FDA ENDS 3RD RCORE CLINICAL TRIAL FELLOWSHIP TRAINING

The Food and Drugs Authority has successfully ended the 3rd Regional Centre of Regulatory Excellence (RCORE) Clinical Trial fellowship training on the 30th August, 2019 at the Head Quarters of the Food Drugs Authority. The RCORE fellowship training program which was organized from 6th August, 2019 to 30th August, 2019 in Accra was purposed to build capacity in Clinical Trials within the African Region and to improve access to medicine by harmonizing regulatory requirements. The training saw a host of participants drawn from, Rwanda, Gambia, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Ghana.

The Chief Executive Officer of the FDA, Mrs. Delese Darko, at the closing ceremony said, the 4-week intensive training was aimed at building capacity in the conduct and regulation of Clinical within the sub-region and improves access to medicine by harmonizing regulatory requirements. This she said, "Provides a great platform for regulators, researchers and Clinical Trial Stakeholders to meet and continually share ideas, knowledge and experiences over the years with the aim of learning from one another and improving activities".

She added that the training covered topics on Clinical Trials Authorization, Good Clinical Practice (GCP) inspections, Adverse Events and Safety Monitoring (Pharmacovigilance), where participants had practical regulatory attachment they got to experience an inspection of an active trial, the 57th TAC-CT meeting and evaluated a clinical trial protocol using the newly adopted AVAREF guidelines and forms.

Prof. Julius Fobil, the Acting Dean of the School of Public Health on his part, congratulated the FDA for organizing the training and congratulated participants for their hard work. He then emphasized that there would be no safe medicine and inventions without clinical trials and thus the training could not have come at a better time such as this because Africa is looking for appropriate platforms for regulators and researchers across the continent because this training has created an avenue where Africans can have a standardized system for the conduct and regulation of clinical trials.

Present at the closing were other stakeholders for the training like the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), African Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH), Global Health Protection Programme (GHPP) VaccTrain at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institute (PEI), and the School of Public Health, University of Ghana.

The participants at the end of the training received certificates of participation for going through the 4 weeks of intensive training in both practicals and theory and they all attested to the fact that the training has indeed improved their capacity in the conduct and regulation of Clinical Trials for the safety of medicines in their respective countries.

A participant from Sierra Leone added the participants should remain in their course of work in regulating clinical trials to improve the safety and efficacy of medicines.

The participants were urged to find every means possible to stay in touch so as to continuously share experiences and knowledge.