**Ministry of Health, Uganda**

**Uganda National Health Laboratory Services**

**Central Public Health Laboratories**

**Minutes for the Meeting of the Launch of the Hydroxyurea study**

***Held Monday, 22th January 2018, at UNHLS Executive Boardroom, at 12:30***

**Agenda**

1. Prayer,
2. Introductions
3. Welcome Remarks by ED, UNHLS – Dr. Susan Nabadda
4. Communication from Dr Opoka Bob
5. Open Discussion

6. AOB

**MIN 1: PRAYER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 12:Dr. Nanyeenya Nicholas, followed by self-introductions (see attendance list attached), led 45 pm. Prayer*.*

**MIN 2: WELCOME REMARKS -** Dr. Susan Nabadda, Executive Director UNHLS

* Welcomed all members
* Informed members about the request made by the Hon. Minister that there was need to launch the HU study
* Welcomed Dr. Opoka to give a brief about the study and what he expects the event to be like.

**MIN 4: Dr Opoka**

* Explained that the HU study was a success in a malaria endemic place and that the study was completed and published. What is needed now was to be launched in Uganda publically. Once The MoH does this, it can then be put on the essential drug list.

There was open discussion on how this event will be like and several suggestions were made from the different members.

It was suggested that there will be two meetings. The inner scientific meeting, and the outside meeting for the community

On the issue of who should attend the inner (scientific) meeting; these are the suggested people. The team that carried out the study, Researchers, Regional Referral Directors, Parliamentary Health Committee, DHO Committee, Presidents/Chairpersons for specialised groups like The President of the Association of Peadtricians, Private Hospital Association, Pharmaceutical society, Ministers of Health from Buganda, and Busoga Kingdoms, Heads of Nsambya, Lubaga, and Mengo hospitals, NDA, NMS, WHO and heads of the Medical schools ( Makerere, Mulago, Mbarara, Busitema, Kabale, Nkozi and Ggulu.

For the community, it was suggested that, those who participated in the study be called and these will give testimonies.

Other people who directly affected with sickle cell too, and these can be invited through media and through the Civil society organisations of sickle cell.

**Venue**; several suggestions were made, Makerere University( but with this venue, Mr Kiyaga told us of the challenges they faced with the University during the launch of the US3 survey), UNHLS, this was also suggested but another idea was brought that we try to get a mutual place like a hotel. Ms Tracy Nagawa of Uganda Sickle Cell Rescue Foundation promised to talk to BMK about getting a place at Hotel Africana. She promised to get back to us by Wednesday.

**Media** ; It was suggested that there will be a media brief/ press conference and as it was suggested that as much as possible, we should try to avoid undesignated persons answering the media. The Hon Minister, Mr Kiyaga the National Coordinator and Dr Opoka will be the only persons to handle the media questions. We will let our PRO (MoH) to liaise with the media housed and call the media.

Date; 22/Feb/2017 was suggested

Time; 9am - 12 noon for the scientific meeting and the community one can go on until evening

Other Activities to be carried out, general screening, parents / patients advice on management and home care, testimonies, linkages to management and care centres.

Action points. 1. Evelyn and Dr Nicholas to sit and come up with the invitation list.

2. Follow up with the Hon Minister and discuss with the about the proposed date of the launch.

**CLOSURE**

The ED once again thanked all the members for coming and the next meeting will be on the 30th/ Jan/ 2018 at Noon.

**Secretary Chairperson**

**Date Date**