



PRESS RELEASE

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Attention: All News Editors

Health Ministry targets 1,200 Eye Surgeries

KINGSTON, Jamaica. Tuesday, May 07, 2024: Minister of Health and Wellness Dr. the Hon Christopher Tufton says projections are to complete 1,000 cataract and 200 pterygium surgeries impacting some 8,500 Jamaicans and their families by the end of this financial year under the Jamaica/Cuba Eyecare Programme.

The Health & Wellness Minister made the announcement during his sectoral debate a short while ago, being held at Gordon House in Kingston.

Already after less than a year since the return of the programme, 570 Cataract Surgeries, 352 Pterygium, 899 Laser Surgeries for Diabetic Retinopathy, 81 Laser Surgeries for Cataract and 6 Laser Surgeries for Glaucoma have been completed.

In addition, the technical team has done repairs to 101 equipment and installed 26 in locations across the country including the Kingston Public Hospital.

The Minister expressed gratitude on behalf of the Government and the many Jamaicans that would have benefited from the programme.

"We applaud the partnership with the Government and people of Cuba and I take this opportunity to say a big thank you on behalf of the thousands of Jamaicans who have so far benefitted like Mr. Lambert Brown, a Minister of

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religion, who benefited from cataract surgery and is now better able to serve the members of his community, among many other lucky Jamaicans,” he said during his presentation.

The Jamaica-Cuba Eye Care Programme aims to augment public health offerings by collaborating with Cuban specialists to offer support and share knowledge with local clinicians to improve the provision of critical eye care services to Jamaicans.

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