

# PERSONALIZED MEDICINE IN AFRICA: A Vision from WHO

**EU-AFRICA PerMed 1ST STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP  
VIRTUAL EVENT: 9TH -10TH FEBRUARY 2022**

**LOCAL HOSTS: National Commission for Science,  
Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI)**

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# Personalized Medicine: Old but still relevant Concept

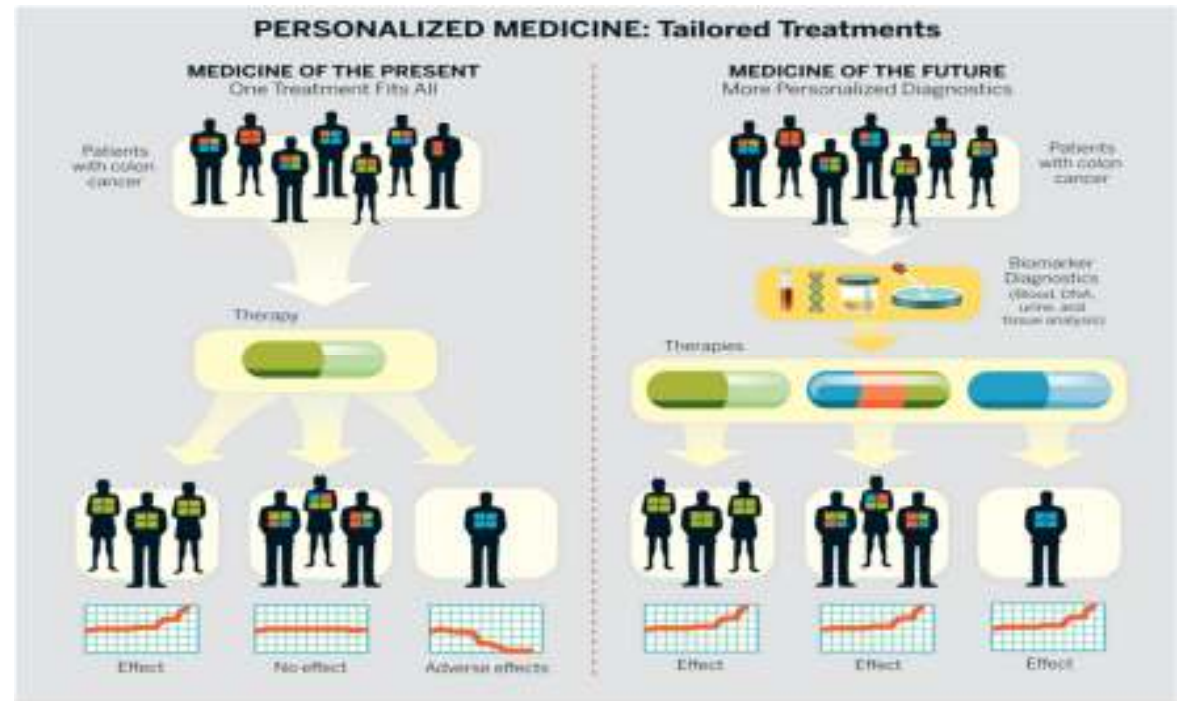
- Creation of medical treatments unique to the patient
- Prevention and treatment strategies that take individual variability into account



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# Personalized Medicine (PM): Old but still relevant Concept

- Tailoring treatment to individuals considering their unique genetic background and considerations
- This has been the basis for medicine



# WHO & Management of Priority Diseases

- WHO supports case management of diseases
- Cases reviewed periodically and treatment adjusted to meet individual realities
- WHO treatment guidelines for case management of priority diseases account for individual needs



# Collaboration with Europe on PM to address Global Health Challenges in Africa

- WHO welcomes the collaboration in addresses diseases with multi-drug resistance issues such as:
  - Tuberculosis
  - HIVs
  - Others
- Focus on:
  - Age and genetic factors
  - Metabolism issues
- Breast cancer is increasingly becoming genetic-suspect



# Partnership with WHO

- Access to expertise, facilities and alternatives
- Address equity issues
- Member States take lead of the policy environment
- Coordination at national and sub-regional levels
- Research and technology transfer
- WHO as lead Health agency



# Significance of PM to WHO Work

- Contribute to address public health priorities
- Expand access to PM which is currently limited
- Contributed to our response to COVID-19



# Thanks

