



Yetena Weg - Roha Research Fellowship Protocol

This project has been initiated with the aim of promoting research related knowhow and skills amongst healthcare professionals, thereby contributing to the development of health research and quality improvement works in Ethiopia.

The first year of this project will be conducted in partnership with Black Lion Hospital and St. Paul Hospital Millennium Medical College.

Main components of the Research Fellowship project

- A dedicated website that will serve as a hub for research related resources:
 - Recorded lectures.
 - Links to research repositories
 - Links to relevant research calls and grants
 - and other resources organized across different themes.
- Monthly webinars relating to basic research/QI methodology and methods
- A database of Ethiopian researchers' profile that will facilitate:
 - Networking amongst Ethiopian researchers from diverse backgrounds.
 - Identification of mentors who can provide guidance to grant winners and those with specific need for advice
 - Links with presenters for the monthly webinars
- Periodic blogs featuring lay articles and public communication of science
- Annual grants through abstract and/or research protocol competitions

Details regarding the abstract and research protocol competition (for AAU)

- What type of abstracts and research protocols are we looking for?
We are looking for abstracts and research protocols that seek to answer clear, focused and feasible research questions. We also encourage projects that reflect topics that are timely and relevant.

Abstracts and research protocols can focus on any health and medicine related topic, and propose any range of methods, across the quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method spectrum.

Protocols can be submitted in the realm of any of:

- epidemiological studies,
- an aspect of experimental study designs,
- implementation research,
- as well as quality improvement related investigations.

The awards can be used to cover the whole or any aspect of the project funds/expenses. You would need to submit a brief outline of a budget.

Beyond the research question, winner abstracts and protocols should reflect sound methodological design and plan of investigation. We will look for innovativeness in adoption of study designs to particular needs and context of research. Research protocols are expected to



articulate the strengths and weaknesses of the methods being proposed. Please see appendix A for suggested outline of abstracts and research protocols.

[Details regarding the abstract and research article competition \(for St Paul¹\)](#)

- What type of abstracts and research articles are we looking for?

We are looking for abstracts and research articles that investigate and answer clear, focused and feasible research questions. We also encourage projects that reflect topics that are timely and relevant.

Abstracts and research articles can focus on any health and medicine related topics, and deploy any range of methods, across the quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method spectrum.

Articles can be submitted in the realm of any of:

- epidemiological studies,
 - an aspect of experimental study designs,
 - implementation research,
 - as well as quality improvement related investigations.
- Key outputs of the Research Article competition (required for entry into competition)
 - Research Article (3,500 words in length)
 - Abstract (350 words in length)
 - E-poster in A4 format that are production ready (Appendix C)

The grants could be used to cover funds/expenses related to project dissemination, including poster production, stakeholder meetings etc. You would need to submit a brief outline of a budget.

Beyond the research question, winner abstracts and research articles should reflect sound methodological design and plan of investigation. We shall prioritize innovativeness in adoption of study designs to particular needs and context of research. Research protocols are expected to articulate the strengths and weaknesses of the methods being proposed. Please see appendix B for suggested outline of abstracts and research articles.

- What will it mean to win the project grant competition?
 - Research grant of 1,000\$ to support all or part of the research or QI project (for AAU students) and 400\$ to support dissemination plans for Research Articles (St Paul students)

¹ Given that St Paul medical students have already embarked on their dissertations, the grants allocated to St Paul will be targeting completed research articles rather than protocols/proposals



