

The Research Proposal Writing Workshop

The proposal writing workshop is the first of the series of annual research methodology workshops. From 14th to 16th January 2009, USHS held the proposal writing workshop at the Regional Center for Quality of Health. The Chairperson welcomed participants to the workshop and informed them that the USHS aimed to equip members with skills to carry out quality research. She also discussed with participants the objectives of the workshop. The workshop attracted a total of 30 participants comprising of 14 females, majority were postgraduate students. The lead committee members of the workshop were Dr. Pauline Byakika-Kibwika and Dr. Fred Semitala.

Objective of the workshop

- To equip participants with skills to write high quality research proposals.

Some of the participants' expectations were

- To acquire skills in proposal writing.
- To expand knowledge on proposal development.
- To learn how to calculate sample size.
- To be able to write a proposal that will be funded.
- To learn how to translate a problem into a research question.
- To learn how to identify a research topic.

The workshop covered the following areas.

- Introduction to research methods & format of a research proposal by **Prof. Harriet Mayanja-**

Kizza

- Problem Analysis by **Dr. Charles Karamagi**
- Research question, objective & hypothesis formulation by **Prof. Elly Katabira.**
- Study Design by **Prof. Moses Kamy**
- Practical session on titles, research questions and objectives by **Ms. Joan Nakayaga**

Kalyango

- Sampling procedure & sample size determination by **Dr. Noah Kiwanuka**
- Study setting, study population, selection criteria, variables and measurements by **Prof.**

James

Tumwine

- Data collection methods by **Dr. Fred Nuwaha**
- Questionnaire design by **Dr. Fred Nuwaha**
- Data Management by **Dr. Fred Makumbi**
- Ethical issues in health research by **Dr. Fred Nakwagala**
- Planning and Budgeting by **Dr. Samuel Biraro**
- Qualitative research methods by **Dr. Sarah Ssali**
- Reference manager by **Dr. Daniel Kyabayinze**

Evaluation of the Research Proposal Workshop

Presentations	Below Average	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Introduction to research methods & format of a research proposal			19%	44%	34%
Problem Analysis			10%	38%	52%
Research Question Object & Hypothesis formulation			32%	42%	26%
Methods I (Study design)			53%	21%	26%
Practical Session			25	38%	38%
Methods II			6%	22%	72%
Methods III			19%	44%	38%
Methods IV		6%	6%	29%	41%
Questionnaire Design		11%	28%	44%	17%
Literature search techniques			22%	44%	33%
Data Management			16%	32%	53%
Qualitative Research Methods				37%	63%

Planning and Budgeting				60%	40%
Ethical Issues in Health Research			17%	50%	33%
Reference manager – End note			42%	36%	21%