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Visie

Die Roel Kruis Oorlogsgezond-
hosptaal vir Kinders streel daar-
na om 'n leier te wees in gespe-
sialiseerde gesondheidsorg vir
kinders in Afrika.

Missie

Om 'n toonaangewende na-
sonale spesialisatkinderhospita-
te wees wat gehaltesorg aan
ons klènte lever en die grense
van kindergesondheid, wat ons
op prys stel, verskuif.

Ceo’s message

We ended year 2010 at Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital on a sad note with the sudden death of Professor Cas Motala who has played an invaluable role as a specialist in the Allergy Department for the last thirty years.

He was recognised for his expertise in allergy nationally and internationally. He will always be remembered at RCWMCH for his politeness, professionalism, ethical values, hard work and commitment.

During the “de-escalation” period which was from mid December up to end of first week of January our theatres were quite busy mainly from emergency operations.

After the long break from December holidays I hope we all come back with refreshed minds and new resolutions for the incoming year.

The Diarrhoeal Seasons (November to March) is a challenging time for RCWMCH because of the increased workload in our Emergency Centre and Rehydration Unit due to escalating diarrhoeal patients numbers from year to year.

Since the beginning of the Diarrhoea Season (November) less diarrhoea patients are seen in comparison with the previous years during the same period. This could be the results of the comprehensive Diarrhoeal Season Intervention Plan which was implemented in 2010 which was based on active participation of all role-players and inter-sectoral collaboration.

As we move towards the end of financial year 2010/11 we have to ensure that:

• All the budget for the current year is spent.
• All equipment purchased in 2010 is delivered by end March 2011.
• All payments are done by end March.
• The hospital is ready for an audit.

Diarrhoeal Disease admissions are declining

The number of children being admitted for Diarrhoeal Disease has declined dramatically since diarrhoea season started in October last year.

There have been 962 admissions for diarrhoeal disease from October until February. This is 339 admissions less than the 1301 children who were admitted during the same period last year.

This is a reduction of at least 26%.

The decline is a clear indication that the preventative initiatives being implemented across the province are working.

Vaccinations saves lives and rands

Immunisation is one of the most cost effective health interventions. That’s why hundreds of children, who presented at Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital, were vaccinated against flu during the Western Cape Department of Health’s recent influenza immunisation campaign. The campaign started in February and will continue until May.

Parents were encouraged to take their children to several points in the hospital for flu vaccinations. An average of 20 children are being vaccinated daily. Since the start of the campaign about 600 children have been vaccinated at RCWMCH. According to the National Health Department’s fact sheet about immunisation, vaccination protects not only the individual but curbs the spread of disease in the community.

“Immunisation is safe and getting safer and more effective as a result of medical research and ongoing review by medical scientists,” the fact sheet states.

“Immunisation is given to keep people healthy and to prevent diseases.

“The number of vaccines recommended for the Expanded Programme on Immunisation has increased; as a result children are now protected from more infectious diseases than before.”
How clean are your hands?

Frequent hand washing is one of the best ways to avoid getting sick and spreading illness.

Diarrhoea, flu, conjunctivitis and cold sores are only a few of the diseases that are spread by touch.

Washing your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds kills most micro-organisms.

Within half an hour, most people touch between 20 to 50 objects.

Micro-organisms can spread and grow on your hands within 10 minutes of touching an object.

One square centimetre of skin can carry about one million micro-organisms.

At the beginning of each shift everyone needs to wash their hands and forearms for at least one minute. Hands should also be washed between each patient contact, after using the bathroom, after exposure to bodily fluids and after touching patient surroundings.

Alcohol-based sanitisers are very effective and also come in pocket-sized containers.

At the end of each shift everyone needs to wash their hands and forearms for at least one minute. Hands should also be washed between each patient contact, after using the bathroom, after exposure to bodily fluids and after touching patient surroundings.

CU nurse Tennille Peregrino recently completed a Critical Care Child course with flying colours.

Professional Nurse (PN) Peregrino received the Postgraduate Award for the Highest Academic Achievement among all the post graduate diploma students.

She also received the Critical Care Award for attaining the highest academic achievement among the five other Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital Nurses who took part in the course. The Critical Care Child course is a one year course, which is run by UCT, at Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital only.

Information update

Luza kakhule uphuculo IweWadi C2

Uwathiwo ngaphakathi kwWadi C2 (yabaTshiyo) iyendziwa kwaye kulindileke ukuba igqiywwe ngosSeptembenza.

Iwadi entsha iya kususwa kufakwe eye-aluminiyam. Ekunene ukuwa ngasentha: Imigubasi yokhuni iya kususwa kufakwe eye-aluminiyam. Udonga olungasekhohlo IweWadi wadi, olukwicala lasakhiwo i-ICH lwandiselwa ngasentshona ngakwisakhiwo ICH kuseniwza igumbe elithha lezinto ngezinto zakonwenzisa nezikulenzile.