- Access to monthly webinars on research topics that will be geared towards supporting your studies
- Mentor-matching: each grant winner will be allocated one mentor from the Ethiopian Researchers' database and one faculty mentor (either from Black Lion or St. Paul Hospital)
- Assistance with IRB approval (AAU)
- Guidance in the write-up and publication process (AAU)
- Guidance in refining your research articles towards publication and posters for conference presentation (St Paul)
- What will the structure and selection process look like?
 - For the first year of the research call, the Yetena Weg-Roha Research Fellowship program will be focusing on interns at St. Paul and R-2 residents at Black Lion Hospital (from Internal Medicine, Radiology and Oncology).
 - Alongside the announcement of the competition, a deadline will be set to submit the protocols and research articles.
 - Protocols (AAU) and research articles and posters (St Paul) will be evaluated by panels of reviewers set up by the research fellowship team, through progressive stages per detailed evaluation criteria (to be shared ahead of submission). The selection committee will shortlist 20 finalists on the basis of evaluation of the abstracts. These shortlisted projects will go through the final evaluation of the full protocols, which will select the final recipients of the grant (3 awardees for the research protocol and 5 awardees for the Research Articles).
 - The 8 awardees will be matched with project advisors and mentors, to compliment any existing supervision structure they may already have access to.



Yetena Weg - Roha Research Fellowship Project Monthly program for the 20 finalists:

March 2023 – Feb 2024

Participants will be encouraged to maintain a reflective diary where they will register the key lessons learnt and new knowledge gained from each webinar. The reflective diary is compulsory for the 5 prize awardees. Participants who complete 75 % of the webinars and who submit a learning diary will be granted a certificate of completion.

Yetena Weg will set up a series of webinars that will be accessible to all awardees as well as the broader pool of contestants. The webinars will be geared towards supporting the participants’ current research work, as well as long term capacity building needs.

Tentative schedule of sessions (more sessions to be added)

| Date | Outline | Topics to be covered |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday 3 June | Webinar 1 | Epidemiological study designs |
| Saturday 17 June | Webinar 2 | Sampling, random error and bias |
| Saturday 1 July | Webinar 3 | Journal club |
| Saturday 15 July | Webinar 4 | Introduction to qualitative study |
| Saturday 29 July | Webinar 5 | Qualitative data Analysis |
| Saturday 12 August | Webinar 6 | Academic Writing and publishing |



| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| <p>Saturday 26 August</p> | <p>Webinar 7</p> | <p>Lay communication and dissemination of results</p> |
| <p>Saturday 9 September</p> | <p>Webinar 8</p> | <p>Qualitative clinics Statistics Clinics</p> |

Beyond the webinars, there will be regular follow-up meetings planned for each awardee. The regular meeting will depend on the nature of each study and the particular deadlines and timelines implied by the studies. Primarily, these dates will outline timelines for: mentorship meetings, progress evaluations, and midpoint and final presentations. The detailed timeline of these dates will be released soon after the selection of the awardees.



APPENDIX A

Appendix A: outline of abstracts and research protocols (For AAU students).

- Project Title:
 - ABSTRACT (Up to 500 words):
 - RESEARCH PROTOCOL:
 - Research Question (Up to 50 words):
 - Background (up to 500 words)
 - Aim and Objectives (up to 100 words):
 - Proposed methods and plan of investigation (Up to 300 words)
 - Data Analysis Plan (Up to 300 words)
 - Data collection, access to data and ethics(Up to 200 words)
 - Outcomes and implication of the study(Up to 300 words)

APPENDIX B

Appendix B: outline of abstracts and research articles (For St Paul students).

- Project Title:
 - ABSTRACT (Up to 350 words):
 - RESEARCH Article (3, 500 words) including:
 - Introduction/Background including literature review and project rationale (~ 1,000 - 1,200 words):
 - Aim and Objectives (~ 100 - 200 words):
 - Methodology and methods (~ 600 - 700 words)
 - Results (~ 700 - 800 words)
 - Discussion (~ 500 - 600 words)
 - Conclusion (~ 250 - 300 words)

Appendix C

Appendix C: Specification for e-posters (St paul)

- A4 size poster designs including succinct summaries of:
 - Background
 - Methods
 - Key Results
 - Conclusion/Recommendations
- Posters should use clear and effective designs and necessary figures and graphics

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