

Implementation Science Subgroup Meeting  
November 16, 2018

**Participants:** David Hamer (BU) [co-chair], Karin Kallander (UNICEF) [co-chair], Tjede Funk (Karolinska Institutet) [presenter], Peter Rockers (BU) [presenters], Stella Abwao (MCSP), Kevin Baker (Malaria Consortium), Danielle Charlet (URC), Amy Ginsberg (Save the Children), Elizabeth Hourani (MCSP), Troy Jacobs (USAID), Dyness Kasungami (MCSP), Felix Lam (CHAI), Imran Nisar (Aga Khan University, Pakistan), Amanda Pomeroy-Stevens (JSI), Debra Prosnitz (ICF), Alfonso Rosales (WVI), Suzanne Slattery (MCSP/JSI), Charlotte Ward (Malaria Consortium), Leslie Wentworth (CHAI)

**Recording Link:**

[https://mcsprogram.adobeconnect.com/pkcg2jtd7bwx/?OWASP\\_CSRFTOKEN=bd3d4b5bebf4cb02a5f05b3368f7eb18f65e663b2babd40ecf483e5ad8e9779](https://mcsprogram.adobeconnect.com/pkcg2jtd7bwx/?OWASP_CSRFTOKEN=bd3d4b5bebf4cb02a5f05b3368f7eb18f65e663b2babd40ecf483e5ad8e9779)

**Action Items:**

- **Subgroup members** to share suggestions for future presentations with co-chairs.

**Meeting Notes:**

- Presentation by Peter Rucker, Assistant Professor at Boston University in the Department of Global Health – “Home and community-based interventions to improve child growth and development in Zambia”

*Please refer to presentation for additional information.*

- o Discussion:
  - Is 72% the prevalence of stunting, or the decrease on stunting prevalence?
    - Probability of stunting amongst children who are stunted at baseline.
  - Who facilitated the parenting groups, health staff or community resources?
    - The groups were facilitated by the head mothers. The materials that are required for the parenting groups were supplied, but cognizant of the fact that they should create a curriculum that didn't require too many outside materials in order to make it sustainable.
  - What scale did you use to measure child development?
    - DALYs and the associated toolkit.
  - Was there any “back correlation” to the foods families were feeding these children as they continuously did charting?
    - In the initial study we did a baseline and a year later came back and did the endline. We realized that we came back during the same season (hungry season) which is problematic. They completed a 24 hour food frequency questionnaire and did see some shifts, but did not think the differences in diet are quite representative of what changes might be made outside of the hungry season when the household may have had more resources to allocate.
  - Can you describe the health package delivered? What was the nutrition specific intervention?
    - The intervention was the mothers group and the curriculum that the head mother led the other village mothers through that included other topics such as hygiene, sanitation, other sources of protein, etc. After

that there was a major focus on interactions with the child. There were no actual nutrition interventions.

- Presentation by Tjede Funk, Karolinska Institutet – “I also take part in care for the sick children” a qualitative study on Ethiopian fathers’ roles and responsibilities in seeking care for sick children

*Please refer to presentation for additional information.*

- Discussion:
  - While it's encouraging to see fathers' engagement in child health, this also supports the presence of detrimental gender issues regarding household decision-making. Did you look at the effect on timely care seekings, especially in the cases where referral was needed?
    - Not in this study. This was only the qualitative part. In the actual randomized control trial, we did look at care seeking but not necessarily from the father’s perspective.
  - Did the qualitative aspect look at the role of the family and how the father’s decision may be subject to a larger family decision making process?
    - We did not ask about the larger family dynamic and broader picture for decision-making.
  - Will you try to replicate in other parts of Ethiopia with possibly Oromo or Amhara? Some ethnic groups may be more conservative than in SNNPR.
    - The in-country team did not bring up that the results here could be different depending on where we conducted interviews. Within the districts where we conducted the interviews though, you did notice some differences. While it’s not planned, it would be interesting to continue this in other areas.