

Appendix B Author reflexivity

Morton B, Vercueil A, Masekela R, Heinz E, Reimer L, Saleh S, et al. Consensus statement on measures to promote equitable authorship in the publication of research from international partnerships. *Anaesthesia*. 2021. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/anae.15597>

Study conceptualisation

How does this study address local research and policy priorities?

Focus group discussions (FGDs) were carried out by local researchers in each of the study sites, with the aim of exploring issues around health and nutrition, from the perspectives of community members. The implications of these findings for future research and policy are therefore driven by the priorities of the community members in Burkina Faso, Ghana and South Africa.

Burkina Faso, Ghana and South Africa each have national health policies focussing on maternal and child health in the first 1000 days including recommendations for vaccination programmes, vitamin supplementation etc. The findings of this study can inform the development of interventions to improve maternal and child health in the first 1000 days of life to include both men and women.

How were local researchers involved in study design?

This secondary qualitative analysis was part of a larger body project of work by the international consortium, INPreP. This international consortium consists of researchers from Burkina Faso, Ghana, South Africa and the UK. The project design was a collaborative effort of the consortium and included significant involvement of local researchers including the development of their individual FGD topic guides, recruitment strategies and data collection techniques.

Research management

How has funding been used to support the local research team(s)?

Each research team submitted their proposed budgets during the grant application process. These budgets were reviewed throughout the project to ensure that the teams were adequately funded for staff, recruitment, data collection, and analysis costs. Funding was used in the primary data collection.

Data acquisition and analysis

How are research staff who conducted data collection acknowledged?

Research staff who collected the data are acknowledged in the authorship and acknowledgement section. They are also first and last authors of papers published from the primary analysis of data.

How have members of the research partnership been provided with access to study data?

All authors have access to study data.

How were data used to develop analytical skills within the partnership?

Early career researchers who were newer to this type of analysis developed their skills in carrying out thematic analysis during the primary analysis of the data. Local team members were also involved in discussions around the secondary analysis process.

Data interpretation

How have research partners collaborated in interpreting study data?

We held multiple meetings to discuss interpretation as well as important feedback on our coding frame.

Drafting and revising for intellectual content

How were research partners supported to develop writing skills?

Training on scientific writing was conducted for authors involved in the data collection.

How will research products be shared to address local needs?

Through local dissemination meetings with local stakeholders as part of our NIHR Global Health project, INPreP.

Authorship

How is the leadership, contribution and ownership of this work by LMIC researchers recognised within the authorship?

Researchers in LMICs were first and last authors of the papers collected as primary data. Two early career researchers (DW and PHJ) lead the secondary analysis supported by all other authors. Researchers from LMICs were invited to be authors of this study.

How have early career researchers across the partnership been included within the authorship team?

50% of authors are early career researchers.

How has gender balance been addressed within the authorship?

9/17 authors are women and 8/17 are men.

Training

How has the project contributed to training of LMIC researchers?

During the primary data collection. LMIC and HIC researchers received training in qualitative methods and writing papers. Each local LMIC team subsequently produced multiple published papers based on this analysis, of which they hold first and last authorship on.

Infrastructure

How has the project contributed to improvements in local infrastructure?

N/A

Governance

What safeguarding procedures were used to protect local study participants and researchers?

The NIHR safeguarding policy was used to enforce safeguarding within this study.