



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

**UGANDA NATIONAL HEALTH
LABORATORY SERVICES/CPHL**

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UNHLS eNOTICE BOARD

The Lab Monthly News Series

Featuring Month of: FEBRUARY 2017 **Issue date:** Friday 24th March 2017; Vol .9, Issue 1



The Katikkiro of Buganda, Owek. Charles Peter Mayiga paid a courtesy visit this month, to the Ministry of Health headquarters in a bid to pledge the support of the Buganda Kingdom in the fight against Sickle Cell disease.

UNHLS is key partner for the program as noted by The Minister of State for Health in charge of General Duties, Hon. Sarah Opendi "The campaign against Sickle Cell diseases requires focused counseling, necessary laboratory investigations, advocacy and awareness"

Our vision

Quality health laboratory services available to all people in Uganda

Our Mission

Provide quality, cost-effective and sustainable health laboratory services to support the delivery of the Uganda National Minimum Health Care Package at all levels.

Our Mandate

- To undertake and coordinate clinical and public health laboratory services needed to support the implementation of the Uganda National Minimum Health Care Package,
- To provide for the purpose and functions of modern and high-technology reference laboratory services with international standards that will address the challenge of testing specimens for complex diagnostic and forensic purposes.

FEATURED STORIES

- UNHLS Laboratory facility accredited by SANAS
- Creating awareness about sickle cell disease testing through the Kabaka birthday run of 2017



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
Center for Global Health

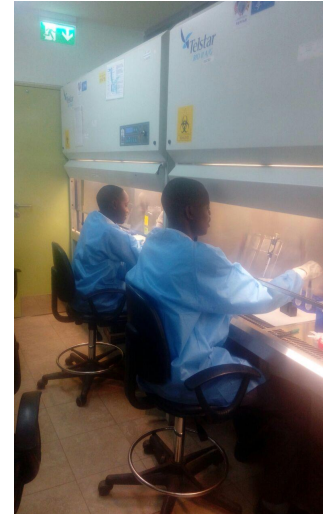
Editorial Opinion

Welcome to our February laboratory news series. With an aim of increasing laboratory information dissemination, sharing and usage with stakeholders in the health sector and general public, you are informed about the Katikiro of Buganda, Owek. Peter Mayiga calling for a concerted effort in scaling up interventions against sickle cell disease among Ugandans “I urge upon all men of Buganda to spearhead the fight against sickle cell disease and go for premarital testing and screening” Owek. Mayiga urged. Currently, 33,000 babies are born annually with the disease of which, 80% die before the age of 5 years. The statistics call for fast intervention through promoting sickle cells screening at birth and at all stages. UNHLS is having the capacity to conduct sickle screening at all stages.

Kasuse Michael
MakSPH – CDC Fellow

UNHLS LABORATORY FACILITY ACCREDITED BY SANAS

Effective 02nd February 2017, the Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL) facility of UNHLS attained SANAS competence for a defined scope and the operation of a quality management system in Medical Testing Laboratory Molecular Virology. The South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) is a nationally and internationally recognized body to carry out conformity assessment of laboratory facilities and recognize their competences including knowledge, skills and ability to provide laboratory services. The tedious 5-stage accreditation process became a milestone to UNHLS mandate of providing for the purpose and functions of modern and high-technology reference laboratory services with international standards that will address the challenge of testing specimens for complex diagnostic and forensic purposes. **By Isaac Sewanyana, Lab Manager, UNHLS**



Other activities

- Hepatitis B testing algorithm was developed by the hepatitis B Viral Load technical Team from UNHLS Butabika on 17th February 2017. UNHLS with limited funding, started screening for Hep.B viral load where selected places are referring samples including; Gulu, Maracha, Arua, Soroti and Mulago. Information by **Kasone Viola, Laboratory Scientist, UNHLS.**
- There was UMLTA stakeholders meeting at UNHLS on 28th February 2017, to review CPD training materials with the consultant. UMLTA and UNHLS will be implementing a CPD program supported by ASLM to equip lab professionals with new skills and to obtain credit units for obtaining renewed practicing licensing from AHPC. **By Atwikirize Dorothy, Laboratory Technologist, UNHLS.**

On-going activities

- OBS and GYN Medical Camp at UNHLS in March 2017

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