

ANNUAL REPORT

HAROLD AND ETHEL PUPKEWITZ HEART FOUNDATION (NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED UNDER SECTION 21)

(Reg No: 21/2012/0013)

14 October 2014

1. INTRODUCTION

The Harold and Ethyl Pupkewitz Heart Foundation was established in 2011 by the late Harold Pupkewitz to support research into heart disease in Namibian children. This is the Annual Report for 2014.

2. DIRECTORS

- a. Mr Tom Alweendo, Chairman
- b. Dr Salomo Amadhila
- c. Mrs Meryl Barry
- d. Dr Henning du Toit
- e. Dr Christopher Hugo-Hamman, Public Officer

3. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- a. The audited annual financial statement ending 28 February 2014 prepared by SGA Chartered Accountants is presented for approval. Retained income and equity at 28 February 2014 was N\$ 989 047.00.
- b. Balance as at 14 October 2014 is N\$ 393 364 in our current account and N\$ 700 669.91 in a money market account both at First National Bank Namibia (total N\$ 1 093 364.91) and reflects a deposit from RHD GEN of N\$ 228 401.28.

4. ACTIVITIES

a. Namibian Registry for Rheumatic Heart Disease

The HEPHF supports research done by the Namibian Registry for Rheumatic Heart Disease. Data has now been obtained on 385 patients with Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD). Patients have been recruited from the RHD Clinic at Windhoek Central Hospital but also on outreach visits undertaken by the Registry team, to Oshakati and Rundu Intermediate Hospitals.

The first 283 patients are part of the Global Registry for RHD which is a pan-African collaboration reporting on over 3000 patients. The results from the global registry were recently reported at the annual meeting of the European Cardiology Society. The results of the Namibian sub-study will be presented at the annual meeting of the Association of European Paediatric Cardiology in May 2015 and published thereafter.

b. Welcome H3 Africa RHD GEN

Based on performance through the Global Registry (REMEDY) in 2012 we were co-applicants, with the University of Cape Town, in an

application to the Wellcome Foundation to extend the Global Registry to study the genetics of RHD. This application was successful and we are now one of 7 centres participating in RHD GEN H3Africa. The question explored in the study is, "which genes are responsible for increasing or decreasing the risks for developing RHD". This is the biggest grant ever given to RHD research and is an important African collaboration.

The first funding has been received into our account from RHD Africa. This supports the work of 2 study nurses and the laboratory assistants.

The HEPHF will provide additional financial support to the project including consulting costs of the Principal Investigator, financial management and research administration (approved in February 2014). The RHD GEN Namibian sub-study was successfully launched with the first 7 patients on 7 October 2014.

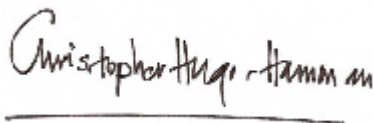
5. PUBLIC LAUNCH OF THE HEPHF

Under the Chair of Mr Tom Alweendo, a public launch for HEPHF was successfully held in Windhoek on the 23 March 2014. The Minister of Health, the Hon Dr Richard Kamwi was the guest speaker. Minister Kamwi used the occasion to acknowledge the important work done by the research team and most significantly, launch a national Programme for the Prevention and Control of Rheumatic Heart Disease.

The launch assisted efforts to build a coalition of support for heart disease research in general and RHD awareness and prevention in particular.

6. CONCLUSION

The HEPHF continues to make an invaluable contribution to heart disease research in Namibia. However, the contribution goes far beyond clinical research into the realm of public health and policy development. Without the research into RHD the national programme for prevention and control would never have been launched. The presentation of the Namibian data and the roll-out of RHD GEN means another busy year ahead for the study team and fulfillment of the HEPHF mandate namely, supporting heart research in Namibia.



Christopher Hugo Hamman

C T HUGO-HAMMAN
Public Officer, HEPHF

Signed at Roman Catholic Hospital 2 December 2013