World Spine Care Research Program

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Mahalapye, Botswana
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World Spine Care Research Program
Underlying Principles

• Culturally sensitive and appropriate to the local community
• Inclusive, with Botswana researcher participation
• Research capacity building (training and mentorship)
• Relevant to local health care needs
• Unbiased and ethical
• Generation of new information to support policy planning and development
• Input and support from:
  • Community
  • Local providers
  • Government
World Spine Care Research Program
Project 1

“Developing and Evaluating an Innovative Integrated Model of Care for the Management of Chronic Musculoskeletal Conditions in Vulnerable Populations”

Proposal being prepared for the Gates Foundation and CIHR(Canada)

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Botswana researcher/co-investigator needed
World Spine Care Research Program
Project 1

Innovative and Culturally Appropriate Integrated Model of Spine Care:

- Interprofessional team-based care that is patient centered and evidence-based
- Clinical care pathways for:
  - Screening
  - Assessment
  - Treatment
  - Management
- Conservative care and rehabilitation
- Triage to Specialist Care
  - Rheumatology
  - Orthopaedics
  - Neurology
Draft neuromusculoskeletal screening, assessment and treatment algorithm for spinal conditions encountered in residents of a rural Botswana community

General Screening of Identified Community

- Thigh for appropriate referral and evaluation (yes/no)

  Spinal Disorder

  Yes

  Screening of Individuals Identified with Spinal Disorder

  - Other condition (fracture, tumour, infection, etc.)
  - Identified primary rheumatologic condition
  - Identified primary orthopaedic/mechanical condition
  - Identified primary neurological condition

  Rheumatologic – specific diagnostic assessment

  Yes

  Orthopaedic – specific diagnostic assessment

  Yes

  Neurological – specific diagnostic assessment

  Yes

  Comprehensive orthopaedic/mechanical spinal condition diagnostic workup

  - Refer to rheumatology and orthopaedics
  - Refer to neurology and orthopaedics

  No

  - Confirmed uncomplicated condition

    - Primary spine care clinician referral for conservative care

      - Conservative care treatment provided

        - Outcome

        - Failure to improve

    - Orthopaedic surgical referral

  - Confirmed complex rehab condition

    - Physiatry complex rehab referral

      - Outcome

  - Confirmed surgical condition

    - Orthopaedic surgical referral

      - Outcome
World Spine Care Research Program
Project 2

“Developing and Evaluating a Front Line Health Care Worker Training Module for the Screening and Assessment of Chronic Spine Conditions in Botswana”

Proposal being prepared for the Gates Foundation and CIHR(Canada)

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Botswana researcher/co-investigator needed
World Spine Care Research Program Project 2

Front Line Health Care Worker Training Module

• Supporting local capacity building and program sustainability
• Culturally appropriate training program
• Screening
• Assessment
• Retention
• ‘Train the trainer’ model
• Potential for a certification program for participants
World Spine Care Research Program
Project 3

“Assessing the frequency and type of musculoskeletal conditions presenting in HIV + Batswana in Shoshong Village”

Proposal being prepared for the Gates Foundation and CIHR(Canada)

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Botswana researcher/co-investigator needed
Frequency and type of musculoskeletal conditions presenting in people living with HIV/AIDS

- Understanding the ‘burden’ of HIV/AIDS in our clinical population in Shoshong and Mahalapye
- Prevalence of HIV/AIDS in patients presenting to World Spine Care clinics
- Type of MSK conditions found in PLWAs
- Frequency of MSK conditions in PLWAs found in body regions (spine, knees, hips, shoulders, elbows, hands, feet)
- Relation of HAART medication to joint pain and osteoporosis in people living with HIV/AIDS?
Thank you!