Hemophilia: Evolution and challenges in Madagascar

Olivia Ndjib
Antananarivo University, Madagascar

During the last past 5 years, there has been a growing concern on the increasing number of patients suffering from blood diseases in Madagascar. Regardless of illnesses such as Leukemia, Polycythemia and Sickle cells diseases, Hemophilia is the most observed. As a fact, 7 patients out of 10 received in the Hospital of Antananarivo (Hopital Joseph Ravoahangy Andrianavalona) do not survive. This precarious situation could be linked to the lack of specialists to ensure a good treatment, the ignorance of the medical personnel, the lack of sensitization of the population, cultural barriers, poverty and lack of research on these diseases in Madagascar. According to Pr Olivat RAKOTO, (only Hematologist Specialist in the Indian Ocean) but also my lecture, there is not a reliable databank on the number of people suffering from Hemophilia and other related blood disorder in Madagascar. From her personal research, observations and clinical cases, more than 1700 of people suffering of hemophilia are not receiving adequate follow-up in the only town of Antananarivo. The impact of the situation described above on the mortality rate and the economic balance of the country is alarming. There should be a raise of awareness on this plague, which is becoming a critical public health issue in Madagascar.

Biography

Olivia Ndjib is currently a Medical Student in the School of Medicine of Antananarivo, Madagascar. Since 2012, she has been facilitating meaningful and open discussions on health issues like AIDS, blood diseases and autism in the General Hospital of Madagascar, where she volunteers as a Blood Giver and works as a Medical Assistant (on internship). Her ambition is to work as a researcher to develop sustainable scientific method to prevent and cure blood related diseases in Africa.

noliviera@yahoo.fr

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