

USAID MEDICINES, TECHNOLOGIES, AND PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES (MTaPS) PROGRAM

Improved Access. Improved Services. Better Health Outcomes.

Approaches and Tools for Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems

Kamuzu University of Health Sciences

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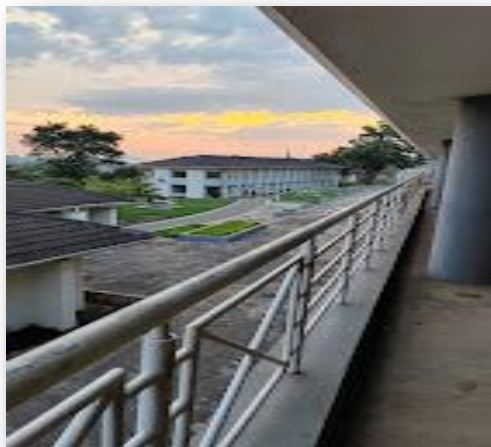


**KAMUZU
UNIVERSITY**
OF HEALTH SCIENCES



Who We Are- Overview of Kamuzu University Of Health Sciences

- Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS) is a comprehensive health and allied sciences higher learning public institution
- The aim of the University is to impart knowledge and produce transferable skills through teaching and learning, research, consultancy and application of knowledge, skills and aptitudes to meet professional needs of society at national, regional and global levels.
- The University specifically trains health professionals such as nurses, midwives, medical doctors, pharmacists, physiotherapists, nutritionists and biomedical scientists/lab technologists at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- <https://www.kuhes.ac.mw/>



What We Do - In Pharmaceutical Systems Strengthening (PSS)

- In addition to being a high leaning institution, the institution is also involved in various projects including Pharmacovigilance.
- Pharmacovigilance was started in Malawi in 2016 with help from Glaxo Smith Kline(GSK) under the Pharmacovigilance Enhancement in Sub-Saharan Africa
- This is done in conjunction with National drug regulator, Pharmacy and Medicines Regulatory Authority (PMRA)
- The institution is a host of the Southern Region PV center
- Roles include;
 - Conducting in-service and preservice training on PV principles and reporting of health care workers
 - Collecting reports of suspected adverse events from health workers
 - Contributing to the WHO PV database by committing reported and assessed adverse events report

Particular PSS Gaps We See

- Lack of knowledge among health care workers and the general public on Pharmacovigilance
- Lack of staff that help in collecting and sending reports to the Pharmacovigilance center
- Limited expertise for causality assessment.
- Ineffective integration of PV into public health programs.
- Delayed transmission of Adverse Events reports, Need for electronic reporting

Tools and Approaches We Use

- Training of Pharmacovigilance focal personnel in the hospitals
- Having review meetings to see the progress after trainings
- Following up with Pharmacovigilance focal personnel to collect individual case reports
- Conducting workshops with the media to stress the importance of reporting adverse drug reactions.
- Training of people across Malawi to be training health care cadres on how to collect pharmacovigilance data.
- Individual case report forms
- An online reporting tool-not effective

Resources

- <https://www.kuhes.ac.mw/>
- <https://www.pmra.mw/>
- THANK YOU

