

# Paediatric Ward In-charge]

Mwami Adventist Hospital is situated 30 km form Chipata City, in the rural area. The hospital has a catchment population of more than 100000. The health care services provided at Mwami Hospital; include the following; maternal and child health, Obstetrics, medical, surgical, radiology, laboratory, physiotherapy, pharmacy, dental, ENT, ART, and eye. The hospital has also clinics; men's clinic, cervical cancer clinic, ART clinic and eye clinic. From 2020 to 2023, the hospital has observed that there was an increase in the number of malnutrition cases and children were been admitted due to malnutrition and the hospital recorded some deaths due to malnutrition. The increase in malnutrition cases is attributed to; lack of equipment, and linen, inadequate nurses and nutritionist, Mothers` inadequate knowledge on type of food to feed the children by the mothers, mothers` inadequate knowledge on how to prepare food for the children. The table below shows the number of malnutrition cases, discharges, deaths and cases referred to a third level hospital for a period of 3 and half years;

YEAR	ADMISSION	DISCHARGED	DEATH	REFER
0000		5		
2020	6	6	0	0
2021	43	39	4	0
2022	27	20	6	1
2023	20	19	1	0
JAN - JUNE 2024	3	3	0	0

UNICEF, (2021) reports that, 40 per cent of children in 2013 were malnourished and the prevalence rate reduced to 34.6 per cent in 2018 in Zambia. Research shows the vast majority of babies in Zambia are not born stunted (chronically malnourished). Instead, most children under age five who become stunted do so between the ages of two months and two years. The table above shows number of malnutrition cases at Mwami Adventist Hospital; 2020; 6 were admitted and all discharged and no deaths, but from 2021; the number increased; 43 admissions, 39 discharges and 4 deaths, and 2022; 27 admissions, 20 dischargers and 6 deaths, 2023; 20 admissions, 19 dischargers and 1 death and then the number decreased in 2024, 3 admissions, all discharged and no death. The high numbers of malnutrition cases, admission and deaths from 2021 to 2023 are the reason that measures were put in place. That is to reduce the numbers and improve management of malnutrition at Mwami Adventist Hospital, Paediatrics ward starting the year 2023.

## AIM

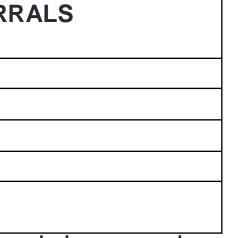
To reduce the number of children admitted with malnutrition and deaths caused by malnutrition, and improve child nutrition within six (6) months of implementing the agreed solutions in Paediatric ward.

## **RENOVATED MALNUTRITION WARD:** WITH PROTOCOLS, HEATERS



# **IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF PAEDIATRICS AND PAEDIATRIC NURSING** CARE. REDUCING ADMISSIONS AND DEATHS OF CHILDREN WITH MALNUTRITION IN PAEDIATRIC WARD

[Sing`ombe Isaac, College Director, George Siamuzoka, Hospital Administrator; Gift Chimya Mulenga Sing`ombe, Nursing Services Director, Athen Mugubo Mweene,









### **Guarantee quality in operation**

In 2022 Mwami Adventist began planning to buy equipment and renovate the Malnutrition ward. Due to a rise malnutrition cases, admissions and deaths among children. To address this, The hospital sourced for funds from the NGOPEACE HEALTH and developed an action plan aimed at reducing admissions and deaths caused by malnutrion. the following were proposed; renovating the malnutrition ward and to purchase equipment such as heaters and

Minimize & Control inen for warming up the room and prompt management of

ctor and nutritionst conducts daily mounds rttion by nurses, doctors, and nutritionist ss and evaluate patient malnutrition ward, es and students are allocated every shift to r malnorished children. Treatment protoccols ailable in the ward for easy refference when nding or reviewing patients. Regular review ngs involving doctors and nurses are held to cases and provide Information, Education and nication on diet, types of food, and balanced nutrition.

- In 2023 the following were done; renovated malnutrition ward, purchased heaters, blankets and bed sheets. Management of malnutrition cases was intensified, Review meetings of every death that occurred in malnutrition ward. Good Monitoring and nursing care such as feeding, observations of patients, in house orientations on management of cases, nutrition personel was allocated to thhe facility.

