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Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS
at Yale University

CIRA Talk: “Adapting and Implementing Youth-Centered Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Mumbai, India: Considerations in the Context of COVID-19”

Join us on Zoom for an international HIV/AIDS research seminar. Presentation will be followed by a discussion with panelists and a Q&A session with the seminar audience.



Marie Brault
Yale School of Public
Health
Speaker



Luke Davis
Yale School of Public
Health, Yale School of
Medicine, CIRA
Moderator



Nancy Reynolds
Johns Hopkins
University School of
Nursing
Discussant



Jean Schensul
Institute for
Community Research
Discussant

Tuesday, May 25, 2021
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Register via Zoom:
<https://bit.ly/3nORFQp>

Contact dini.harsono@yale.edu for questions about this event.

Organized by the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA).
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Trace Kershaw, Ph.D., Principal Investigator.

“Adapting and Implementing Youth-Centered Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Mumbai, India: Considerations in the Context of COVID-19”

OVERVIEW

Adolescent girls and young women (ages 15-25 years) in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) face inequitable gender norms that limit their educational opportunities, social support, and healthcare access. These inequities also place them at higher risk for maternal morbidity and mortality, psychological trauma, violence, and STIs/HIV. Consistent with these patterns, many young women in India face similar sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) challenges. Adolescent services in India are unequally distributed leaving marginalized adolescents in low-income communities, without services or access. In 2013, India launched the “Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakam” (National Adolescent Health Program) framework for improved adolescent health services and education to be provided in the public healthcare system and community through adolescent health clubs and adolescent-friendly health clinics. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, implementation of the framework was uneven and improvement in youth SRHR limited. COVID-19 has exacerbated inequities in both social determinants and health outcomes for youth, raising fears of further setbacks. In this presentation, I will discuss my Fogarty-funded career development award that seeks to systematically adapt and pilot an integrated community and facility intervention to improve uptake of youth-centered services for married and unmarried young women (ages 15-25) in a low-income area in Mumbai, India. Mixed methods formative data collection combined with community-engagement will assess adolescent sexual and reproductive health needs and the impacts of COVID-19 service disruptions, as well as adaptations to intervention components that will be needed. I will also discuss plans for the intervention adaptation and implementation processes. In the post-presentation discussion, I look forward to audience input on my research plans and some of the challenges of community-based research in the context of COVID-19. Although COVID has created significant disruptions, it also offers an opportunity to re-assess approaches to youth engagement in care.

SPEAKER

Marie Brault, PhD

Associate Research Scientist in Public Health (Social and Behavioral Sciences), Yale School of Public Health

Marie Brault, PhD is a medical anthropologist and Associate Research Scientist at the Yale School of Public Health, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Her work focuses on improving youth-centered approaches to sexual, reproductive and mental health in clinical and community settings. Other research interests include qualitative and mixed methods approaches, implementation and dissemination science, maternal and child health, gender inequity, and community-based participatory research. Her work has been funded by the NSF and NIH.

MODERATOR

Luke Davis, MD, MAS

Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Yale School of Public Health

Associate Professor in Pulmonary and of Medicine, Yale School of Medicine

Luke Davis, MD, MAS is an epidemiologist and pulmonary/critical care physician whose research employs implementation science to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of tuberculosis (TB), the leading cause of infectious death in low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Davis serves as scientific advisor for the Center Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA)'s international research activities and as a member of CIRA's Implementation Science Advisory Committee. Dr. Davis is associate faculty member of the Center for Implementation and Prevention Science at the Yale School of Public Health and of the Yale Center for Implementation Science at the Yale School of Medicine.

DISCUSSANTS

Nancy Reynolds, PhD, MS, RN

Associate Dean of Global Affairs, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing (JHUSN)

Director, Center for Global Initiatives, JHUSN

Co-Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Information, Knowledge Management, JHUSN

Nancy R. Reynolds is the associate dean of global affairs at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing; director, Center for Global Initiatives; co-director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Information, Knowledge Management; and co-secretary general, Global Network of the WHO Collaborating Centers of Nursing and Midwifery. Formerly the Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing at Yale University, Dr. Reynolds is a researcher in the field of chronic illness self-management (especially HIV) with over 20 years of continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She has extensive research experience as PI of multidisciplinary teams and as an investigator with the AIDS Clinical Trials Group and the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at Yale University. Her work is focused on development of interventions that use low-cost cellphone technology to bring health care services to vulnerable populations affected by HIV. In Ghana and India, Dr. Reynolds has implemented programs to improve medication adherence and mental health outcomes of women and children living with the disease.

Jean Schensul, PhD

Senior Scientist and Founding Director, Institute for Community Research

Dr. Schensul is founder (1987-2004) and currently senior scientist full time, at The Institute for Community Research, an independent research institute conducting prevention research in communities in the United States, India and China, and based in Hartford, CT. She is a medical anthropologist with three decades of experience in the conduct of HIV prevention and other health-related research in urban areas of the United States and in developing countries. Her areas of expertise include mixed research methods, drug research, sexuality and HIV, and school and community based structural approaches to intervention across the lifespan. She has led many federal, state and foundation funded studies and intervention projects, and since 1996 has been the principal investigator on more than twelve NIA, NIDA, NIMH and NIAAA funded HIV and substance abuse related grants totaling over \$35,000,000 in research funds. Internationally she has consulted to prevention researchers in Senegal, Kenya, China, and Spain. Currently she is working with research collaborators in Mumbai India on an NIAAA funded study of drinking and sexual risk among young men and an NIMH funded study of women's reproductive health and sexual risk in Mumbai.