

Consequential Life

A Newsletter of the JHU-MUSPH Chronic Consequences of Trauma, Injury, And Disability Across the Lifespan Program

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Message from the Directors

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter under the “Chronic Consequences of Trauma Injury and Disability Across the Lifespan” (Chronic TRIAD) grant! We are grateful to the Fogarty International Center of USA’s National Institutes of Health for funding this five year grant between the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHU), USA and the Makerere University School of Public Health (MUSPH), Uganda. This research training



grant will support a spectrum of training, research and capacity development activities in Uganda. We are delighted to work with MUSPH in the development of sustainable research capacity in the country.

This newsletter introduces our grant at the 11th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion in New Zealand, 1-4 October 2012. This important meeting is a great opportunity to inform colleagues and participants from the public, private and non-governmental health sectors in Uganda, Africa and the developing world.

Chronic TRIAD builds on over a decade of JHU-MUSPH’s collaboration exploring the burden of injury and trauma in Uganda. The Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit, a World Health Organization Collaborating Center, (www.jhsph.edu/IIRU) has been leading this work with our MUSPH colleagues. Our work has already contributed to bringing stakeholders together to discuss key injury prevention issues, identifying sustainable ways of documenting trauma in surveillance systems, and defining new methods for measuring disability in Uganda with relevance to the developing world.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Adnan A. Hyder, MD MPH PhD
Director, JHU-MUSPH Chronic TRIAD

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I can say without a doubt that during this conference, as has been the case at all international conferences in the past, the challenge of research capacity will be at the forefront. The causes of this low capacity, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), are well known. Many experts in the fields of trauma, injuries, and disabilities have spent many years trying to support institutions and individuals in countries where the burden is highest to conduct research, and implement interventions.



For one East African country, this grant is a bold step in this journey of building capacity. While it does not promise to close the capacity gap entirely, in the five years that the grant has to run, it will surely change the landscape of trauma, injuries, and disabilities research in Uganda. The Makerere University School of Public Health, in partnership with JHU, will train practitioners and researchers at various levels, right up to MPH level. Since the training will be undertaken mostly in-country, not only will the grant generate locally relevant research, but it will leave the school with all of what it takes to train senior researchers, and to undertake research in these under-researched public health problems.

We are excited to be setting off on this journey!

Dr. Olive C. Kobusingye, MBChB MSc MMed MPH
Co-Director, JHU-MUSPH Chronic TRIAD

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About JHU-MUSPH Chronic TRIAD

Our Goal



The Johns Hopkins University-Makerere University School of Public Health (JHU-MUSPH) Chronic Trauma, Injuries, and Disability (TRIAD) program will serve the overall goal to strengthen research capacity on the long-term health and economic consequences of trauma, injuries, and disability across the lifespan in Uganda through an innovative model of sustainable capacity development.

Our Aims

In addressing chronic consequences of trauma, injuries and disability in Uganda, we aim to: (1) Develop a core group of researchers at MUSPH through a variety of training activities; (2) Promote research around key national priorities and themes that include the establishment and use of national databases relevant to injury, trauma, and disability, development and evaluation of community-based interventions, and exploration of the social and economic costs (3) Establish a national forum for an annual research-to-policy dialogue, and (4) Create a center for MUSPH research that enhances the sustainability of our efforts through activities that include increasing capacity for research management, research ethics coordination, proposal development, and producing continuing education materials.



Our Model



This program is based on the close partnership between JHU and MUSPH, two academic institutions with a strong commitment to understanding the long-term impact of trauma and injuries, experience in research, and a history of collaborative work. Our model will use JHU's expertise to strengthen the Ugandan institution, promote a sustainable research enterprise focused on the chronic consequences of trauma, injuries, and disability, and enable national dissemination of research evidence to influence policy in Uganda.

About the Partners

Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit, A World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Injuries, Violence, and Accident Prevention

Through research, collaboration, and training, the Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit (JH-IIRU) identifies effective solutions to the growing burden of injuries in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), influences public policy and practice, and advances the field of injury prevention throughout the world.

Our [research](#) includes intervention trials, economic analyses, and surveillance studies in order to determine the impact of injuries in LMICs and to identify potential solutions. Our work ranges from road safety in Mexico to drowning prevention in Bangladesh. We establish [collaborative relationships](#) both within Johns Hopkins and externally with NGOs, governments and international organizations.

We remain at the forefront of [injury education and training](#), spanning all facets of injury prevention and combining a strong public health approach, scientific principles, and examples of successes and challenges from LMICs. JH-IIRU affiliated faculty cover the basic sciences of public health (epidemiology and biostatistics), social sciences (behavior and communications), health systems analysis (health economics), ethics, and issues of cultural sensitivity (equity).

Our training approach is three-pronged: learning by doing, workshops, and courses in injury prevention. JH-IIRU primarily engages with public health professionals, medical and research personnel, and graduate students from LMICs. We manage certificate programs, conduct seminars, and provide curriculum development assistance around the world. We also offer post-doctoral fellowships, faculty exchange programs, and capacity development with organizations such as the WHO and its Mentor-VIP program.

Makerere University School of Public Health

Makerere University School of Public Health (MUSPH) works to excel in public health training, research and service provision. Our main campus is located within the Makerere University College of Health Sciences on Mulago Hill, within the Mulago National Referral Hospital, and we also have premises in Kololo and Kasangati.



The school boasts of a vibrant, dynamic and knowledgeable team of bio-medical experts, social scientists, nutritionists, health systems specialists, social workers and experts from many other fields. Our main responsibilities rotate around research, community service including consultancy and training/teaching. The school has undergraduate and post-graduate courses, short skills-based courses, research projects and community service projects.

We at MUSPH are committed to providing quality training to produce highly competent public health professionals that are able to tackle public health challenges within our communities. The school has four departments: Department of Health Policy, Planning and Management, Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Department of Community Health and Behavioral Sciences. The school also houses the Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care.

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Recent Publications

Bachani AM, Koradia P, Herbert HK, et al. Road traffic injuries in Kenya: the health burden and risk factors in two districts. *Traffic Inj Prev.* 2012;13 Suppl 1:24-30.

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