

# Meeting the needs for childhood cataract in Africa

October 1-5, 2007

Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology

Sponsored by Dark & Light Blind Care  
&

International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

## Agenda

<b>Day 1 (October 1)</b>		
0900-0930	Objectives of the course & introductions	
0930-1000	Overview of childhood blindness & childhood cataract	
1000-1030	Causes of childhood cataract (and prevention)	
1030-1100	Break	
1100-1130	Establishing the burden of childhood cataract (backlog and incidence) and other measures of burden for the purpose of planning (e.g., RAAB)	
1130-1200	Calculating the burden of childhood cataract in the countries represented	
1200-1230	Childhood cataract surgical rates (by sex, by %district+, separating backlog from incidence)	
1230-1400	Lunch	
1400-1430	Participants calculate CCSR (if data is available)	
1430-1500	Defining catchment areas for paediatric ophthalmology tertiary centres (ideal versus practical)	
1500-1530	Identifying key personnel/organizations in each catchment area (individual/group work)	
1530-1600	Break	
1600-1630	Continuation with identification of key personnel/organizations	
1630-1700	Review enrollment form	
<b>Day 2 (October 2)</b>		
0900-0930	Barriers to use of available services	

	<p>Why are so few children brought?  Why are children brought so late?  Why are girls brought less frequently than boys?</p>	
0930-1030	How do we address the barriers? (and what is the cost?)	
1030-1100	Break	
1100-1200	<p>Finding the %backlog+in the community  (individual/group work)  Key informants  Radio  Existing community based programmes  Schools for the blind  RAAB</p>	
1200-1230	What will it cost to implement strategies to find the backlog?	
1230-1400	Lunch	
1400-1500	<p>Finding %accident+cases in the community  (individual/group work)  Immunization/health workers  TBAs  Community leaders  Other approaches</p>	
1500-1530	Training health workers (and discussion of brochures)	
1530-1600	Break	
1600-1630	Moving from recognition to referral (forms/phone, etc.)	
1630-1700	Role of the %Childhood Blindness Coordinator+	
<b>Day 3 (October 3)</b>		
0900-0930	Counseling (practice, if possible)	
0930-1000	Reasons for poor follow up (discussion)	
1000-1030	Strategies to ensure good follow up	
1030-1100	Break	
1100-1130	Setting up a tracking system (review of forms and discussion)	
1130-1200	Protocol for follow up (schedule) plus advantages and disadvantages of external follow up	
1200-1230	Counseling at discharge from hospital	
1230-1400	Lunch	
1400-1500	<p>Refractive services:  What is the minimum service needed  What is the cost of providing the service  How often do children need additional spectacles  What refractive services can be provided</p>	

	external to the surgical facility	
1500-1530	Refractive services (individual/group work)	
1530-1600	Break	
1600-1700	Low vision assessment and services What is the minimum service needed What is the cost of providing the service How often do children need to change low vision devices What low vision services can be provided external to the surgical facility	
<b>Day 4 (October 4)</b>		
0900-	Pre-surgery work up and assessment	
	Surgical team (composition)	
	Surgery	
	Equipment and supplies for surgery	
	Outcome (expected versus desired)	
	Fellowship training	
<b>Day 5 (October 5)</b>		
0900-1000	Linking children to an appropriate educational environment (include how to get all stakeholders to work together)	
1000-1030	Costing and funding a programme	
1030-1100	Break	
1100-1130	Research issues	
1130-1200	Advocacy and national planning	
1200-1230	Closing	