Kenya National Retinoblastoma Strategy: A model for developing countries

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**INTRODUCTION**

Retinoblastoma has 98% optimized cure rate, but only 30% survival globally.

Kenyan mortality is 70% (Nyawira).

Daisy’s Eye Cancer Fund initiated multi-dimensional project in 2008 to optimize retinoblastoma care in Kenya.

“White reflex” seen early by parents; universal sign of retinoblastoma

**CHALLENGES**

- Early signs not understood by family, health workers
- Diagnosis delayed (Nyamori)
- Referral path obscure
- Poverty obstructs access to retinoblastoma care, treatments, follow-up
- Treatment resources limited (expertise, pathology, drugs, equipment, anaesthetic, radiotherapy)

**STRATEGY & IMPACT, 2008 - 2013**

Members: All concerned with retinoblastoma (doctors, nurses, social workers, child life specialists, IT specialists, governmental and non-governmental organizations, parents, volunteers, others)

**Care**
- Guidelines
- Pathology
- Equipment
- Artificial eyes

**Family support**
- Empowerment
- Child Life
- Parent Meeting
- Mentorship
- Kito House

**Awareness**
- White pupil
- Posters
- Booklets
- Media
- Education

**Resource mobilization**
- Collaboration
- Updates
- Local creativity
- Networking
- Training

**FUTURE**

- Fully implementation of strategy
- Replicate to other countries
- Build capacity for genetic counseling & molecular diagnosis
- Embed sustainability in health care

**THANKS**