

Living Hope

HIMM 2019 World Diabetes Day Press Release

In response to the growing threat posed by Diabetes around the world, the International Diabetes Federation and the World Health Organization designate November of every year to create awareness about the dangers of the disease.

The awareness, which includes a set of activities and campaigns, draws attention to the diabetes world and keeps it firmly in the public and political spotlight. This is being marked on November 14 every year in remembrance of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered Insulin with Charles Best in 1922.

To this effect, Horizon International Medical Mission (HIMM) has joined forces with other groups to raise awareness of the dreaded silent killer - Diabetes.

The theme of this year's Diabetes Awareness month - Family and Diabetes, aims at raising the consciousness of the impact diabetes has on family and support network of those involved and the need to promote the role of the family in the management, care, prevention and education of Diabetes.

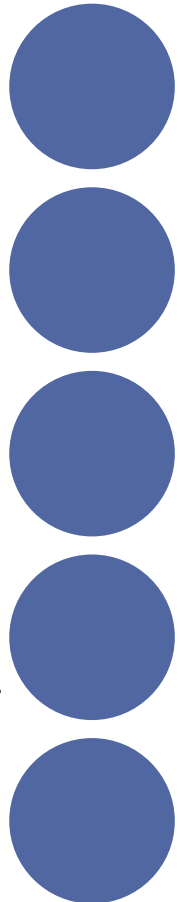
According to UN research, 1 in 2 adults with diabetes is undiagnosed. This is concerning because type 2 diabetes, which is the most common form of the condition and is the prognosis of about 90% of all diabetic cases, has milder symptoms.

Therefore, families are encouraged to learn more about the warning signs and risk factors. This is necessary, given the fact that problems associated with the disease when left untreated could lead to life-threatening complications like blindness, amputation, kidney failure, heart attack, and stroke.

HIMM calls on the government and individuals to play an active role in fighting the disease. The government should make healthcare accessible, available, and affordable to all. Our rural health centers should be equipped with simple glucometers and test strips for proper screening and early diagnosis of diabetes. There is also a need for subsidization of medication for poor populations as well as regular eye examinations.

It is also a wake-up call to health care providers, health ministries, parastatals, and agencies to beef up awareness.

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“Touching the World with Medicine”

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Mission Statement: With compassion, we heal, teach and preach.

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