

The University of Nairobi Public Health club joined the rest of the world in observing World Hepatitis Day, which happens annually on 28th July.

Led by Dr. Olewe, the club organized an awareness talk on Hepatitis with two speakers from the University.

The talk targeted medical students with the hope that they would aid in disseminating the information to the community.

Dr. Walong from Pathology Department gave a raw picture of what happens to the liver when it is damaged and healing with fibrosis.

He emphasized that Hepatitis was not just infective or viral but also caused by common toxins, alcohol and paracetamol, which are the most notable ones.

Such include Hedex, Panadol and many other tablets that many people are abusing.

Students were cautioned on the need of proper history taking and care when dispensing such drugs.

Dr. Mwasika from Microbiology Department, Virology, talked on the scourge that is viral hepatitis, with a global burden of 400 million (ten times that of HIV) emphasizing on how preventable this diseases were if the Public and health practitioners knew the root cause and worked to prevent it especially Hepatitis A, B, C which are main problems in Kenya.

He also talked of available vaccines and the need for early treatment.

With the cost of hepatitis C drugs going up to 8 million shillings, clearly prevention is better than cure.