

## TOR – Field Data Collector

### **Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Amongst Women Eligible for Cervical Cancer Screening in the Medical Officer of Health Battaramulla Area, Sri Lanka**

*Primary Investigator: Dr. Rashmira Balasuriya*

*Co-investigator: Dr. Loshan Moonesinghe*

#### **Project Background:**

Cervical cancer is one of the only cancers that can be completely prevented due to the natural course of the disease. The long latent period from primary insult by the HPV virus to the development of cervical cancer provides the perfect opportunity for early detection of pre-cancerous lesions through screening. Early detection not only has a high cost-benefit ratio and improves treatment outcomes, but also saves the lives of thousands of women every year.

The poor attendance for cervical cancer screening in Sri Lanka leads to significant delays in cervical cancer diagnosis. Delays in diagnosis considerably contribute to the morbidity and mortality in Sri Lanka caused by cervical cancer, as well as the cost of treatment of the disease borne by the government healthcare services.

The purpose of this knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) study is to identify factors related to the client, including the client's thinking and rationale, that may potentially hinder or improve uptake of the cervical cancer screening programme. This will assist policymakers when reforming the screening programme to improve attendance, reduce the disease burden and lessen healthcare expenditures.

Improving pap smear screening attendance and restructuring the screening programme will also assist Sri Lanka in reaching the second WHO target towards eliminating cervical cancer; ensuring 70% of eligible Sri Lankan women are screened for cervical cancer. The primary objective however, is to ensure that all Sri Lankan women are screened, regardless of targets, leaving no woman behind.

A descriptive cross-sectional study will be conducted to determine the knowledge, attitudes and practices amongst women eligible for cervical cancer screening in the MOH Battaramulla area of Sri Lanka.

#### **Expected Outcomes for the Data Collector**

In line with the methodology of the above-mentioned study, field data collectors will be given a list of women who were eligible for pap smears in the year 2023.

Data collectors will be expected to sign a confidentiality form and code of conduct form, and will be given a brief training on the questionnaire and how to communicate/question the participants.

Data collectors will be expected to:

- Contact the women via telephone to ask for a convenient date/time to conduct the questionnaire
- Visit the participant in their home and conduct the questionnaire interview
- Information sheets should be handed over to the participants and consent sheet signed
- Ensure questionnaires are complete (all questions answered)
- Visit between 8-10 participants per day

- Completed questionnaires must be returned to the primary investigator (Dr. Rashmira)

### Description of work and responsibilities of the consultant

No.	Key Tasks	Key Deliverables
1	Attend training meetings in order to be familiar with the questionnaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signed confidentiality and code of conduct form</li> </ul>
2	Call participants to schedule interviews at convenient dates/times. At least 8-10 participants should be interviewed per day until a total of 120 participants have been interviewed over the data collection period by each data collector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Returned questionnaires – minimum of 40 questionnaires per week</li> </ul>
3	Attend weekly meetings to review data collection and discuss any issues/obstacles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance at weekly meetings</li> </ul>

### Payment Structure

On completion of all key tasks a remuneration of Rs. 35,000/- will be given (with additional Rs. 5000/- for transport and communication expenses).

### Responsibilities of Data Collector

1. Conduct themselves in a respectful and dignified manner during data collection
2. Be responsible and honest with data collection
3. Provide completed questionnaires in a timely manner
4. Conduct regular check-in meetings with the primary investigator to monitor the progress of work and/or troubleshoot

### Required Qualifications / Experience

- An MBBS from an SLMC recognized university
- A high standard of written and spoken English and a good standard of spoken Sinhala and/or Tamil is essential for this position.

### Desirable

- Previous experience with research and/or data collection
- Familiarity with pap smear screening, cervical cancer and HPV vaccination.
- Excellent communication, facilitation, and training skills to engage with participants effectively.
- Resident of Battaramulla or nearby areas

Please email or whatsapp your CV (max 4 pages), **on or before the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2024**, citing two non-related referees. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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