



Mbarara University Research Training Initiative (MURTI) D43TW010128

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Presentation outline

- **Summary of the programme**
- **Progress made in the last year**
- **Success stories to share**
- **Challenges**
- **Opportunities for collaboration**

Background/Overall aim

- **Building capacity of junior faculty to become the next generation of researchers in Africa, who will conduct locally relevant research that contributes to improved health in rural south western Uganda**

Objectives

Develop research expertise of junior faculty particularly in rural southwestern Uganda to carry out research in the areas of:

- 1. HIV prevention and treatment,**
- 2. Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs)**
- 3. Mental health disorders in rural Uganda**
- 4. Neurological disorders; and**
- 5. Research ethics, communication and administration**

Methods

MURTI utilizes a model of shorter training programs while covering multiple competencies over a 2-year fellowship.

In this approach the Fellows:

- **Receive short-term focused research training on particular knowledge and skills**
- **Are paired to mentors (local and international)**
- **Provided with seed grants to conduct mentored research**
- **Publish research findings in peer reviewed journals and conferences**
- **Receive mentorship throughout the fellowship**

Successes: Courses offered Year 3

Course offered	No. trained
Responsible Conduct of Research	29
Grant Writing	17
Scientific Manuscript Writing	17
Data Management	22
Systematic review of literature	15
Endnote referencing management	24
Qualitative research methods	25
Implementation research	12
Financial management in research administration	30
Fundamentals of Molecular Diagnostics	18
Good Clinical Laboratory Practice	23
Good Clinical Practice	21
Development of Psychological Tools	11
Advanced Research Methods*	6
Quantitative research methods	24



Successes: Publications/conferences/grants

Cohorts	No. of Fellows	Status	Publications / (Submitted)	Conference presentations	Grants submitted	Grants Funded
1	4	Completed	3	14	3	0
2	4	Completed	4	11	9	5
3	6	In-training	0	4	1	1
4	6	In-coming	-	-		
Other Junior Faculty ...MURTI Spin-off					8 K43	2(+1)

Success: International

- **Cohort 1 Fellow** – was invited to WHO to make a presentation out of her MURTI project publication (*D.Nakku et al 2017 - HIV status and hearing loss among children between 6 and 12 years of age at a large urban health facility in south western Uganda. [International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology Volume 101, Pages 172-177](#)*)
- **Cohort 2 Fellow** – after a mentoring placement at the Mayo Clinic, was offer a specialization Fellowship for three years
- **Successful grant applications**

Challenges

- **Risk of loss of Fellows as they becomes better skilled**
- **Balancing between clinical responsibility and the Fellowship**

Opportunities for collaboration

- **MURTI has opened opportunities to collaborate on other research and grant applications with other institutions**



Acknowledgements

1. FIC
2. Key Personnel, Mentors and Collaborators
3. The junior faculty
4. The Fellows - for their youth, eagerness to learn and conducting locally relevant

THANK YOU!