



SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

3 BRUMALIA ROAD, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA WI

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

May Pen Hospital
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: 986-2528/7708/6938
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Black River Hospital
45 High Street
Black River
Ph: 965-2224/2212
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Percy Junor Hospital
Spalding P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: 964-1181/2222/2322
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Lionel Town Hospital
Bustamante Drive
Vere, Clarendon
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Chapelton Hospital
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Manchester Health Dept.
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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 Houghton, 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



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Picture 1



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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