

RVTH

Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital

PRESS RELEASE:

Banjul, 21st October 2004

MRC Chief Executive visits RVTH

On Wednesday 20th October 2004, Professor Colin Blakemore, the Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council (MRC) visited the Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital (RVTH). Prof Blakemore has responsibility for MRC's global activities, not only its work in The Gambia. He was accompanied by Dr Tumani Corrah, the Unit Director for MRC The Gambia and Professor David Warrell, a special adviser to the MRC Chief Executive.

The visitors were received by Dr Pamela Esangbedo, the RVTH Chief Medical Director, Dr Malick Njie, the Deputy Chief Medical Director and members of RVTH management. The Chief Medical Director underlined RVTH's importance to the work undertaken by MRC in The Gambia. RVTH provides a significant amount of clinical data, which supports studies and work undertaken by MRC. She expressed the hope that co-operation between the two organisations could be enhanced, to the undoubted benefit of both institutions.

Prof Blakemore thanked RVTH for the opportunity to see for himself the activities in which MRC are currently involved at RVTH and was shown the main areas of MRC/RVTH co-operation; the RVTH Paediatric Department, the RVTH Laboratory Services and the Medical Records Department.

Dr Corrah expressed the willingness of MRC to enhance its existing support to RVTH, within the constraints of MRC's mission as a research-focussed organisation.

Speaking after the visit, Dr Esangbedo said "It was a great pleasure to show Prof Blakemore the progress which has already been made at RVTH and to discuss ways in which MRC can benefit from this progress. RVTH already gains much from our relationship with MRC and I look forward to a future of ever closer co-operation, producing both world-class research and high quality healthcare, for the benefit of all Gambians."