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ONLINE JOURNAL OF  
**HEMATOLOGY  
 & MEDICINE**

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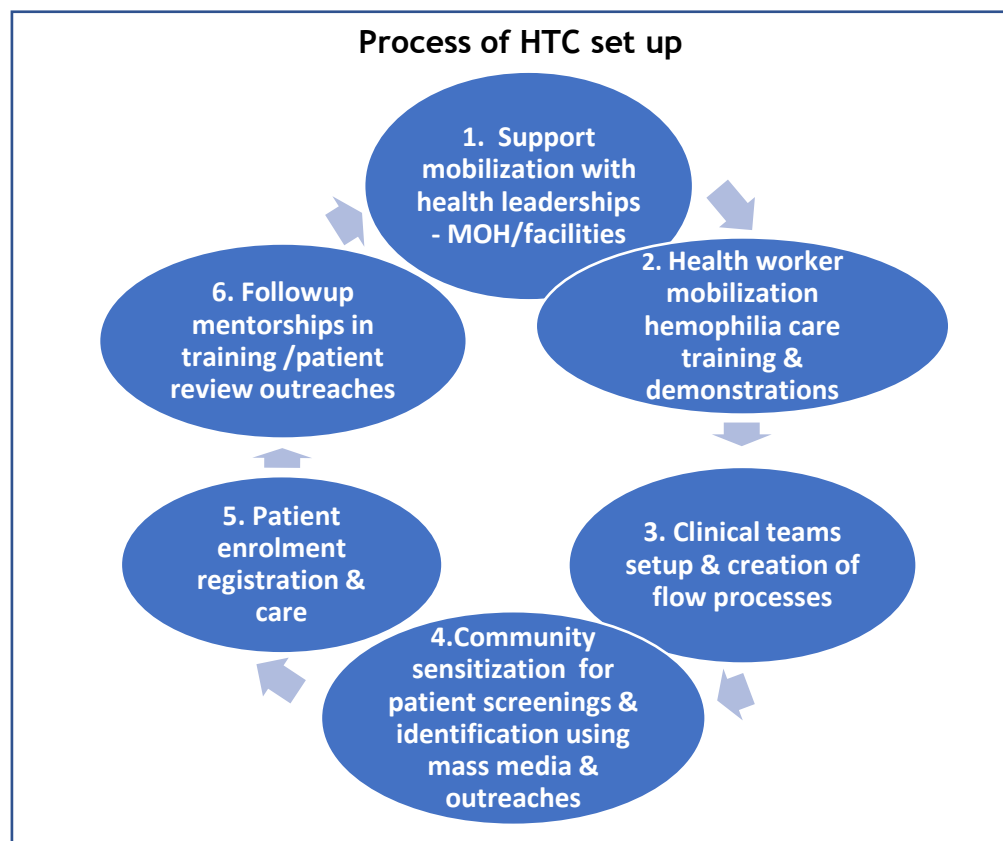
## PROCESSES AND EXPERIENCES OF SATELLITE HEMOPHILIA CLINIC SETUPS IN UGANDA

### Introduction

Hemophilia knowledge and care are largely missing in much of Africa's Sub-Saharan population and health care setting. Previously thought to be limited among persons of European descent, the disease is increasingly being diagnosed among Africans. Hence the need for concerted efforts to ensure access to care services by affected persons. Hemophilia Foundation Uganda with support from the global haemophilia community has awakened mobilization for awareness and care working with the Uganda Ministry of Health. To date eight Hemophilia Treatment Centres (HTCs) have been set up at eight large public health facilities across Uganda including; Masaka, Mbale, Mbarara, Nakivale, Lira, Gulu, Lacor, and Nebbi hospitals. We share the processes, experiences, and future goals.

### Experiences

We observed great interest in hemophilia knowledge among the health staff who attended the training in high numbers at each of the above 8 centres. The majority (> 95%) had never cared for a patient with hemophilia. Care teams were created, which has increased the patient population. Over 1700 Health care professionals have been trained and 121 patients enrolled at these peripheral facilities in the past 5 years (54 Western, 11 Southern, 14 West Nile, 30 Eastern, 12 Central (greater Masaka), and 65 Northern regions of Uganda).



## Shortcomings

These include limited diagnostics capacity for haemophilia (inability to perform coagulation tests and factors assays) and personnel for allocation to haemophilia treatment who also have a high workload. We also appreciated the limited capacity for the facilities to procure recombinant factors related to budgetary constraints.

## Future goals

Further advocacy for budgetary inclusion of haemophilia at political and facility levels. We also propose a continued strengthening of the Hemophilia care teams through mentorships, networking, and mobilization for diagnostic support at large public hospitals.



HCP training at Nebbi Regional Referral Hospital, West Nile region, the training was facilitated by Dr. Philip Kasirye Gitah

