

## **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD HEARING DAY 2017 IN BENIN CITY, EDO STATE, NIGERIA**

### **OUTLINE**

1. CLEARANCE
2. PERMISSIONS
3. WORLD HEARING DAY EVENTS AT NIGERIAN TELEVISION AUTHORITY  
(NTA) AND INDEPENDENT TELEVISION AND RADIO (ITV) BENIN CITY
  - A. POWER POINT PRESENTATION
  - B. ADMINISTRATION OF QUESTIONNAIRE
  - C. FREE EAR EXAMINATION
4. VIDEO CLIP OF ITV EVENTS AND THE POWER POINT PRESENTATION
5. EXTENDED PROGRAMME ON WORLD HEARING DAY  
(3RD MARCH 2017 TO 31ST MARCH 2017)
6. VISION AND MISSION OF THE WORLD HEARING DAY PROGRAMME
7. RESULTS OF THE WORLD HEARING DAY PROGRAMME
8. IMPACT OF THE WORLD HEARING DAY PROGRAMME
9. RECOMMENDATIONS
10. CONCLUSION

Clearance was obtained from the Head, Ear Nose and Throat, Head and Neck (ENT) Department of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH) and the Trainer of Trainers of ENT Department, UBTH, Prof. Ogisi F.O., on the proposed activities of the World Hearing Day.

Permissions were given by the authorities of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) Benin branch, Independent Television and Radio (ITV) Iguosa Benin City, God is good Motors Transport Company Ugbowo branch Benin City and the De Modern Transport Company Benin City. Permission was also obtained from the Managing Director Hope Hospital, Costain Road Benin City for sponsorship and platform for the World Hearing Day programme. The authority of Echos Hospital, Technical College Road Benin City, gave permission to carry out free ear examination in the hospital.

On the World Hearing Day, 3rd of March 2017, the NTA and ITV media houses, following the notification on the World Hearing Day, went into the field and sensitized the communities and general public, interviewing them on awareness of the World Hearing Day and Ear Specialists. ITV also conducted interviews at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital.

Power point presentation on the World Hearing Day was delivered to the staff and management of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) Benin branch, Independent Television and Radio (ITV) Iguosa Benin City at their conference rooms respectively following the outline:

- INTRODUCTION
- THEME FOR THE WORLD HEARING DAY 2017
- THE EAR
- COMMON EAR CONDITIONS/ DISEASES
- HEARING LOSS
- ACTION FOR HEARING LOSS
- MAKE A SOUND INVESTMENT.
- CONCLUSION

Self administered interviewer questionnaires were completed by the World Hearing Day programme team, comprising Dr Akpalaba I.O., (Consultant ENT Surgeon) and two ENT Resident doctors of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Dr Blackie F.F. and Dr Ndulue.

Free ear examinations were carried out on the staff of the media houses who wishes to have their ears examined.

There was extended programme to mark the World Hearing Day. This was carried out from the 3rd of March 2017 to the 31st of March 2017 at the God is Good Motors transport company (GIGM), De Modern transport company, Hope hospital and Echos Hospital.

The activities of the extended programme included power point presentation to the staff and drivers of the transport companies respectively.

Self administered interviewer questionnaires and free ear examinations were also carried out on those who were willing.

Free ear examination was declared and observed in Hope hospital and Echos hospital within the period (3rd of March 2017 to the 31st of March 2017).

The vision of the world hearing day programme was “that all may hear better” while the Mission was “to reach out to all around you.”

The Result of the world hearing day programme is as follows: 106 individuals participated in the entire world hearing day awareness programme; out of which, 50 (47.2%) attended the world hearing day programme on the 3rd of March 2017, while 56 (52.8%) individuals attended the extended world hearing day programme (from 3rd March 2017 to 31st March 2017).

Of the 106 participants, 81 (76.4%) individuals willingly had their ears examined, making a total of 162 ears examined.

Abnormalities were found in 100 (61.7%) ears, viz:

- \* Dull tympanic membrane in 52 (32.1%) ears, suggestive of Otitis Media with Effusion (OME)
- \* Retracted tympanic membrane in 8 (4.9%) ears, suggestive of Eustachian Tube Dysfunction (ETD)
- \* Hyperemic tympanic membrane in 17 (10.5%) ears suggestive of Otitis Media (OM)
- \* Perforated tympanic membrane in 2 (1.2%) ears suggestive of Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media (CSOM)
- \* Neomembrane in the tympanic membrane in 2 (1.2 %) ears suggestive of resolving CSOM
- \* Impacted Wax in 16 (10.0%) ears suggestive of Cerumen Auris
- \* Fungal Hyphae in 1 (0.6%) ear suggestive of Otomycosis
- \* Desquamated canal epithelium overlying ulcerated posterior canal wall with granulomas in 1 (0.6%) ear suggestive of Keratosis Obturans
- \* Bubbles behind the tympanic membrane in 1 (0.6%) ear suggestive of Otitis Media with Effusion (OME)

These individuals with abnormal findings in their ears were referred to Health facilities with Ear Nose and Throat Specialist services in Benin City.

From this programme, only 46 (43.3%) participants were aware of ear specialist services and the information was mostly through friends, 25(23.5%).

The World Hearing Day created an avenue to reach out to communities with busy and tight schedules at their work places. Through this platform, ear diseases and abnormalities were detected and the individuals were informed on how to go about them. The health talk Power point presentation informed the individuals on how to prevent hearing loss by observing good ear and hearing care. Even when there was already a hearing loss, they had then known that it could be treated and subsequently rehabilitated. It was then made known to the individuals to invest for their hearing and to go for ear checkups regularly. General awareness on ear and hearing care and the availability of ear specialist services was created.

Only 46 (43.3%) participants were aware of ear specialist services reflecting poor awareness of the masses. Ear specialists and their allied workers are enjoined to intensify awareness programmes.

Abnormalities were found in 100 (61.7%) ears out of 162 examined ears, buttressing the need for more community services.

Employers and policy makers should make and emphasize policies such as pre-employment and regular ear checkups respectively, which will encourage good ear and hearing care.

Government and corporate organizations should encourage, support and sponsor programmes and researches on ear care, hearing care and hearing losses.

In conclusion, awareness programmes should be intensified to prevent, improve, treat and rehabilitate hearing loss in our societies and worldwide.

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