

RVTH

RoyalVictoriaTeachingHospital

PRESS RELEASE:

Banjul, 6th July 2004

Pharmacy Drug Donations to RVTH

The Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital wishes to thank two of its partners in the pharmacy sector, Imres Gambia and Stop Step Pharmacy, for recent donations to RVTH. These donations were prompted by the appeal made by RVTH at the Ward Sponsors meeting it convened on 17th June 2004 for drugs and other consumable supplies to allow it to continue to deliver a quality healthcare service during the impending malaria season.

Imres Gambia donated drugs and other supplies worth approximately D100,000, which will be quickly used during the rainy season. Stop Step Pharmacy's donation was worth over D26,000. RVTH highly values its relationship with these donors and hopes that its mutually beneficial relationship with them will continue.

Mr Baboucarr Ngum, RVTH Public Relations Officer, said "I am delighted to accept such generous donations from our colleagues in the commercial pharmacy sector. They have immediately responded to our appeal in June for these drugs and I can assure both them and the public that these donations will immediately be put to good use."

In line with its transition to Teaching Hospital status, RVTH has recently published best practice guidelines on drug donations. These are available on its website www.rvth.dosh.gm. RVTH would like its donors to ensure that drug donations comply with the following:-

- Have at least six months left before the expiry date
- Should not be medicines that have been returned from patients
- Should not be professional samples
- Should be unopened or complete packs
- Should be approved for use by the recipient country
- Ideally should be on The Gambian or WHO essential drug list
- Are labelled in an identifiable language

RVTH wishes once more to put on record its gratitude to its many generous drug donors, both in The Gambia and overseas. For the sake of its patients, RVTH looks forward to receiving further responses from its sponsors and partners to its appeal for drugs and other consumables.