RE-ESTABLISHING PATHOLOGY SERVICE AT KATH, KUMASI, GHANA

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Acknowledgement

- PROF. Helge and his team at University of North Norway Pathology Department
- BHGI – through which this collaboration becomes possible at the summit
- KATH Management and Pathology staff
This presentation is about Networking at International congress or meetings

It is also about North-South co-operation on improving capacity building in cancer care

Finally it is about how developed and developing nations can partner each other to improve clinical care

At a time when surgical pathology has almost grounded at KATH in 2004/2005
The rebirth of KATH Pathology services started after the BHGI summit in Washington in January 2005.

One and one talk with Prof Helge at the summit and subsequent discussion on how he could help with the re-establishing of KATH Pathology services was the beginning of the story.
After a series of correspondence, Prof. Helge visited KATH to do a thorough situational analysis.

KATH funded local T&T and Hotel expenses.

We developed a road map for the rebirth of the pathology services at the end of his visit.
The Roadmap

Short Term

- Training of 2 laboratory technicians in Tromso for 3 months
  - *completed, August to November 2005*

- Sending pathology specimen to Tromso???

- Prepared slides to be sent to Tromso for reading and reporting
  - *was not feasible! cost*
Long Term

- Training of 2 full time pathologists in Tromso
  - 2 pathologist fully trained. Completed in 2010
Results To Date

- Two technicians fully trained in slide preparation
- They have also trained their colleagues
- 2 Pathologist fully trained
Impact on Cancer care

- Improved cancer surgical pathology diagnosis from 35 percent in 2004 to over 80 percent in 2010
- Surgical pathology reports received in two weeks
- Pathology services extended to cover Regional and District Hospitals in the Northern sector of Ghana
Upcoming plans

- Immunocytochemistry services
- Cytology services
- Residency Training in Pathology