DO



### **Evaluation and Assessment**

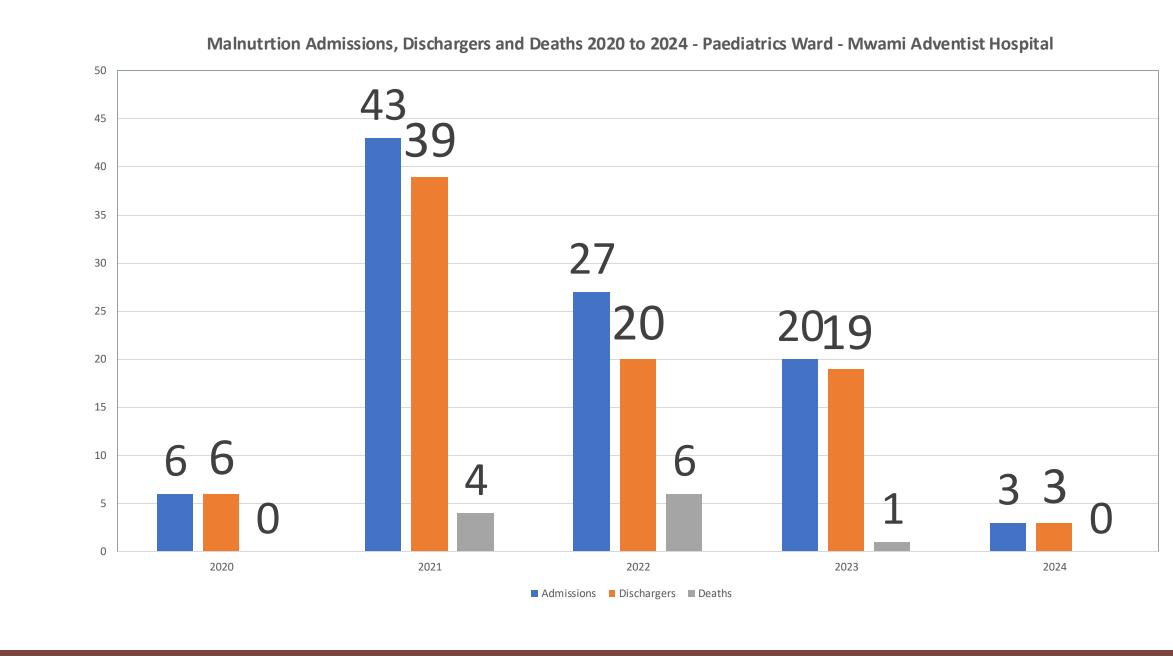
- The rise in malnutrition cases from 2021 to 2023 at Mwami Adventist Hospital could have been attributed to shortage of nurse inadquate medical and lack of knowledge on prompt child nutrition by the mothers. Addressing these issues by increasing skilled nurse allocation per shift, providing adquate equipment, and improving knowledge on nutrious food led to reduction in malnutrition cases and deaths. The institution learned that, having dedicated, trained staff, sufficient medical equipment, adquate





Implementation

### DATA



## RESULTS

The total number of malnutrition cases recorded at Mwami Adventist Hospital from 2020 to 2024 were as follows: 2020: 6 admissions, 6 discharges, 0 deaths, 2021: 43 admissions, 39 discharges, 4 deaths, 2022: 27 admissions, 20 discharges, 6 deaths, 1 referral, 2023: 20 admissions, 19 discharges, 1 death, January to June 2024: 3 admissions, 3 discharges, 0 deaths

From 2020 to 2023, malnutrition cases increased significantly, with admissions rising from 6 to 43 and deaths from 0 to 6. However, from January to June 2024, the number of malnutrition admissions dropped to 3, with no deaths reported. This demonstrates a significant reduction in the admission of children with malnutrition and no deaths compared to the previous years.

Mwami Adventist Hospital has successfully reduced the number of malnutrition admissions and recorded no deaths in the first six months of 2024. This achievement was made possible through the combined efforts of hospital management and health workers, who implemented the following measures to improve the management of malnutrition:

- 2. Renovated and painted the malnutrition ward.
- nurses, doctors, and nutritionists.
- 5. Allocated additional nurses to the pediatrics ward.
- identifying nutritious local foods, and promoting a balanced diet.

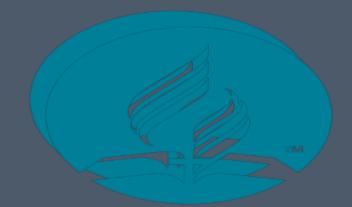
# ursing Services, and Ward In-charge. SUMMARY

At Mwami Adventist Hospital, we have learned that having adequately trained and skilled human resources, essential equipment (such as heaters and Phototherapy units), and good supervision is crucial for providing quality medical care and reducing mortality rates mortality rates.

Undertaking this project has significantly improved the management of malnutrition, resulting in fewer admissions and death among children due to malnutrition. From 2020 to 2023 malnutrition admissions were high but from January to June 2024, admissions have decreased to just three (3) with no deaths recorded.

## FUTURE STEPS/ WHAT'S NEXT?

Our next objectives are to; 1. purchase more equipment and linen to keep the babies warm 2. Renovation of the Paediatrics ward emergency room these steps will further enhance our ability to provide high quality care and ensure the wellbeing of our youngest patients.



. Acquired 2 phototherapy machines, 2 heaters, and a CPAP machine through partners (Peace Health).

3. Printed and posted malnutrition management protocols on the ward walls for easy reference by

4. Lobbied and recieved one nutrition technologist, while sent one for BSC in nutrition.

6. Conducted Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) sessions on preventing malnutrition,

7. Held review meetings for each death to analyze the management process.

Enhanced supervision and monitoring of doctors and nurses by the Medical Director. Director of