

Webinar: The place of grief within neo-natal care contexts: Exploring experiences from the perspective of mothers and health workers.

BIOGRAPHIES of SPEAKERS



Mwanamvua Boga

Nurse manager and a lead trainer on Communication Skills and Emotional Competence

Kenya Medical Research Institute - Wellcome Trust Research Programme (KEMRI-WTRP) Kilifi, Kenya

Mwanamvua Boga serves as a nurse manager and a lead trainer on communication skills and emotional competence for health providers at the Kenya Medical Research Institute – Wellcome Trust Research programme (KEMRI-WTRP) Kilifi, Kenya.

Mwanamvua is a Registered Nurse (RN) with a higher diploma in critical care nursing from the Kenya Medical Training College, Nairobi and a Masters in Clinical Trials from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. She is also a Global award winner of “Heroines of Health” 2017, sponsored by Women in Global health.

She has 20+ years hands on experience in acute paediatric and neonatal nursing expertise and clinical research practice, working at an extremely busy high dependency paediatric research unit at the Kilifi County Hospital. Her work includes care of critically ill children, nursing management, administrative responsibilities and capacity building.

Over the last 15 years, she has been involved in training health professionals, researchers, and managers to communicate with emotional competence using reflective practice, experience-based learning approaches, and patients’ experiences. The training aims at strengthening respectful care and professional well-being among health professionals. She has trained over 500 frontline health professionals across Kenyan hospitals and at the Medical Research Council (MRC) in The Gambia and has presented her work at several national and international conferences, including the Global Women’s Research Society (GLOW) 2020.

In recent years Mwanamvua has developed and implemented a *Training of Trainers* program for Sub-County health managers in Kilifi and new-born unit nurse managers across 12 County hospitals in Kenya aimed at strengthening relational leadership among health managers. In addition, she has incorporated the experiences of mothers hospitalized with low-birth-weight babies in public hospitals in Kenya into the training modules – and introduced an online training version for building communication and emotional competence across diverse healthcare contexts. Opportunities to introduce the training in undergraduate nursing programs in Kenya in being explored.

Mwanamvua has shared her expertise at national and international platforms, and remains committed to strengthening empathetic, patient-centered care in low-resource settings.



Dr Dorothy Oluoch (Phd)

Post-doctoral research fellow

Kenya Medical Research Institute - Wellcome Trust Research Programme (KEMRI-WTRP) Kilifi, Kenya

Dorothy Oluoch (PhD) is a post-doctoral research fellow at the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme in Nairobi. She holds an MSc in Medical Anthropology from Brunel University, UK, and a PhD in public health from the Open University, UK.

Her research interests include (1) patient and staff experiences of illness and healthcare and Experience-based Co-design, (2) maternal, newborn, and child health, (3) research ethics, and (4) Evaluation of health systems interventions. Her previous work focussed on exploring the potential for using mothers' experiences narratives and digital stories of pre-term birth in Kenya as educational tools to improve people-centred care in LMICs. She currently leads studies on families' and staff's experiences of preterm birth and neonatal care in hospitals. She also leads a study examining childbirth-induced vulnerabilities in Kenya.



Joan Baswetty

Senior Newborn Unit Nurse and mentee trainer

Kenyatta National Hospital,
Nairobi, Kenya

Joan Baswetty is a Senior neonatal nurse based at Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. With 16 years of experience working specifically with neonates, Joan is passionate about improving the care of neonates. Based at Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, Joan has been involved in training for neonatal nursing and medical doctor staff in communication and emotional competence training.



Jaom Fisher

Coordinator, CONNECT website

The Global Health Network, Oxford University

Jaom Fisher is the Coordinator of the CONNECT website hub with The Global Health Network.

A qualified social worker, Jaom's professional experience has encompassed the areas of refugee resettlement and advocacy for people seeking asylum, community engagement and international development, organisational and team capacity building. She has worked in a number of different countries, more recently in Vietnam in community related and project management roles focusing on health, education and equity. While at the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit (Vietnam) - Public and Community Engagement team her work focused on enhancing the capacity of researchers and healthcare workers to engage with their communities.

In addition to her coordination of Connect, Jaom also works as a Practice Lead with the community and sector capacity building teams at Foundation House, Australia – a specialist service advancing the health, wellbeing and human rights of people of refugee backgrounds who have experienced torture and other traumatic events.