PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH SUDAN



"Restoring Function, Giving Hope, Improving Wellbeing"

# PHYSIOTHERAPHY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH SUDAN (PASS) REPORT ON WORLD PHYSIOTHERAPHY DAY FROM 08<sup>TH</sup>- 09<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024.

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.



Group photo of Physiotherapists after the celebration of WPTD on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

# Background

The PASS is a medical Association of Physiotherapy professionals in the field of Rehabilitation Medicine, not curative or preventive medicines, which promote, maintain high standard of clinical ethics, code of conduct, high standard of knowledge and skills in the field of physiotherapy in accordance with the national, Regional and International standards.

PASS represents physiotherapists at national and state levels and promotes physiotherapy profession to the

Government and community; provides on going professional development for physiotherapists and protect the reputation and interests of physiotherapists to develop their career. The PASS is not representing doctors or other health professionals but we are in a multi-displinary team or partners in Rehabilitation that provide health care services in hospitals, health Centers/clinics, and Rehabilitation Centers.

On the Celebration of the World Physiotherapy (WPT) Day, PASS organized different activities and awareness program such as Radio talk show, presentations, speeches from the invited guests, exhibition, blood donation and Evidence Based Practice – on patients suffering from LBP at Juba Military Hospital (JMH) from 08<sup>TH</sup> -09<sup>TH</sup> September 2024 under the theme: "Low Back Pain" (LBP).

# Organization of the day

The day was organized by PASS in collaboration with International Committee of Red Cross ICRC and ICRC also funded the occasion by 90%. HERAPY ASSO

# **Participants**

350 participants attended the occasion from various works of life including ICRC head of Operation and other staffs, SSRC, invited Guests e.g. representative from the office undersecretary National Ministry of Health, Provost and Vice Chancellor St Mary's University, Dean of Rehabilitation Sciences St. Mary's University, Director General Juba National Referral Hospital, Director General Juba Military Hospital. Out of 350 participants, PASS President & PASS Executives, Physiotherapists, Physiotherapy Students, other staffs of the hospital and patients.

# Activities of the 2-Days

#### First day activity on 8<sup>th</sup> Sep 2024

On 08<sup>th</sup> September 2024, PASS carried out public awareness on the National Radio South Sudan Broadcasting Cooperation (SSBC) on the theme: "Low Back Pain" and the role of physiotherapists in its management and prevention using various techniques mainly Manual Therapy, Educations and Exercises. Many listeners called seeking for advice and how they can be helped by the physiotherapists.

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Photo showing PASS members on the Radio Talk show discussing about WPT day celebration under the theme Low back pain on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

### Second day activities on 9th Sep 2024

On 09<sup>th</sup> September 2024, two presentations were presented. 1<sup>st</sup> by PT. Sephora about **Rehabilitation in health** care system and the 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dr. Anna ICRC surgeon about" Low Back pain". Many questions were asked and answers provided clearing doubts and misconceptions.

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Photo showing the 1st presentation by PT. Sephora (PASS Member) during the Celebration on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024





Photo showing the 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation on Low Back Pain by Dr. Anna ICRC Surgeon during the Celebration on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Blood Donation awareness campaign was conducted by the Coordinator from South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC), he made a lengthy briefing, telling participants the need for blood which saves lives. Countless victims of war and accidents are in need of blood and the responsibility of every one. Majority donated blood on that day.



Photo showing the briefing about the importance of donating blood to save lives by Mr. Johanna blood



Photo Showing PASS Member donating blood during the WPTD celebration 9.Sep 2024

# Speeches

Numerous speeches were presented by the invited Guests; in attendance were:- Representative of the Undersecretary National Ministry of Health, Director Generals Juba Military Hospital and Juba National Referral Hospital, Director General Central Equatorial State Ministry of Health, International Committee of Red cross (ICRC) Head of Operation representing all the NGO'S, Provost and vice Chancellor ST. Mary's University the only institution in the country training Physiotherapists, Dean of school of Rehabilitation Science, ST Mary's college; Blood Donation Coordinator from South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC), PASS President, all the speeches focus on the importance of Physiotherapists in health care system especially in helping or managing people with various disabilities and health conditions, restoring function and giving them hope.

# The following are Speeches by invited Guests;

#### 1-Representative of Undersecretary National Ministry of Health:

The Representative of Undersecretary National Ministry of Health (NMoH) acknowledged the work PASS is doing, trying to aware and advocate for the recognition of the South Sudanese physiotherapists as part of medical professionals being perceived as clinicians rather than technicians. He added that, I am also aware that the leadership of PASS are advocating for establishment of physiotherapy Directorate at National and States levels. I know its not easy, but anything worthwhile requires struggle. We are doing our best; and I encourage PASS to keep pushing hard for it everything is possible. THE MINISTRY IS READY TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF PHYSIOTHRAPY IN THE COUNRTY.

