

## News Update from MCW partner (PATA Expanding Expert Patient Program)

### PATA Expanding Expert Patient Program

PATA's Expert Patient Programme, has received **49 applications** for clinics who would like to participate in the Expert Patient programme. PATA aims to hire 182 Expert Patients in clinics in 14 different countries. The organization wishes a warm welcome to Baylor Botswana, the first Botswanan clinic to participate in the Expert Patient programme.

Updates:

- Songea Regional Hospital (Tanzania) has **published an article** on the Expert Patient programme in the Tanzanian Regional Referral Health Management newsletter (February 2011).
- Tisungane clinic (Malawi) is working on a **research project** to evaluate the training for and implementation of triage by Expert Patients at the clinic.
- Expert Patients from HAQOCI (Zimbabwe) played a very important role in a **training workshop** where AFRICAID and HAQOCI adapted the generic WHO training materials on Integrated Management of Adolescent Illness (IMAI) to meet local needs.
- Chantal Biya (Cameroon) has created a **patient psychosocial record form** which includes a table to record information such as dates of service, the caregivers' names, the problems identified and the intervention provided by the Expert Patient. These sheets will be used to track the Expert Patient interventions.
- An abstract of the Evaluation of an Expert Patient programme for PMTCT services conducted in Zomba Hospital (Malawi) has been accepted to be presented for the 2011 IAC in Rome.

PATA will be working to consolidate and improve the Expert Patient programme so that it becomes an example of best practice in task shifting and better integration of community workers into treatment teams. An Expert Patient Programme Manager will join the PATA office to facilitate this process. PATA will present a paper on the Expert Patient programme at the South African AIDS conference in Durban (June 2011).

Learn more about PATA's Expert Patient Programme here:

**[http://www.teampata.org/project\\_expert.asp](http://www.teampata.org/project_expert.asp)**

*Source: Volume VI Issue 2: Treatment teams take great strides toward better adolescent care & 2011 PATA Forum Applications now open*