of Research Partnerships:
Sudanese Association of Paediatricians

- EPI: introduction of GAVI vaccines,
- CDD,ARI
- IMCI: baseline research, adaptation of training materials. Introduction to pre-service education
- Nutrition: analysis and introduction of BF&YIF to curricula of medical and health professional institutes
- Peri-natal & neonatal mortality
- Meningitis, TB and HIV
Example: Diabetes in children:

- Epidemiology and Community surveys
- Management guidelines
- Training of diabetic care teams
- Advocacy: free insulin and low cost monitoring
- Health education: awareness, family guidelines
- Social networks
Example: Epi-lab Partnership

- The Association of Pediatricians In Sudan Partnered with Epi-Lab has launched a successful Standard Case management to reduce the case fatality rate in children under 5
- FMOH partnership
- Baseline system analysis and research
- Evidence based guidelines
- Compatibility and model for national guideline
- Identification of health system limitation in application
Example: Epilab Partnership

- These partnerships aim to build the capacity of associations to assume leadership in promoting child lung health while strengthening the associations themselves in the areas of governance, training, leadership and fiscal responsibility.

- Similar projects were undertaken with the Department of NCDs and community physician for the Tobacco Cessation project and Bronchial Asthma.
Sudan Association Of Obstetricians

- Safe motherhood
- Midwifery training
- Family planning
- Harmful traditional practices: Female circumcision
- Fistula
Sudan Association of Physicians

- Endemic diseases: Malaria, TB, schistosomiasis. Leishmaniashosis, onchoserciasis
- Cerbrospinal menigitis
- Liver cirrhosis and PH.

- Diabetes and life style disease
- Renal disease
- Malignancies in Sudan
Sudan Association of Surgeons

- GIT bleeding
- Goiter
- Mycetoma
- Malignancy
Academic forums

- Publications:
  - Sudan medical Journal
  - Some Associations have their Journals: SAP, Dermatology, Public Health
  - University Journals (faculty of Medicine): Khartoum, Gezeira, Juba, Islamic, Alazhari

- Annual Conferences

- Professional academic seminars: monthly

- Health Forums: Quarterly

- CPD activities
Constraints

- Inadequate funds
- Poor leadership capabilities
- Weak supportive environment
  - Infrastructure
  - Trained administrators and staff
  - Data base and interactive cites
- Insufficient coordination and development of national partnerships
- Poor regional and international networking
Thank You