

SADCAS CONDUCTS ASSESSOR TRAINING COURSE FOR TANZANIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDEC), Tanzania engaged the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) to conduct a 5 days' Assessor training course for Medical Laboratories (ISO 15189:2012). The training was held at Four Points Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 26 July to 30 July 2021. The training was funded by the MoHCDEC in collaboration with the Henry Jackson Foundation Medical Research International (HJFMRI-Tanzania). The training was conducted by Mrs Monica Peart, a registered SADCAS Trainer and supported by Mr Xavier Mugari, a registered Team Leader and Technical Assessor for Medical Laboratories and the SADCAS Quality Manager.

The overall objective was to train and have a pool of local competent Assessors for Tanzania. The training workshop started with registration of all the participants followed by opening and welcome remarks from the Acting Chief of Medical Services – Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF), Dr Charles Mzava. The participants in attendance were a diverse group from the different medical laboratories in Tanzania. In total there were 23 participants.



Participants listening attentively during the Assessor Training

During the training, the requirements of ISO 15189:2012 standard were covered in full and scenarios were presented to illustrate implementation of the clauses. The methodology employed for this training was presentations on the different requirements of the standard with discussions and small group discussions on the different requirements. A combination of group exercises centered on actual practices encountered during an assessment situation and presentation of scenarios was the methodology employed for assessor techniques aspect of the course. These included the classification of non-conformances in accordance with the clauses of the appropriate standard and the recording of non-conformances and how they must be written to be of use to the facility personnel and the accreditation body. Candidates also participated in practical assessment exercises aimed as equipping them with

assessment skills. The candidates were also trained on determining the suitability of documentation used by a facility and were given practical exercises with feedback to gauge their understanding.

During the closing session held on the last day of the course after the examination, Major Haji Lukupulo who represented TPDF, thanked the participants and encouraged them to go and implement what they learnt.

On her part, the Trainer thanked MoHCDEC for choosing SADCAS training and the participants for their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn.

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