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Enabling research by sharing knowledge

Dear Colleagues,

As 2026 begins, The Global Health Network opens the year with a series of webinars and opportunities to support global health research and professional development. Highlights include an online postgraduate study with scholarship opportunities for African applicants, and an invitation to engage with the Global Cancer Research Knowledge Hub to address cancer care and research gaps in low and middle-income countries.

Here's all the latest news and updates from The Global Health Network.

Upcoming Events

Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research: Transform your career online. Information session for African applicants

Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research

Transform your career online | Information session for African applicants

February 2, 2026

15:00 GMT | 16:00 WAT
17:00 CAT | 18:00 EAT

Register

QR Code

Date and time: 2 February 2026 | 15:00 - 16:30 (GMT)

Become an expert in global health research with the University of Oxford – the world's leading university. Now in its third year, the fully online Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research continues to empower health professionals and researchers worldwide to conduct high-quality health research to address and eradicate diseases prevalent in low-resource settings. For the 2026/7 academic year there will be 30 scholarships from

the African-Oxford Initiative – AfOx – for African applicants.

Agenda:

- An introduction to the programme and guidance on the application process
- An overview of the course structure, designed specifically for busy professionals.
- Insights from alumni sharing their experiences and the impact on their careers.
- Opportunities to meet the teachers and coordinators behind this innovative diploma.
- The AfOx scholarship process and criteria.

Register: Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research: Transform your career online. Information session for African applicants

What can qualitative research bring to clinical trials?

Date and time: 3 February 2026 | 10:00 - 11:30 (GMT)

Four researchers working across Africa and Asia will share their experiences of conducting qualitative research in clinical trials, reflect on key challenges, and offer practical tips, followed by a Q&A session with the audience

Chair: Janet Seeley, head of department of Global Health and Development at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Speakers:

- Nambusi Kyegombe, Associate Professor in the social science of global and adolescent health and Head of the Social Determinants of Health portfolio at the MRC/UVRI & LSHTM Uganda Research Unit
- Constance Mackworth-Young, Medical Anthropologist at The Health Research Unit Zimbabwe, Nothando Ngwenya, faculty member at the Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI)
- Bazra Tsogt, Research and Innovation Lead at the Mongolian Anti-Tuberculosis Coalition in Ulaanbaatar.

Register for the webinar: What can qualitative research bring to clinical trials?

Bridging the Cancer Research Gap: Connect and Collaborate

Date and time: 4 February 2026 | 13:00 - 14:30 (GMT)

The Global Health Network is introducing the Global Cancer Research Knowledge Hub, to accelerate cancer research, strengthen clinical services, expand training, and inform policy particularly in low and middle-income countries (LMICs).

The Global Health Network is internationally recognised for advancing equitable research through capacity building, open knowledge sharing, and global collaboration especially in low-resource settings.

This live event will feature speakers from Malaysia, Nigeria and United Kingdom, bringing together a global perspective of development, research, and advocacy, and to address the urgent challenges of cancer in LMICs, where most cancer deaths occur due to late diagnosis and limited access to care.

This is an exciting opportunity for health professionals, researchers and policymakers to get involved and help shape this new initiative.

Register for the webinar: Bridging the Cancer Research Gap: Connect and Collaborate

Launch of the Nourished Truth Operational Toolkit – A Guide to Protecting Women’s Breastfeeding Choices from Commercial Influence

Date and time: 24 February 2026 | 13:00 - 14:30 UTC

Breastfeeding is central to maternal and child health, yet women’s feeding choices are often influenced by commercial milk formula marketing rather than evidence-based information. This webinar introduces the Nourished Truth Operational Toolkit – a how-to guide on building environments that protect women’s choices to breastfeed from commercial influence.

The Toolkit was created from real-world learnings in South Africa and is intended for those shaping policy, leading advocacy, or supporting breastfeeding at the national and community level.

Co-hosted with Amref International University, the webinar offers concrete guidance, insights from practice, and space for discussion.

Register for the webinar: Launch of the Nourished Truth Operational Toolkit – A Guide to Protecting Women’s Breastfeeding Choices from Commercial Influence

Measuring international progress in pregnancy planning and preconception health

Date and time: 19 February 2026 | 13:00 GMT

The next Healthy Life Trajectories Initiative (HeLTI) Early Career Researcher and Trainee Seminar will feature Dr. Danielle Schoenaker, University of Southampton.

