

REPORT ON FIC GHANA'S CPA AWARENESS SEMINAR ON WORLD ASPERGILLOSIS DAY

Creating awareness of serious fungal infections (SFI) is important for increased attention and improved diagnosis and treatment. Fungal Infections Care Ghana (FIC Ghana) intends to achieve this through its series of awareness seminars and other programs.

In commemoration of World Aspergillosis Day, FIC Ghana organized its maiden awareness seminar on “Considering Chronic Pulmonary Aspergillosis (CPA) for improved Tuberculosis (TB) management”. The goal of the meeting was to inform all stakeholders and implore them to act.

The seminar was organized in collaboration with the Medical Journalists Association of Ghana (MJAG) on Friday, 1st February, 2019 at the Korle –Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra, Ghana. It was supported by AdvansMyco Konsult, European Confederation of Medical Mycology (ECMM), Amfree Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Global Action Fund for Fungal infections (GAFFI). There were also donations from Dr Solomon Ayensu, Prof David Denning, Prof Malcolm Richardson and Mrs. Emelia Ayensu.

The meeting had 82 attendees from 4 regions (Greater Accra, Volta, Central and Ashanti) comprising clinicians, microbiologists, medical laboratory scientists, nurses, pharmacists, allied healthcare practitioners, health sciences students and non-health care professionals. Unfortunately, there were few clinicians as majority had wanted the meeting to have CPD credits.

The meeting lasted for about 3 hours. It started at 2:05 pm with an opening prayer by Dr George Pesewu followed by the Chairperson address by Dr Jane Afriyie-Mensah (Head, Chest Diseases Unit, KBTH) and welcome address by Mr Bright Ocansey (President, FIC Ghana) respectively.

There were two presentations at the seminar from very experienced and distinguished speakers. The first presentation titled “CPA: A cause of smear negative TB and/or TB treatment failure” by Dr Rita Oladele

The second presentation titled “CPA: clinical spectrum, diagnosis and treatment” by Prof David Denning. This was delivered via a pre-recorded video.

Each presentation was followed by a GAFFI video. The seminar ended with a closing prayer by an attendee and the Chairpersons closing remarks. There was a reception and photography session. Dr Rita Oladele, Dr Jane Afriyie-Mensah and Mr. Bright Ocansey granted interview to present media houses United Television Ghana and Citi FM.

GAFFI, LIFE and Aspergillus website booklets were given to attendees and encouraged to visit their sites for teaching and learning materials and take the free Fungal Microscopy and Histology e-learning course.





