

KHAS (Kenya Heart and Sole Afya Njema) Project; an Academic-Clinical-Policy Partnership for Health.

Jessica DeMita,[€] Dennis Munene,[¥] David Gitahi Muigai,[£] Shannon Sayer,[€] Samuel Kimani,[¥] James Muturi Muchira,[£] Jacob Karuiki,[€] Eileen Stuart-Shor[€]
University of Massachusetts Boston,[€] University of Nairobi,[¥] PCEA Tumutumu Hospital School of Nursing,[£]

Background/Introduction: There is an emerging epidemic of cardiometabolic disease (CVD) in sub-Saharan Africa. In our work to date we have observed high rates of multiple CV risk factors in Kenya necessitating a sustainable, country-specific approach to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of CVD. Nursing is the largest healthcare workforce in Kenya; ideally positioned to contribute to the CVD solution.

Objectives/Description of Project: The purpose of KHAS is to partner US/Kenyan faculty/students from 4 schools of nursing with clinicians from 5 Kenyan community health centers (CHC) to screen and treat CVD and to foster nursing scholarship, research and advocacy in collaboration with the Ministry of Medical services and Kenya Nursing Council.

Outcomes: **Practice:** over 4,000 individuals screened/treated since 2008; increased community awareness of CVD, Kenyan teams empowered to continue community outreach screening/health education; Implementation of evidence-based standardized CVD screening protocol, interview tool and basic screening equipment; Increased commitment of partnering organizations to fund outreach and follow-up. **Education:** Over 350 students/faculty, and clinicians have participated in intercultural/transnational exchange; awareness of CVD prevalence, evidence-based treatment; Implementation of Open Access for Africa database; sponsored memberships to PCNA. **Research:** screening data systematically collected and analyzed related to CVD biomarkers and lifestyle risk factors; demonstrates high prevalence of CV risk factors; 20 student/faculty/clinician abstracts; 5 small research grants. **Policy/Advocacy:** Systematic assessment of the project outcomes with recommendations for evidence-based, Kenyan-specific, sustainable, plan for cardiometabolic disease presented to office of the Chief Nursing Officer Ministry of Medical Services and Registrar, and Kenya Nursing Council

Implications; This project demonstrates that nurses can partner to propose, implement and evaluate solutions for CVD in Kenya and have a voice at the policy table.

Preference is for oral presentation.