

REPORT OF THE LAMRN WORKSHOP FOR PRACTICING MIDWIVES HELD AT CODZY LODGE IN ZAMBIA ON 3-8th FEBRUARY 2014.

Introduction

The Lugina Africa Midwives Research Network was a development of the original AMRN (Africa Midwives Research Network) of 1992. The aim of the network is to develop a thriving, collaborative, sustainable, midwifery research network with the capacity and skills to strengthen evidence-based practice, thus improving care for women and babies. Member countries include Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The network is run in collaboration with the University of Manchester, UK.

As part of our project is to increase midwifery research capacity in Africa, we want to discover which areas of research are considered most important for midwives. The second workshop at Cozy Lodge, Lusaka, Zambia from 3rd-8th February, 2014. The workshop was attended by 12 (annexes 1) of the 18 midwives from the first initial workshop held in 2013. The 6 midwives who did not attend; one had no transport money to travel from Western Province to Lusaka where the workshop was held, 3 from the Defence Forces, were sent for operations and 3 were enrolled for a Nursing degree program. The Zambian team was joined by 2 facilitators and three midwives from Kenya, Nairobi from 4th-8th February 2014. The two teams worked on the 6 proposals for both Kenyan and Zambian Midwives.

Process of the workshop

There were 12 participants for the second workshop and before commencing the workshop each midwife was given time to report on what they had done after the first workshop. Each participant was given 5 minutes to present and the other participants commented on the presentation.

It was found that the participants had each worked on a draft proposal of what they identified as a problem in their respective areas of work.

The first two days the presentations were made according to the program (see annex 2). The participants were welcomed to the second workshop and the purpose of the workshop. Time was also given to each participant to re-introduce themselves and briefly describe what they had done after the first workshop and other participants gave their input. Thereafter the topics were given as per program. There were some topics that the participants seemed not to be coherent with such as *Paradigms, Methodology and Methods*. This area seemed to be abstract to most of the Midwives. However they were encouraged to work with their hand-outs. The teaching learning methods included role plays and discussions. The participants were oriented on the procedures required for submission of the proposal to research ethics committee for approval, the copies of proposals to submit and summaries including the funds required by the committee. At the end of the workshop a Partograph questionnaire was administered to all participants and thereafter the evaluation of the workshop was done.

However it was worth noting that apart from the three midwives other midwives have started working on their respective topics picked from areas where they are working from. Some of the midwives had been promoted as quality assurance coordinator, Nursing Officers to mention a few.

Limitations in writing proposals as expressed by the participants were: internet is slow or in some places rarely available; costs for writing; inadequate skill to write alone; some expressed busy schedules at work.

Conclusion

Most of the midwives expressed that this was their first time to undertake the proposal writing exercise and through this process they found out that there was a lot of information to search on the internet.

ANNEX 1: LAMRN list of participants

	NAME	EMAIL AND PHONE #	ADDRESSES	QUALIFICATIONS	RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
1.	Nayame Mercy	Mercyna2@yahoo.co.uk 0977846352/0966942233	Kitwe DHMT	Registered Midwife	Medium
2.	Francesca Msiska	Francescamsiska@yahoo.com , 0966430768 / 0977460730	UTH	Registered Midwife	Average
3.	Elizabeth M Siyama	emasiyama@yahoo.com	CIDRZ	Registered Midwife	
4.	Chowa Tembo Kasengele	Chowa.tembo@gmail.com 0977/0967-432044 0954551397	P.O Box 730096	Registered Midwife	Average
5.	Chimalo Setswayo	setswayo@gmail.com 0979478794 or 0968830525 0954140048	Chadiza	Registered Midwife	Minimum
6.	Maureen Sianga	Maureen_sianga@yahoo.com 0977534067/0965408730	Lusaka trust	Registered midwife	Minimum

7.	Ireen Daka Banda	ireendakabanda@yahoo.com 0955990940 or 0966990940	Petauke District	Registered Midwife	Minimum
8.	Gladys Malungo	gkmalungo@yahoo.com	Kalingalinga clinic		Minimum
9.	Wanda Hankombo Mulunda	wondamulunda@yahoo.co.uk, 0977612210	Kalulushi General Hospital	Registered Midwife	
10	Loveness Kabwita Chikumbi	lovechikumbi@yahoo.co.uk 0971693847	L/stone General Hospital	Registered Midwife	Minimum
11	Mr.Musonda Muswala	Muswalamuso@gmail.com 0977333054	Chikankata hospital	Registered Midwife	Minimum
12	Phieldah Kabalo Daka	phieldahdaka@yahoo.com	DHMT	Registered Midwife	Minimum

Annex 2: Program for the workshop

9.00 - 09.30	Welcome and re-introductions <i>Dr Maimbolwa</i>	Qualitative Research <i>Prof Lavender</i>
09.30 - 11.00	Feedback on activities since last workshop <i>All</i>	Qualitative Research Group work (interview and focus group) <i>Prof Lavender</i>
11.00 - 11.30	Break	Break
11.30 - 13.00	<i>Paradigms, Methodology and Methods</i> <i>Prof Lavender</i>	What makes a good proposal <i>Prof Lavender</i>
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	Lunch
14.00 - 15.00	Quantitative Research <i>Dr Maimbolwa</i>	<i>Ethical Considerations</i> <i>Prof Lavender/Dr Maimbolwa</i>
15.00 - 15.15	Break	Break
15.15 - 16.30	Quantitative Research <i>Dr Maimbolwa</i>	The way forward Workshop evaluation <i>All</i>
16.30	Close	Close

Annex 3: LIST OF RESEARCHES FOR THREE MIDWIVES

1. Effectiveness of interventions preparing midwives and nurses for obstetric emergencies: a literature review.- **Chowa**
2. An understanding of how research knowledge and evidence enhances midwifery practice. - **Musonda**
3. Systematic review to assess the effectiveness of interventions aimed at preparing midwives and nurses for neonatal emergencies. - **Wanda**