

Uganda to host global health meet

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KAMPALA. Uganda will host the first ever international non-communicable diseases (NCDs) symposium aimed at discussing how health systems can facilitate research, prevention and care interventions.

Organised by Makerere University College of Sciences in partnership with the Health ministry, the symposium will take place from February 12 to February 15 at Speke Resort, Munyonyo, under the theme: "Building Momentum to address the growing epidemic of Non-Communicable Diseases in Africa."

The 2014 NCD burden survey by the Health ministry indicated that one in four Ugandans live with risk factors of non-communicable diseases, including heart diseases, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases.

Dr Henry Mwebesa, the acting Director General Of Health Services, said the symposium would inspire different stake holders to make a contribution towards the reduction of the burden of NCDs among the population as well as share best practices with experts.

"Efforts to raise awareness on NCDs and their risk factors is ongoing across the country and management of NCDs has been decentralised to Health Centre III level so that Ugandans can access services easily," Dr Mwebesa said.

PROGRAMME

More than 300 delegates from across the world are expected to attend the symposium that will be preceded by a free health camp and a February 9 walk.