Lyra kakhule uphuculo IweWadi C2

Udonga olungasekhohlo IweCandelo labaTshiyo lwandiselwa ngasentshona ngakwisakhiwo i-ICH kuseniwza igumbe elithha lezinto ngezinto zaphelela zola ezinto ngezinto zokonwenzisa nezikulenzile.

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Santa makes special pit stop

Santa visited some of the staff’s children and grandchildren on December 24, during a special pit stop. Santa Claus - aka Rozar for the other 364 days of the year - delivered gifts and party packets during a special party.

American baseballer visits oncology ward

American baseballer CJ Wilson, who is a pitcher for the Texas Rangers, visited patients at the oncology unit during his holiday in Cape Town.

Wilson, who has an interest in haemophilia, visited the hospital as a guest of the Haemophilia Foundation, which works closely with the haemophilia clinic in the oncology ward.

Wilson interacted with the patients and gave them Texas Rangers baseball caps and T-shirts.

He also visited a patient in ward D1 who had undergone surgery the day before. The young baseballer had been looking forward to attending Wilson’s baseball clinic at Athlone Stadium that morning but had been involved in a motor vehicle accident a few days earlier.

Wilson gave her an autographed baseball cap.

Idol winner visits hospital

Idols 2010 winner Elvis Blue visited Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital in February. The singer, who has an interest in children’s health, visited Ward B2 and G1 and interacted with several children. Some of his fans in G1 could not resist the opportunity to be photographed with the singer. He is pictured with Christena, left, and Alaneska, above.

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Stakeholders and partners

Media messages:
Childsafe gave 20 media interviews leading up to the Festive Season. The message had two main themes:
• Supervise your children at all times, and
• Buckle up all passengers when travelling by car to prevent serious injuries.

Orientation
The Nursing Education Department invited Childsafe staff to participate in the Orientation Programme for newly graduated Community Nurses in January 2011.

Candle in a jar:
Safer Candle Project demonstrations, given in the OPD waiting areas, resumed when clinics opened 10 January. As before, the receptive audience was keen to participate. Childsafe are grateful for the help given by overseas student volunteers who come to us via the Friends organisation.

Website:
The Childsafe website received an average of 2,500 hits a day worldwide last year.
The Children’s Hospital Trust is Expanding

In 2011 the Children’s Hospital Trust will continue to assist the Hospital, as it has done for the past 17 years by raising funding to address the many pressing needs at the Hospital. This year the Trust will also be expanding its funding reach to projects beyond the Hospital’s doors within the Western Cape, which will broadly impact paediatric healthcare and indirectly impact patient outcomes and services to the Hospital.

The first Trust expanded-reach fundraising project is equipping four METRO Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ambulances with additional specialist paediatric equipment. This will improve EMS pre-hospital and inter-hospital services rendered to Neonate and Infant patients in the Western Cape Province.

The Children’s Hospital Trust’s new vision is “to assist the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital by funding their identified priority capital, equipment research and training projects, while funding projects beyond the Hospital’s doors, which impact paediatric healthcare in the Western Cape”.

Important Questions

Will the Trust still be fundraising for the Hospital’s needs? Without question the Hospital remains the main focus of the work of the Trust and always will do.

Will the Hospital’s needs or the new projects take preference? The Hospital’s needs will remain the Trust’s first priority. The additional paediatric facilities cannot function optimally if the Hospital is not on a par with current medical standards. The priority of projects at the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital is set by Hospital Management and by the Provincial Government of the Western Cape (PGWC) and will continue to be so.

How did the Trust select the additional projects? Research conducted by the Children’s Hospital Trust into the gaps in paediatric healthcare confirmed that needs exist outside of the Hospital’s doors which require funding ranging from paediatric safety education to child rehabilitation.

How will the Trust select future projects in the Western Cape? The Trust will continue to identify specific areas of need within paediatric care in the Western Cape which it will consider for future funding. The Trust will select areas of need in consultation with Hospital Administration and the University of Cape Town where it feels it could make the most significant impact in the short and long term and will not accept external proposals at this stage.

How will the Trust ensure the projects are maintained and sustainable? The Trust receives undertakings from Provincial Government to ensure the sustainability and continuation of all Hospital projects undertaken. The Trust will enforce the same agreement with governing bodies (government, NGO or private) for all projects outside of the Hospital.

For more information on the Children’s Hospital Trust visit www.childrenshospitaltrust.org.za and follow us on www.facebook.com/childrenshospitaltrust

Fundraising for the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital and Paediatric Healthcare in the Western Cape