



Implementation Research Services for the Integrated Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)- Humanitarian Response Project

Project Information

- ◆ Department: Center of Excellence for Applied Epidemiology
- ◆ Unit: Research and Policy

SCOPE OF WORK

The overall goal of this project is to “Determine how evidence-based interventions and tools (Healthy School Program, Healthcare Community Clinics (HCC), community outreach) should be adapted to achieve the expected health impacts in a real-world setting, that is sustainable in the long run”. The specific objectives include 1) advancing the implementation of NCD awareness in schools, and advise on sustainability, including the integration of the services within the humanitarian setting; 2) advancing the implementation of NCD awareness sessions/counseling through HCC and advising on its sustainability, and its integration into the humanitarian setting; and 3) Advocating and communicating the IR findings.

REGIONS OF WORK

This project will be implemented across multiple governorates in Jordan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The implementation research (IR) for the “Jordan Integrated NCD–Humanitarian Response” project will continue the IR work of Year One. This phase of work aims at supplementing Year One outcomes with qualitative insights to identify the implementation challenges and barriers and advance the knowledge of implementation and the generalizability and integration of the project beyond its proposed setting. The research will focus on several implementation outcomes, including acceptability, adoption, appropriateness, feasibility, fidelity, penetration, and sustainability of the interventions. The IR will be dedicated to answering relevant questions about the project’s activities and functions, including its integration within the humanitarian setting, with the aim of providing recommendations for the way forward. This phase will include process as well as outcome assessments of the Healthy School program and HCC program. The assessment will involve implementers, including teachers, healthcare workers, and managers, as well as beneficiaries with a focus on the refugee community. Moreover, this phase will ensure advocating and communicating the IR findings through continual dissemination of interim data and results. Additionally, research abstracts, a whitepaper, and a scientific manuscript for publication will be developed.

BENEFICIARIES

Both Jordanians and refugees attending public school, adults attending Ministry of Health primary healthcare centers (PHC), adults attending Caritas clinics, Syrian refugees attending Save the Children Clinics in Al-Zaatari camp.

PROJECT PHASES

The Implementation Research involves two phases:

Phase I – Developing tools for qualitative assessments, including focus group discussion guides (FGDs) and interview guides. Developing tools for quantitative assessments in the form of pre/post intervention knowledge, attitudes, and practices questionnaires.

Phase II – Conducting FGDs and interviews with project implementers, including healthcare professionals and teachers, and collecting data and analyzing it from beneficiaries.

Phase III - Ensure advocating and communicating the IR findings through continual dissemination of interim data and results. Additionally, research abstracts, a whitepaper, and a scientific manuscript for publication will be developed.

Project Start and End Date	September 1, 2023- February 29, 2024
Partner Organizations	Jordan Ministry of Health (MoH) and Ministry of Education (MoE)
Funded by	Royal Health Awareness Society (RHAS)
Collaborators	Caritas Jordan, Save the Children and other key stakeholders serving the refugee communities in Jordan

Currently . . .

In Jordan, NCDs are the first cause of death and morbidity, accounting for 78% of all deaths in 2016. The existing NCDs surveillance system in Jordan is compromised in terms of robustness, comprehensiveness, and continuity, thus creating a wide gap in the information available on the prevalence of NCDs and their risk factors. The latest national survey of NCDs risk factors took place in 2019. Fruit and vegetable consumption is considered low in Jordan, where 84% consumed less than five portions per day, as recommended by the WHO. One-third of the population always adds salt to their food, while 25% do insufficient physical activity, and 60% are overweight. Accordingly, addressing risk factors through building NCD awareness is of utmost importance in the country.

What's next . . .

To understand how the “Jordan Integrated NCDs–Humanitarian Response” project is effectively and efficiently being implemented, EMPHNET and RHAS have signed an agreement to continue the IR work of Year One. This will contribute to identifying the gaps or challenges between the planned targets and accomplished outcomes and developing health strategies and policies in this field.

The activities of the project will be targeting the HCC program within primary care clinics operated by the Ministry of Health, Caritas and Save the Children, as well as the Healthy School Program within public schools in Jordan.

OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS

Advance the implementation of NCD awareness in schools, and advise on sustainability, including the integration of the services within the humanitarian setting.

- 18 in-depth interviews with teachers and school principals, a sample that is representative of the geographical distribution of public schools providing education to host and refugee communities.

Advance the implementation of NCD awareness sessions/counseling through HCC and advise on its sustainability, and its integration into the humanitarian setting.

- Pre/post KAP assessment of 130 Caritas beneficiaries
- Pre/post KAP assessment of 181 Ministry of Health healthcare professionals trained
- Pre/post KAP assessment of 156 Model B Ministry of Health HCC beneficiaries
- Assessment of change in clinical indicators of 21,197 patients registered in Model an HCC and 15,999 patients registered in Model B HCC

Advocate and communicate the IR findings.

- 5 abstracts summarizing the IR findings.
- 1 whitepaper on all IR findings up until end of February 2024.
- 1 manuscript for publication on all IR findings up until the end of February 2024

EMPHNET Information: Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

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