#### 2-Director General Juba Military Hospital:

The Director General of Military Hospital has expressed his happiness by stating (I worked with physiotherapists for years they are delivering tremendous services to our patients, I congratulate all physiotherapists in the world particularly our South Sudanese physiotherapists for the job well done. To PASS I know your Association is facing a lot of challenges. However don't give up, that's a route to success.

#### 3-Director General Juba teaching Hospital and National Referral Hospital:

He emphasis on the roles of the physiotherapists are doing in the hospitals across the whole country. That work of Rehabilitation sciences is very important for almost everybody. We in the leadership of the hospital are very proud of you (physiotherapists). Continue to work hard we are behind you.

#### 4-Director General CES Ministry of Health:

The director General of the State Ministry of Health (Central Equatoria state)

He emphasis On the establishment of physiotherapy department in all the ten states of the Republic of South Sudan. The most important department is paediatrics. He said collaboration between PASS and health ministry is paramount.

#### 5-Head of Operation ICRC representing NGOs

The International Committee of Red Cross in Juba are doing great job in the field of physiotherapy activities across the Country. They have very good number of national physiotherapists working tirelessly for the development of person with disabilities in South Sudan. In this year celebration of second year of International day for physiotherapy, ICRC funded the occasion. And gave PASS a lot of encouragement in profession of physiotherapy.

# physiotherapy.6-The Vice Chancellor St Mary's University- College Juba

He appreciated the PASS Executives members and entire physiotherapists who are national . As the institution, they have graduated 100 national professional physiotherapists in South Sudan. So thank God for the work done by the physiotherapists and ICRC in Juba. He encourages the physiotherapists to put more effort in saving lives of the person with disabilities in the Country.

#### 7.Dean of Rehabilitation sciences St. Mary's University-Juba:

She expresses her happiness for the second year of International day of physiotherapy done in Juba. The first celebration was funded by OVCI and CBM. And it was celebrated in St. Mary's University college.

# 8-Blood Donation Coordinator South Sudan Red Cross SSRC:

Blood Donation awareness campaign was conducted by the Coordinator from South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC), he made a lengthy briefing, telling participants the need for blood which saves lives. Countless victims of war and accidents are in need of blood and the responsibility of every one. Majority donated blood on that day.

#### **9-PASS President:**

The president of PASS thank the ICRC for their great support to celebrate the day. He asked the organization to support PASS activities and registration in WCPT membership. He thank the organizing committee for their tireless effort to make the day beautiful. He asked the National Ministry of Health representative to continue to help and support PASS programmes in the Country, e.g. establishment of physiotherapy department in the ministry, this is in order to plan and put down proper strategies and budget of the physiotherapy professional activities to be realized in the country. He encourages all the students both female and male present in St. MARY'S PREMISES in Juba.

Finally he thank the President of WCPT and entire members across the globe for the World Physiotherapy day celebrations . He wish to the President to help the young new nation The Republic of South Sudan to joint the Tokyo Congress which is scheduled to take place in 2025.



Photo showing Speech from Director General Juba Military Hospital during the celebration on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

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Photo showing Speech from Director General Juba National Referral Hospital during the celebration on 9<sup>th</sup>





Photo showing speech from ICRC Head of operation in The Republic of South Sudan during the celebration on 9<sup>th</sup> Sentember 2024.



Photo showing Speech by President of PASS during WPTD celebration on 9th September 2024



#### **EXhibition**:

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All the participants made a tour in the wards where the patients managed by physiotherapist were admitted. Display of various Equipment, devices, prosthesis, orthotics and walking aids use by Physiotherapists or made locally by technicians were also viewed.

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Photo showing PASS Member demonstrating what physiotherapists does beside treating low back pain during WPTD 9 Sen 2024

Two patients with LBP were treated using manual therapy, Educations and exercises in the presence of the participants to see.

The occasion concluded by getting together for lunch and refreshment, music interlude and departure at 3:00 p.m. it was very enjoyable and memorable day. We hope to organize it better next year.

# Challenges

Late preparations for the day

**Financial challenges** 

Logistics challenges

Lack of permanent structured office and premises for PASS

#### Recommendation

Early preparations

**Resources mobilizations** 

Continue with the awareness and advocacy

#### **Report compiled by:**

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