

SERVICES ARE FREE EYE CHECK-UP AND FREE BLOOD TESTS FOR HIV, HEPATITIS B AND SUGAR LEVELS

By Carol Kasujja

"I heard about this camp on TV so I have escorted my husband to come and check his teeth. His teeth are very sensitive," said Alivera Mbabazi, a resident of Kisugu.

Mbabazi is among the hundreds of people turned up for a two-day health camp at the Railway Grounds in Kampala yesterday. The camp, which was organised by Vision Group and several health service providers will end today.

Services offered include breast and cervical cancer sensitisation and check-up which are being provided by International Hospital Kampala and the Uganda Women's Cancer Support Organisation.

Other services at the camp are free eye check-up, and free blood tests for HIV, Hepatitis B and sugar levels. Several service providers are also checking blood pressure, weight and giving free advice on healthy lifestyle.

Other services at the camp are Hepatitis B screening and vaccinated.

Those who test Hepatitis B negative are required to receive three Hepatitis B vaccines in a period of six months to achieve immunity of the virus and those who test positive are required to take suppression drugs for life.

Other services include cancer of the cervix screening. Leah Kasule, a counsellor at Uganda Cancer Institute, advised

Hundreds receive care Vision Group health

Betty Mugisa (right), from Kibuli gets her body pressure checked at the Vision Group health camp at the Railway Grounds yesterday
Photo by Miriam Namutebi



women to be faithful to their partners and stop inserting dirty objects in their vaginae.

"We have realised that so many women today insert dirty objects in their vaginae

to become tight and fight 'dryness' but these are some of the causes of cervical cancer. We are calling upon women to stop this habit and also be faithful to their partners. This

way, we shall end cervical cancer," Kasule, said.

Suzan Nsibirwa, the Vision Group head of marketing and communications, said: "The camp is for free and we are

calling upon everyone with a health problem and even those who want to get information about certain diseases to attend the camp. We also thank our partners."

Speaking at the event, Joseph Banyu the Vision Group corporate social responsibility (CSR) co-ordinator, said the move is aimed at bringing services closer to people.

"The society in which we live is our market for the different products, and through activities such as health camps, Vision Group gives back to them. We call upon all Ugandans within the Kampala Metropolitan area to come for the free health services," he said.

Daniel Ssebyala, a male nurse at Kisenyi Health Centre IV, said: "Most parents are not aware that their children have hearing problems, we are requesting people with children with such problems to come and get screened, we have the treatment."

Rita Kitandwa, a nursing officer at Mengo hospital sensitised the participants on the importance of knowing their blood groups and the importance of doing regular exercises.

This year's partners include CORSU Rehabilitation Hospital, Uganda Blood Transfusion Services, UMC Victoria Hospital, Uganda Cares, International Health Group, Taimex Nutrition Centre, Kays Dental Clinic, Aga Khan Hospital and Ian Hutcheon Clinic for Children.

Others include Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital, Reproductive Health Uganda Cancer Institute and Uganda Women's Cancer Support Organisation.