

Going Forward: A team of faculty members from the Thailand branch of SEAOHUN participated in Training of Trainers workshops using the Leadership and Collaboration modules. The modules are also available as an open source online and have already been used by faculty members of SEAOHUN universities, University of Minnesota, and Tufts University.

Funding: USAID

Abstract #: 02ETC032

Development of a community-based educational program on hypertension in Dhulikhel Municipality, Nepal

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Program/Project Purpose: A community health assessment conducted for Dhulikhel Municipality, Nepal, identified hypertension as a vital health issue. An ongoing study of cardiovascular disease in this area has found a prevalence of hypertension among adults over age 17 of 42.2% for males and 29.5% for females. When asked in qualitative interviews, ten members of the Dhulikhel Municipality stated that they would be very interested in attending a community-based educational class on hypertension. The goal of the project was to develop the curriculum for hypertension education to be given by the Dhulikhel Hospital Community Department (the "Community Department"). The project took place over an eight week period during the summer of 2014.

Structure/Method/Design: Seventeen interviews and six more informal conversations conducted over a two-week period in June 2014 formed the basis for a community health assessment for Dhulikhel Municipality. The findings of the community health assessment were supported by a literature review focused on hypertension and cardiovascular disease in Nepal. With the assistance of the Community Department, a lesson plan for a community-based educational program on hypertension was developed, field tested, and revised. It is anticipated that this curriculum will be given by the Community Department throughout the Dhulikhel Municipality.

Outcomes & Evaluation: The curriculum was tested on July 20, 2014 in Shreekhandhapur, a town in the Dhulikhel Municipality. The class was provided with the assistance of Dhulikhel Hospital, the local government-run Urban Health Clinic, and two Female Community Health Volunteers for Ward Eight of the Dhulikhel Municipality. Fifty adults attended the trial educational program; of these, twenty-four were over the age of sixty, eighteen self-identified as hypertensive and sixteen self-identified as having a family member with hypertension. Following the class, the curriculum was evaluated and further revised based on feedback from the nurse educator at Dhulikhel Hospital who presented the trial program.

Going Forward: The project successfully developed the curriculum for a community-based educational program on hypertension that will be implemented by the Community Department throughout the Dhulikhel Municipality. Additionally, it is anticipated that the hypertension curriculum will be used as a model by the Community Department for future community-based educational programs.

Funding: University of Washington School of Medicine Global Health Immersion Program.

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A situational analysis of health information library needs in Tanzania

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Program/Project Purpose: The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is supporting the development of a curriculum to train medical information specialists for the Tanzanian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW).

Structure/Method/Design: Last year a Tanzanian technical advisory/working group (TAG) met in Morogoro to develop tools to assess the Tanzanian user community's medical library and information needs. The TAG recommended, and helped carry out, a series of focus groups consisting of stakeholders from all areas of the healthcare system in Dar es Salaam, Moshi, Mwanza, and Njombe.

Outcomes & Evaluation: Based on the results, the TAG recommended that a three year Diploma program be developed to train Health Information Specialists, who would then be placed in all clinics, hospitals, and medical and nursing schools under the auspices of the MOHSW. They also recommended combining this program with their medical records certificate program. The role of the Health Information Specialists will be to organize medical records, facilitate the transition to an electronic system, provide appropriate information resources to patients and families, provide evidence based medicine resources to clinicians, and assist medical and nursing students.

Going Forward: We are now designing the actual curriculum and believe this program can serve as a model for neighboring countries.

Funding: National Library of Medicine

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Building equity in the global health research agenda: The partners in health-harvard medical school research partnership in Rwanda

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Program/Project Purpose: Partners In Health (PIH) has supported health service delivery in three districts in rural Rwanda since 2005. In line with the Rwandan Ministry of Health's (RMOH) emphasis on research and capacity building, PIH/Rwanda and Harvard Medical School (HMS), supported by research partners at Brigham and Women's Hospital, have developed a collaborative partnership to produce high-quality research documenting programmatic successes/challenges and increase Rwandan engagement and leadership in research. In-country partners, including the RMOH, University of Rwanda School of Public Health (UR-SPH) and other national research bodies, advise and collaborate on activities.

Structure/Method/Design: The PIH/Rwanda Research Department and Research Committee were established in 2010 to provide adequate research infrastructure. The Research Department facilitates research implementation in the field, while the Research Committee reviews all proposed research to ensure that it is technically sound and aligns with RMOH and PIH/Rwanda priorities. Simultaneously, the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine (DGHS) at HMS established the Global Health Research Core. The Core (including epidemiologists, statisticians, and data analysts) provides technical support to projects across PIH