

CHEC – WCG RESEARCH REPORTS

2015 / 2016

The CHEC – WCG Joint Task Team invites you to consider the summaries of the following project reports funded in 2015 / 2016. Please note that the researchers' names and email addresses have been provided with these short summaries.

1. *Evaluation of a smartphone teleconsultation system for acute burn injuries in the Western Cape. The user experience.*
Professor Lee Wallis, Stellenbosch University leew@sun.ac.za

The project considered the strengths and weaknesses of the system designed to assist in cases of acute burn injuries. It found that the teleconsultation app for burns was well received by emergency care doctors. Ongoing research should address the potential problems brought forward by the users and seek to address limitations in the app's perceived usefulness.

2. *Backyard dwellings in state housing developments: Mapping their spatial extent and exploring associated risks in Klapmuts*
Patricia Zweig, Stellenbosch University patricia.zweig@sun.ac.za

This project was designed, planned and conducted together with Stellenbosch Municipality officials and members of the Klapmuts community. It has provided up-to-date information about backyard dwellers in a low-income housing area, their living conditions and current risk profile.

3. *Promoting health and wellness with WOW – Development of an assessment tool to assess community stems which can support healthy lifestyles and wellness*
Professor Q A Louw, Stellenbosch University qalouw@sun.ac.za

The overall objective of this project was to develop a culturally specific, rapid community wellness assessment tool to be used to profile community support systems and needs in order to promote and sustain healthy lifestyles and wellness.

4. *The effectiveness of using pictograms on medication labels at primary health care facilities in Cape Town*
Mea van Huyssteen, University of the Western Cape mvanhuyssteen@uwc.ac.za

This project builds on community engagement work piloted by the School of Pharmacy in addressing the high occurrence rate of diarrhoea, specifically amongst children in poor communities. It focuses on youth health and the use of pictograms in multi-cultural and multilingual societies.

5. *An investigation into literacy teaching and learning in Quintile 1 schools in the Western Cape*
Rajendra Chetty, Cape Peninsula University of Technology ChettyR@cput.ac.za

The project examines challenges outlined in the Provincial Strategic Plan: a decline in literacy achievement in disadvantaged schools, the growing inequality in educational achievement between black and white children, and a continued decline in literacy. It considers the importance associated with alignment between curriculum, instruction and assessment; monitoring of learning and teaching; supportive learning environments and family and community involvement.

6. *Preventing pregnancy amongst girls and promoting dual contraceptive use amongst teenagers*

Professor D Cooper, University of the Western Cape and A/Prof J Harries, University of Cape Town dcooper@uwc.ac.za

This project included interviews with a sample of young women seeking family planning services. It found that while participants had a positive attitude to using an implant or IUD, a number of personal and health-related barriers had been experienced. The need for comprehensive counselling is critical.

Additional projects underway with reports expected by the end of 2017 are:

7. *Research dissemination systems facilitating research uptake in the Western Cape Department of Health*

Dr Virginia Zweigenthal, University of Cape Town

Three sub-projects by M students continue in 2017.

8. *Production Of Carbon Neutral Biofuel Using Marine Biomass: An Incentive To Cut Down The Carbon Emission Responsible For Climate Change* Dr L Reddy, Cape Peninsula University of Technology

The project considers whether seaweed can be a source of bio-fuel production.

9. *Bridging the divide: Building resilience to climate change in the Western Cape through knowledge exchanges*

Professor Mark New, University of Cape Town and researchers from Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Stellenbosch University and the University of the Western Cape

Engagement and knowledge sharing between academics and a variety of government officials has led to the identification of areas of continued collaboration.

10. *Scoping and logical design of a portal to support micro-enterprises*

Professor Wallace Chigona, University of Cape Town

This project aims to assist the growth of micro-enterprises through improving their efficiencies, economies and opportunities using the medium of broadband internet. The web-portal will provide a one-stop facility for relevant information for micro-enterprises.

AN ADDITIONAL PROJECT REPORT

An additional project was initiated and funded earlier in 2017, as listed below.

11. *Strengthening Western Cape ECD through social partnership: initial scoping and diagnosis*
Brian Levy, UCT

This project identifies strategic challenges in the ECD sector. The last section of the report lays out some possible next steps research might take as a follow-up on this project. These are under review.