

Press release

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Basic information

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Department of: Public Health

Main supervisor: Ulrika Enemark

Title of dissertation: "Co-creation of intervention towards caregivers' health literacy; their use of healthcare; and household costs in management of malaria in children under five years old".

Date for defence: 26th February 2021 at (time of day): 15.00 - 17.00 Place: Zoom

Press release (Danish)

Interaktiv tilgang til forbedring af sundhedskompetencer med fokus på malaria i Ghana

Malaria vedbliver at være et sundhedsproblem mange steder, specielt blandt børn under 5 år. Mulige årsager er misforståelse og forkert anvendelse af sundhedsinformation. I et nyt studie designes en intervention som skal forbedre omsorgsgiveres sundhedskompetencer vedrørende håndtering af malaria hos børn under fem år i Ghana. Projektet er gennemført af Millicent Addai Boateng, som forsvare sin afhandling den 26. februar 2021.

Studiets første fase identificerede behovet for bedre sundhedskompetencer blandt omsorgsgivere for små børn og barrierer i den hidtidige oplysningsstrategi. Sundhedskompetencer blev målt i en større befolkningsundersøgelse ved anvendelse af et standardiseret spørgeskema 'Health Literacy Questionnaire', som blev oversat og kulturelt tilpasset, og suppleret med fokusgrupper, enkeltinterviews og observationer. I anden fase udvikledes i samarbejde med blandt andet mødre, sundhedsarbejdere og sundhedsvæsenets sundhedsoplysningsenhed, et brætspil og brochurer som interaktive sundhedspædagogiske redskaber til brug i Børnesundhedsklinikker. Tredje fase bestod i en afprøvning og vurdering af egnetheden af de designede redskaber.

Det interaktive spil og brochurer forbedrede relationen mellem sundhedsarbejder og omsorgsgiver og stimulerede aktiv deltagelse i diskussionsorienteret sundhedsoplysning. Bæredygtigheden blev dog udfordret af forflyttelse af sundhedspersonalet. Opskalering af interventionen vil kræve støtte fra topledelsen i sundhedssektoren.

PhD forsvaret er offentligt, men finder sted virtuelt på Zoom. Enhver som ønsker at deltage skal henvende sig direkte til den studerende for at få tilsendt et link. Titlen på projektet er "Co-creation of intervention towards caregivers' health literacy; their use of healthcare; and household costs in management of malaria in children under five years old". Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Millicent Addai Boateng, e-mail: milliboat1@ph.au.dk, tlf. +233 241719042.

Bedømmelsesudvalg: påfør de tre medlemmer af udvalget med navn, titel og arbejdssted

Press release (English)

Headline: Interactive approach to improving health literacy with focus on malaria management in Ghana.

Malaria lingers on as a health problem in many places, especially, among children under 5 years. Possible reasons may include misunderstanding and misapplication of health information. A new study designed an intervention to improve health literacy of caregivers in the management of malaria in children under five years in Ghana. The project was carried out by Millicent Addai Boateng, who is defending her dissertation on 26th February 2021.

The first phase identified the health literacy needs of caregivers and barriers in the previous health education strategy. Health literacy was measured using a standardised questionnaire 'Health Literacy

Questionnaire' that was translated and culturally adapted, and supplemented by focus group and individual interviews, and observations. Next, researchers collaborated with mothers, health staff and Ghana Health Service health education unit, in the design of a board game and brochures as interactive health education tools for use at Child Welfare Clinics. Phase three assessed the practicality/implementation? of the designed tools.

The interactive game and brochures improved caregiver and health worker relationship and encouraged a participatory approach to health education. Sustainability was challenged with periodic transfer of health workers. Scale-out of the intervention would require support of top-level management of health.

The defense is public however, virtual and takes place on Zoom. Anyone who wishes to attend via Zoom must obtain the link directly from the student. The title of the project is "Co-creation of intervention towards caregivers' health literacy; their use of healthcare; and household costs in management of malaria in children under five years old". For more information, please contact PhD student Millicent Addai Boateng, email: milliboat1@ph.au.dk, Phone +233 241719042.

Assessment committee:

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