

National Health Sciences Research Committee
Ministry of health
P.O. Box 30377
Lilongwe 3
Malawi

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LETTER FROM HARALDSPLOSS DEACONESS HOSPITAL

Haraldsplass Deaconess Hospital, Norway have had a collaboration with Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi since 2010. The first five years with exchange of health care personnel with focus on acute and critically ill patients and competence building. During this period, we saw the need for strengthening the competence on palliative care. In 2016 a project was established together with Hospice Lovisenberg, Norway and Nkhoma Mission Hospital. The focus is competence building and to make the distance between patients and hospital smaller. We also wanted to get in contact with master students from Centre for International Health (CIH), University of Bergen to do research on the progress of palliative care and to document the strengths and weakness of the implementation.

The need for palliative care in low-income countries is increasing due to increased life expectancy and CIH aims to contribute to an evidence base that can be used to improve healthcare.

Adeosun Olawale, a medical doctor and a master student at CIH will be looking into palliative care at primary level, both in the hospital and in home base care in Nkhoma. His supervisors from CIH who are responsible for the research will assist him. The findings from the study will contribute to knowledge about palliative care in rural district of Malawi.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Aina Therese Drengenes, Nurse

Coordinator of palliative care project

Haraldsplass Deaconess Hospital, Norway