

## SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

3 BRUMALIA ROAD, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA WI TEL.: (876) 625-0612-3, 962-9491 or 962-8232 | FAX: (876) 962-8233 | WWW.SRHA.GOV.JM



Mandeville Regional Hospital 32 Hargreaves Avenue Mandeville Ph: 962-2067/2744/1094 Fax: 625-8493

**May Pen Hospital** 1 Muirhead Avenue May Pen Ph: 986-2528/7708/6938 Fax: 986-2650

**Black River Hospital** 45 High Street Black River Ph: 965-2224/2212 634-3700 Fax: 965-9294

Percy Junor Hospital Spalding P.O. Clarendon Ph: 964-1181/2222/2322 Fax: 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital Bustamante Drive Vere, Clarendon Ph: 986-3226 Fax: 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital Chapelton P.O. Clarendon Ph: 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept. Race Course Rd. Mandeville Ph: 962-2288/7033 625-3433 Fax: 962-2171

**Clarendon Health Dept.** 1 Muirhead Avenue May Pen Ph: 986-4548/7869 Fax: 986-9713

**St. Elizabeth Health Dept** High Street Black River Ph: 965-9174-5 Fax: 965-2701

## **PRESS RELEASE**

June 2, 2016 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Laser Treatment for Diabetic Retinopathy to begin at Mandeville Regional Hospital in July

In a matter of weeks, laser treatment for diabetic retinopathy which is sight threatening complications caused by uncontrolled diabetes, will begin at the Ophthalmology Clinic at the Mandeville Regional Hospital.

The announcement comes on the heels of the visit of Chief Executive of The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust, Dr. Astrid Bonfield to the Clinic on May 31. The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust which is a charitable foundation established in 2012 to mark and celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's sixty-year contribution to the Commonwealth, provided funding for several equipment at the Ophthalmology Clinic for the treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy.

Preparations are being made to begin the services in July for persons who need laser therapy due to Diabetic Retinopathy which can cause blindness or complicated vision.

Dr. Bonfield who is visiting Jamaica for the first time noted that she was impressed by the work that has been done at the Ophthalmology Clinic. "It is exciting to see how the Clinic has been set up and the determination of the staff in providing services for the local population" she added.

She was given a firsthand look at how Phase 1 of the Caribbean Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment Project in Jamaica is being executed in the southern region. Clinics have been established at the Mandeville Regional and Black River Hospitals, the Manchester Comprehensive Clinic with plans being made for a Clinic at the May Pen Hospital.

In January, an Ophthalmology Clinic and Operating Theatre was officially opened at the Mandeville Regional Hospital valued at J\$88.85 million. (more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman; Michael Stern Board Members: Marcus Greenwood, Krishan James, Stafford Haughton, Lorraine Green Mason, Lennox Powell, Dr Lloyd Reynolds, Winston Maragh, Dr St Aubyn Bartlett, Dr Lundie Richards, Directors: Regional Director and Secretary: Michael Bent; Regional Technical Director: Dr Michael Coombs; CEO Mandeville Regional Hospital: Alwyn Miller; SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital: Dr Everton McIntosh



Picture 1

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Dr. Bonfield (right) inquires about a Combination Systems Unit which checks for refraction and curvature of the cornea. Photographed are: (left to right) Acting Sister in charge of the Clinic, Nurse Janett Bonner-Waugh, CEO of the Mandeville Regional Hospital, Mr. Alwyn Miller, Chairman of the Southern Regional Health Authority, Mr. Wayne Chen and CEO of the Caribbean Council for the Blind, Mr. Arvel Grant (hidden).

-30-

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