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Posted by: Our Reporter in City Beats 9 days ago

TO tackle oral diseases which represent a major public health problem in the country, the management of St Kizito Clinic in Lagos has partnered Shell Nigeria Exploration and Production Company (SNEPCO) to set up a dental unit.

The clinic's Medical Director, Alda Gemmani, who spoke at the inauguration of the dental unit, lamented that dental health issues were yet to receive priority attention due to competitive health demands resulting in high prevalence of the consequences of poor oral health.

Gemmani said periodontal disease and dental caries are two major oral health problems, while others include malocclusion, traumatised anterior teeth, dental fluorosis, and oral tumours.

He revealed that the clinic's daily consultations revealed poor oral health and dental hygiene among both adults and the children who are most vulnerable, adding that the issue not only causes pain but loss of man hours, leading to a reduced income for the family, with its attendant stress.

"The Clinic started preventive dental services and educational programmes among patients and pupils of Ilasan-Jakande, Lekki; Idi-Araba, Mushin and Oreta, Ikorodu environs. So, the need of a dental unit to address patients' needs grew due to lack of an accessible and affordable dental clinic in these areas."

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