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MINISTRY OF HEALTH

OVERVIEW OF BREAST CANCER SCREENING & EARLY DIAGNOSIS ACTION PLAN 2021 - 2025

VIRTUAL DISSEMINATION MEETINGS

DIVISION OF NATIONAL CANCER CONTROL PROGRAM

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Introduction

- Breast cancer is the leading type of cancer in incidence in Kenya accounting for 16.1% of all cancers.
- An estimated 6,799 cases were diagnosed in 2020, compared to 5,985 new cases in 2018.
- Deaths due to breast cancer also rose from 2,553 in 2018 to 3,107 in 2020, making it the second-leading cause of all cancer deaths in the country (GLOBOCAN,2020).
- Breast cancer affects women earlier in Kenya, in the prime of their lives, mostly between the ages of 35 to 45 years.
- 68% diagnosed at late stages when it is more difficult to achieve a cure resulting in low overall survival rates.

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METHODOLOGY

- Breast Cancer Screening Pilot in Nyeri County Oct-Nov 2019; report
- National Breast Cancer TWG constituted
- Desktop reviews done to identify available breast cancer action plans locally, regionally and globally.
- Relevant research publications, existing international breast cancer screening action plans as per recommended by WHO.
- Local context was considered and expert opinion employed where there was paucity of evidence.
- Workshops and various virtual meetings conducted
- Internal and external validation process
- External review and Launch on 22/10/21 in Nakuru County

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Layout of the Breast Cancer Action Plan

- Chapter One – Introduction and Background
- Chapter Two – Situational Analysis
- Chapter Three – Breast Cancer Screening & Early Diagnosis
- Chapter Four – Strategic actions in establishing a breast cancer screening and implementation framework.

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Chapter Five - Monitoring and evaluation



Chapter 1 – Introduction & background

- Highlights breast cancer as the leading type of cancer in incidence both globally and in Kenya
- Late diagnosis being the current scenario as about 68% of all breast cancer cases in Kenya are diagnosed in advanced stages.
- Why Breast cancer screening is important
- Breast cancer screening in men: awareness and early diagnosis is key
- The epidemiological basis and policy framework of breast cancer screening is highlighted in this chapter

Reference made to the National Cancer Screening Guidelines 2018 and National Cancer Treatment Protocols 2019.

Chapter 2: Situational Analysis

- Outlines the current situation of the capacity of the various health systems building blocks in supporting breast cancer early detection in Kenya.
- In particular, this chapter focuses on the findings and lessons from the breast cancer screening pilot conducted in 2019, including recommendations.
- Highlights current capacity for breast cancer screening- utilization of digital screening mammography provided under MES as generally low due to-:
 - Insufficient trained specialists (radiographers & radiologists)
 - Lack of awareness among the population about the availability of mammography services,
 - Cost limitations for clients.

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Chapter 2 – Breast Cancer Screening & Early Diagnosis Action Plan

- Describes the approach and the rationale for the Action Plan.
- An evidence synthesis section is provided as well as various algorithms are provided, including early detection, breast lump diagnosis, axillary node management and universal breast cancer pathway.
- Five (5) key result areas namely;
 - Governance and Policy;
 - Demand creation and community education and engagement;
 - Training and professional development;
 - Service delivery and
 - Monitoring and evaluation framework and research

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Chapter 4: Strategic actions in establishing breast cancer and implementation framework

- Outlines the proposed strategic interventions in establishing breast cancer screening, which includes essential supplies and human resource needs for various screening and diagnostic approaches.
- An implementation matrix, with proposed activities, sub-activities, key performance indicators, responsible entities and time-frame is also included.
- Concept of Rapid Diagnostic Breast Clinic for symptomatic women is introduced including proposed services and personnel

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Chapter 5: Monitoring and evaluation

- Describes the monitoring and evaluation framework for the action plan, with three levels of indicators: process, outcome and impact.
- This chapter also includes the breast cancer screening targets for the period 2021-2025, both at national and county levels.
- Key performance indicators and data sources are described

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ANNEXES

- The **annexes** section of the action plan includes:
 - ❖ Overview of the distribution of the digital mammography equipment provided under the Managed Equipment Scheme in Kenya where all the forty-seven (47) county referral facilities received the equipment.
 - ❖ An algorithm adapted from the World Health Organization Package of Essential Non-Communicable (PEN) protocol for assessment and Referral for women with suspected breast cancer at primary health care
 - ❖ Costing of the Breast Cancer Action Plan is also included where it will cost approximately KES 4.7B to effectively implement it with majority of costs (KES 2.8B) going into service delivery especially setting up infrastructure for COEs, RDUs and histopathology as well as commodities and supplies for Breast Cancer

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A CALL TO ACTION

Joint collaboration in implementation of the Breast Cancer Action Plan 2021-2025 towards reducing the Breast Cancer burden in Kenya.



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