Engagement Approaches within the NeoTree Project

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On behalf of: the NeoTree team
NeoTree

Digital quality improvement system aiming to improve newborn survival in low-income settings

Five main functions:

1. Real-time clinical data collection
2. Evidence-based clinical decision support
3. Education and training
4. Data transfer (local and national)
5. Data visualisation
Motivations

• Primarily worked with health-care workers in co-development of the NeoTree

• Sought enrichment funding from Wellcome Trust to strengthen relationships with patients (mothers/carers) - to enable patients to co-develop future iterations of the NeoTree

• In process we hope to challenge hierarchies and develop a foundation of shared values and mutual trust
What will we do?

Working with ARTGLO, UCL Co-Production Collective and our local implementing partners we will:

• Enable mothers and caregivers to surface their stories of using formal health services in Zimbabwe and Malawi

• Build capacity in engagement and co-production among all stakeholders

• Strengthen links with communities in hospital catchment areas
ARTGLO BACKGROUND

■ Mission: At ArtGlo, we harness the power of the arts to nurture creative leadership, and ignite bold conversations and actions.

■ Vision: We envision a world where communities are healthy, open, and active, and people are free to be who they are.
OUR PHILOSOPHY

- Arts as a tool for enquiry, reflection and action (rather than top-down message dissemination)
- Draws on Agosto Boal’s Theatre of the Oppressed, Theatre for Development, Galia Boneh’s Process and Collaboration for Empowerment and Discussion (PACED) model, Human-Centred Design
PROGRAMMES

Students With Dreams (SWD)

Umunthu

Make Art for Sustainable Action (MASA)
WHY ARTS?

- Art is Universal!
- Allows free expression
- Ideas are naturally conveyed
- Can break down power dynamics
- Methodologies can be adapted to diverse issues and groups of people
- It’s fun!
METHODOLOGIES IN ACTION

- Discuss sensitive issues with different audiences e.g. local leaders to discuss harmful cultural practices that fuel the spread of HIV/AIDS (MASA)
- Engaging youth in understanding SRH and creating community driven solutions using theater and performances (MASA:Youth)
- Working with healthcare workers on LGBTI issues via roleplays, games etc. (Umunthu)
- Community driven solutions design using design thinking approaches and research (UNESCO, MASA:YFO, MAWA, Zamuntima Sizawekha)
ROLE IN THE PROJECT

- Adapting participatory arts approaches to maternal health experiences with the Neotree
- MASA- exploring lived experiences and sharing them through arts
- Umunthu- linkage workshops between healthcare workers and LGBTI people
- Collaboration with UCL’s centre for co-production and other partners
CREATIVE STORYTELLING WORKSHOPS

- Participants will be trained in creative methods (e.g. interactive film and photo voice) to surface and document their stories in a safe and supportive space.

- Mothers/caregivers will be trained to facilitate discussions with health providers, policy makers and NGOs to spark debate, dialogue and set an agenda for more patient and family centred care pathways.
DISSEMINATION EVENTS

- ArtGlo will train parents/caregivers to co-design dissemination events (e.g. exhibitions) to showcase their films/artwork/photographic stories.

- These may be held within hospital settings, thus foregrounding the patient experience in spaces where patients traditionally have had limited voice and agency.

- [Insert photo from art exhibition]
WORKSHOPS WITH HCWS AND PARENT/CAREGIVERS

- Applying the lens of Umunthu (a pan-African philosophical concept of humanity), ArtGlo will conduct workshops with HCWs to enable critical reflection on their own attitudes and practices in the provision of maternal and neonatal healthcare.

- Building on this process, a joint workshop will be held with parent/caregivers and HCWs to build mutual trust and explore how formal models of care can be adapted to be family centred/culturally sensitive.

- These models of care will be further co-developed, integrated and piloted within future iterations of the NeoTree project.
ROLL OUT

- We plan to begin in Malawi with the creative storytelling workshops, followed by the workshops with HCWs and parents/ caregivers and then the dissemination events
- We’ll then have a reflection process, to learn for the Zimbabwe iteration
- Roll out of the Zimbabwe iteration
TIMELINE

Month 1,2
Creative storytelling workshop

Month 3
Dissemination Events

Month 4,5
Creative storytelling workshop

Month 6
Dissemination Events

Month 6,7
Workshops with HCWs and parent/caregivers
FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR METHODS

Website: www.artgloafrica.org
Social media: @artgloafrica