Interventions and policies to optimise preconception health are expanding globally. Evaluating their effectiveness requires robust population-level surveillance systems to monitor progress and inform future, targeted investment. However, there is currently no internationally agreed set of preconception health indicators suitable for global surveillance. This webinar will present an overview of the work of the International Core Indicators for Preconception Health and Equity (iCIPHE) Alliance, which seeks to address this gap. To join visit:

HeLTI Webinars and Events

Webinar: AMR tools and resources: An introduction for health professionals and researchers

Date: 29 January 2026 (times listed below)

This webinar will provide an overview of MICROBE, an interactive visualisation platform developed by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), enabling exploration of global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) burden estimates and comparison across pathogens, drug classes, and geographies. Other open-access tools will be discussed, including the World Health Organization's Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS) and the AMR R package.

The AMR Data Repository, a new platform co-launched by the Global Research on Antimicrobial Resistance (GRAM) Project and the Infectious Diseases Data Observatory (IDDO) which curates high-value datasets, expands access for researchers, particularly in low and middle-income countries, and supports ethical data reuse, will also be introduced.

Two identical sessions are available to enable global participation. Please register for the time that best suits you.

[Register for 09:30-11:00 GMT](#)

[Register for 15:00-16:30 GMT](#)

News

New study warns of 'creeping catastrophe' as climate change driving global rise in infectious diseases

A major study led by The Global Health Network warns that climate change, socioeconomic inequality, and antimicrobial resistance are converging to create an escalating health crisis. With the analysis of qualitative data from 3,752 health professionals and researchers across 151 countries, with 86.9% based in low and middle-income countries, it is the largest global study of its kind addressing the question of which escalating disease threats pose the greatest threat.

Experts identified vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue as the most rapidly worsening threats, followed by tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. This risk will not present as a dramatic outbreak, but as a slow-unfolding humanitarian disaster where endemic diseases spread into new geographies - impacting health systems and economies. Tackling the cross-cutting drivers of disease could strengthen preparedness for both existing and future threats.

[Read more: 'Creeping Catastrophe': Climate Change Driving Global Rise in Infectious Diseases](#)

Download a board game to help your team to plan an evaluation strategy for your engagement project

Discover an entertaining way of planning the evaluation of your community engagement project through this innovative board game where your strategy emerges as your team plays the game. As was seen at a recent international community engagement meeting in Bengaluru India, this game is ideally suited for workshopping. The game is freely available to download on Mesh.

[Download: Evaluation Process Board Game](#)

The Global Health Network Latin America and the Caribbean Mentoring Programme to Integrate Research into Everyday Clinical Practice

The Global Health Network Latin America and the Caribbean, in collaboration with the Institute for Clinical Effectiveness and Health Policy (IECS) and the Infectious Diseases Service at Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, is running a mentoring programme in clinical and epidemiological research.

The programme supports healthcare professionals working in infectious diseases and infection prevention and control to develop research linked to their clinical practice, with mentoring throughout the research and publication process. The aim is to strengthen research skills while contributing to improved quality of care and patient safety. Learn more:

[Mentoring Infectious Diseases Service at the Italian hospital with the Support of The Global Health Network and IECS](#)

Applications open for the University of Oxford's fully online part-time Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research

The course is based on the evidence-led Essential Research Skills Training Curriculum for Health Research which was developed as a collaboration between The Global Health Network, UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases. The programme is based on a study that involved over 7,000 participants from 153 countries. This makes the diploma the first of its kind where all the core skills and component steps identified to undertake quality, practical and appropriate health research studies are covered, making it relevant for research into any disease, in all types of studies, and in any setting.

This part time course is suitable for busy professionals who want to keep working or cannot travel, and aims to tackle inequities in health research leadership. Learn more:

[Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research](#)

The Global Health Network Training Centre Round Up

Access free, peer-reviewed training and resources to support your career and conduct high-quality research. The Global Health Network Training Centre offers an extensive online catalogue of resources from eLearning courses to toolkits, covering diverse global health research topics for all roles and regions — driving impactful research worldwide.

Join professionals around the world in accessing:

- eLearning courses
- Webinars & workshops
- Regional activities
- Resources gateway

The Global Health Network Training Centre

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