



The NIHR Global Health Research Group on Stillbirth Prevention and Management in Sub-Saharan Africa at The University of Manchester is a three-year programme funded by the National Institute of Health Research (UK) implemented by The University of Manchester in partnership with LAMRN (www.lamrn.org), a network of six African countries (Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe).

The programme aims to promote knowledge sharing and capacity building in the area of stillbirth prevention and management in low resource setting. Through this work the research group will gain an understanding of the issues in improving stillbirth prevention, childbirth and bereavement care in low income settings; develop culturally relevant studies for further investigation in this unexplored area and establish itself in the Global arena as a catalyst for change.

Progress with Study Site Data Collection

Fantastic progress with data collection, keep up the good work. Evidence in the making!

Progress with data collection				
	Case Report Forms in REDCap	interview	observation	
WS 1	ZIMBABWE	N = 915 / 1,800		
WS 2	ZAMBIA	N = 689 / 1,000		N = 20/27 N = 10/18
	TANZANIA	N = 793 / 1,000		N = 6/27 N = 0/18
WS 3	UGANDA	N = 57	Women N = 31	Partner N = 11 Health workers N = 15
	KENYA	N = 46	Women N = 18	Partner N = 10 Health workers N = 18
WS 4	MALAWI	N = 207 / 179		



COUNTRY UPDATES



Malawi: Audit on Stillbirths

Working towards the Audit Action Plan.

This period has mainly been characterized by data collection for the baseline audit of stillbirths at Bwaila District Hospital, Lilongwe and Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Blantyre. The data collection covered the period from July to December 2018. Data cleaning and analysis have been performed and the findings have been presented to the stakeholder groups at the individual study sites.

Discussions took place regarding the interpretation of the findings and development of Audit Action Plan. Dr Rebecca Smyth and Valentina Actis Danna from The University of Manchester attended both meetings with Professor Angela Chimwaza, Chisomo Petross and Isabella Chisuse



Stakeholder group; Bwaila District Hospital, Lilongwe



Stakeholder group; Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Blantyre

Uganda: Respectful and Supportive Care after Stillbirth

Qualitative interviews with healthcare workers completed

The Research Assistants Jonan Mweteise and Allen Nabisere have completed qualitative interviews with Health care providers both in Kayunga and Mulago Hospitals. Interviews with women are soon to be completed too. Now the main emphasis is on recruiting partners. The NIHR team acquired an office in 2018 within the College of Health Sciences Makerere University.

The NIHR Stillbirth team, comprising of Stillbirth Country Lead Elizabeth Ayebare, Jonan and Allen, have received training in qualitative data analysis with support from the UK colleagues Dr Carol Bedwell and Kylie Watson. The UK team had the opportunity to give presentations on care after stillbirth and quality assurance in qualitative research to Master's students at Makerere University, Department of Nursing.



Training at the Department of Nursing, Makerere University, Kampala

Zimbabwe: Cross sectional study on stillbirth

Half way through data collection!

Data collection for the Zimbabwe team commenced on the 1st of August 2018, with Grace Danda and Skhue Jele entering 5 Case Report Forms each day. There are now 915 CRFs entered into REDCap™. Data collection is on target with the expected completion date of July 2019. Double entry of 10% of Case Report Forms as way of validating the data will commence in the New Year.



All smiles as data collection takes off in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Tanzania: Delays in effective intrapartum care



Qualitative interviewing practice in Tanzania – lots of learning!

The Tanzania teams continue to collect quantitative data on REDCap™ since August 2018. Recently they had a great opportunity to be further strengthened on their knowledge and skills in qualitative research, in particular about grounded theory concepts and qualitative interviewing. This was made possible by two UK team members- Prof Dame Tina Lavender and Carol Porteous who visited Tanzania from 22nd - 25th October 2018.

During their visit the team managed to visit one of the qualitative data collection sites Misasi Health Centre, Tanzania

Kenya: Respectful and Supportive Care after Stillbirth

Patient and Public Involvement going from strength to strength

The UK and Kenyan Study team met with the PPI (Patient and Public Involvement) group. Since the conception of the PPI group, regular meetings have taken place with the study team creating a trusting and cordial relationship. During the monthly meetings, members have shared issues relating to individual coping mechanisms, future aspirations as well as feedback on the qualitative data.

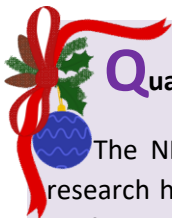




The existing supportive systems provided by the Kenya team have allowed a platform for individual and group interactions.

The meeting started with a celebration and welcoming of a new-born baby for one of the PPI group members. The PPI group Lead led the prayers to commit the baby in prayer, followed by a welcome speech by the country Lead Prof. Grace Omoni. After which, PPI members took turns wishing the new parents joy and happiness for the new live birth. In her characteristic leadership and warmth, Prof. Tina Lavender said *“This happy moment marks a new dawn, new hope and prosperity for the LAMRN family in Kenya and beyond”*.

Zambia: Delays in Effective Intrapartum Care



Qualitative Research training taking pace in Zambia

The NIHR Stillbirth Zambia team successfully completed the two days training in qualitative research held from 10th-11th August 2018 at Protea Cairo Hotel, Lusaka, Zambia. The trainers were: Prof. Tina Lavender (Global Stillbirth Lead), Dr. Carol Bedwell (Global PPI Lead) and Dr. Sabina Wakasiaka (Regional Coordinator Stillbirth Project). In attendance was: Mrs. Chowa Tembo Kasengele- Principal Investigator and Zambia Stillbirth Project Lead; Ms. Kutemba Lyangenda and Mr. Khuzuet Tuwele; Research Assistants.

The meeting commenced with an update on study progress and quantitative data collection provided by the research assistants. This was followed a very interactive workshop using a variety of entertaining scenarios to enable skills in interviewing and observation to be developed. Other aspects of the project were planned including future stakeholder and PPI meetings. Since the meeting the Zambian team has been successfully collecting qualitative interview and observational data, giving further insight into the issue of delays in receiving intrapartum care.



Left to Right: Mr Khuzuet Tuwele, Dr Carol Bedwell, Dr Sabina Wakasiaka, Mrs. Chowa Tembo Kasengele, Professor Tina Lavender and Ms. Kutemba Lyangenda