

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DISSEMINATION MEETING

First meeting

The third postgraduate research meeting on 28th April 2009 was held at the Davies Lecture Theatre, organized by Dr. Fred Semitala and Dr. Simon Luzige.

The meeting started at 9:50am and the chairperson of USHS Dr. Pauline Byakika-Kibwika welcomed members and discussed the aim of this meeting which is to provide a forum to postgraduate students to present their research projects in preparation for dissertation defense. She noted the presence of senior researchers, epidemiologists and statisticians who had been invited to listen and assist the postgraduate students to improve on their data presentation and dissertation writing.

Dr. Charles Ibingira the Dean for research at the College of Health Sciences was invited to open the meeting. He welcomed members present for the meeting and informed them that since the College values graduate training he and his office pledge to offer support to USHS to be able to hold this activity annually. He also assured the audience the need to share knowledge with other postgraduates, so that information is disseminated to improve knowledge and influence policy. He thanked USHS for the invitation and for the number of activities provided in support of research like; grant writing training and proposal writing training which all help to improve postgraduate training. He encouraged USHS to continue with these activities. He pledged to discuss this meeting during the ethics research committee meetings to improve attendance. He declared the meeting open.

The following dissertations were presented;

- Comparison of glucose and lipid abnormalities in HIV infected patients on Stavudine and Zidovudine based antiretroviral regimens at the infectious disease clinic. ***Dr. Bernard Omech, Department of Medicine***
- The prevalence and factors associated with adrenal insufficiency among patients with sputum smear positive pulmonary tuberculosis (PTB) admitted to Mulago Hospital. ***Dr. Teddy Namulema Department of Medicine***

- In vivo PPD conversion among HIV positive patients on HAART at the IDI. **Dr. Bruce Kirenga Department of Medicine**
- Prevalence and factors associated with hypercalcaemia among adult breast cancer patients in Mulago hospital. **Dr. Eddie Mwebesa Department of Medicine**
- Comparison of Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology and Fine Needle Sampling without Aspiration in the diagnosis of palpable breast lumps in Mulago hospital. **Dr. Nelson Alema Department of Surgery**
- The effect of HIV- infection on malaria parasite clearance in pregnant women with severe malaria at Lacor and Gulu hospitals, northern Uganda. **Dr. Pontius Bayo Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology**
- A randomized controlled trial of metronidazole and radiotherapy versus radiotherapy alone in anaemic patients with advanced cervical cancer in Mulago Hospital. **Dr. Peter Kibuuka Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology**
- The perceptions and practices of the birth preparedness plan among antenatal mothers in Naguru and Kawempe health centers in Kampala District. **Dr. Samuel Kagali, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology**

Each presentation was followed by questions and answers plus a discussion. Each student was assigned a statistician and a senior researcher before the final dissertation defence.

Second meeting

The meeting was held on 29th June 2009 started at 2:15pm with opening remarks from Dr. Achilles Katamba who welcomed participants. Dr. Kabanda requested members to use 15 to 20 minutes to present and statisticians to give their comments at the end of the presentations

The following students pursuing a Masters in Public Health Distance Education presented their research concepts amidst the facilitators and their fellow students as facilitators critiqued the science contained in the intended research as well as the statistical methods

to be used. The facilitators provided guidance to the students on methodology and appropriate statistical methods for their research.

- Impact of an educational HIV positive Educational Board game on Knowledge of HIV and STIs among patients attending IDC. ***Ms. Jane Namukasa Wanyama***
- Factors associated with pregnancy among HIV positive women attending Rubaga Hospital. ***Dr Kabanda Joseph***
- Case-control study to establish factors that are causing frequent occurrence of epidemics meningitis in west Nile region- a case of Arua. ***Dr. Julius Muguya***
- Factors associated with female participation in Vaccine trials at UVRI. ***Dr Nanvubya Annet***
- Factors that influence referral and enrollment of PMTCT mothers into HIV care in Arua Hospital. ***Dr Aldo Burua***