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Firm to train students



FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013 - 00:00 -- BY RAMADHAN RAJAB

More than 1,000 University of Nairobi Medical Students will be trained on how to combat diabetes.

The three year Capacity Advancement Program comes at a time when numbers show that 1.6 million Kenyans are living with diabetes. The figure is projected to rise to 2.5 million by 2025.

The University of Nairobi students together with a few others from Makerere University and University of Namibia will receive advanced professional skills sponsored by Merck Serono.

"The rising number of diabetics all over the world is a call to prioritise diabetes care and awareness to prevent the disease from turning into a national epidemic. Through the leadership, faculty leaders and students, this program will seek to improve the health care sector throughout Africa," Merck Serono Chief Executive Officer Stefan Oschmann said.

The project will focus on Diabetes research and development, clinical research, supply chain integrity and efficiency, Pharmacovigilance, medical education and community awareness.

The initiative will support the development of educational programs such as accredited Clinical Diabetes Management training mainly targeting medical undergraduates at local universities in Africa.

"Nairobi University is ready to support initiatives such as Merck Serono's Capacity Advancement Program and associate with other institutions whose overall objectives and goals are directed towards alleviating challenges in the provision of healthcare especially emerging diseases such as diabetes," University of Nairobi, principal of the college of Health Sciences, Prof Isaac Kibwage said.



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