

### **3 MICRORESEARCH APPLICANTS RECEIVE FUNDING FROM MICRORESEARCH CANADA.**

Three MR trainees have received seeding funding from MicroResearch Canada to carry out their projects. The recipients are: Dr Jennifer Oyieke, Dr Hellen Kariuki, and Mr Fred Mochache Mose.

#### **1. Jennifer Oyieke,**

##### **Title: Impact of In-Service Training of Midwives on Partogram Use**

In Africa, many mothers die during labour and delivery due to prolonged or obstructed labour. Some of these deaths could be prevented by more careful monitoring of labour using a form known as a Partogram. This form allows the midwife to record the progress of labour including dilatation, frequency of contractions and fetal heart rate. If used consistently, evidence suggests that risk situations can be detected earlier using the Partogram leading to earlier intervention and this can reduce both maternal and perinatal mortality during labour and birth. Unfortunately many midwives do not fill in the Partogram. We propose to train selected midwives in two institutions in Nairobi to coach their peers about the Partogram to determine if this will impact on Partogram use. This project aims to measure if the coaching training intervention is effective in promoting Partogram use. If this study demonstrates that the intervention is effective in promoting Partogram use, the Ministry of Health will be approached to scale up the intervention. The long term expected outcome is a reduction in maternal and Perinatal mortality

Team (Nairobi): Jennifer Oyieke, Alice Yugi, Jane Ong'ang'o, Elizabeth Dimba, Regina Mutave, Maria Ndunge Kiio, Faith Apolot Okalebo

#### **2. Dr Hellen Kariuki**

##### **Title of Project: Factors Contributing to Poor Patient Adherence to Ponseti Management of Clubfoot at AIC-CURE International Children's Hospital Kijabe.**

Clubfoot is a deformity of the feet that a child is born with that if not treated early and correctly, can result in disability. The Ponseti method of treatment of this condition is available at several Kenyan government facilities for free, but about one third of children drop out of treatment before proper correction is achieved. This qualitative study will seek to identify what makes the patients stop attending treatment at the AIC-CURE International Children's Hospital at Kijabe, Kenya. Trained research assistants will interview 4-6 health care workers and will trace 10-12 consenting parents/guardians of children with clubfoot who dropped out of care, to find out why the children dropped out. The data collected will be analysed, and factors identified as barriers to adhering to ponseti treatment. These results will be disseminated to stake holders to work out ways of addressing the barriers. The results will also form a basis for a larger nationwide qualitative study to identify factors that may promote adherence to ponseti treatment.

Team (Nairobi): Hellen Kariuki, Susan Ndinguri, Dr.Inziani Mary, Dr. Kollman Martin, Kareri Danson Mwangi, Mwaniki John Njeru.

#### **3. Fred Mochache Mose**

##### **Title: Determinants of maternal health utilization by adolescents in informal settlements of Nairobi.**

Use of antenatal care, delivery in a health facility and use of infant services positively affects the health of both the infant and the mother. Pregnant adolescents are at increased risk of maternal mortality. Despite increased effort to make maternal health care available to adolescents, utilization of these services by this population is still low. In this study we seek to identify the

factors that influence maternal health care utilization by pregnant adolescents in informal settlements of Nairobi Kenya. Focus groups will be used to determine the salient factors for adolescents in their decisions to use antenatal health care, or not, and in choosing where they will deliver their babies and the utilization of infant care after delivery. Once these factors have been identified it will be used to inform policy makers .The expected long term impact is the increased utilization of antenatal health care ,increased health facility delivery and infant care utilization which will in turn lead to decreased maternal and infant mortality .

Team (Nairobi): Mose Fred Mochache, Jane Achieng Achola, Lucy Wangari Mwangi, John Kariri Mukui, Peter M. Kirigwi, Jeremiah Munyao, Elijah A. Okall