

**“Enhancing Interprofessional
Collaboration and Learning for
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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TUFH 2021 ABSTRACTS

Title	INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO REDUCING DIARRHOEAL DISEASES AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 5: A STUDENT-LED RURAL PROJECT IN SOUTHWESTERN UGANDA.
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Community-Based Education for Health and Social Care Students</i>
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Abstract N ^o	TUFH677
Content	<p>Leadership and community placement is a 5weeks course that entails the interdisciplinary programs of the faculty of medicine at Mbarara University (MUST). The objective was to introduce students to management and leadership skills to empower them to identify areas of influence in communities and rural health units under conditions similar to those in which they will work, providing them with experience and knowledge in dealing with groups of people from different ethnic groups and cultures. Prior, training was conducted to empower students with knowledge on community entry and diagnosis. Our stay at Bubaare HCIII involved arrival at the site, scanning, transect walk, orientation at the health center, reviewing data sources. Meeting Village Health Teams (VHTs), Local Council leaders, and the sub-county chief. Community diagnosis through Focused group discussions, meeting VHTs, review of data records, home visits, face to face interviews, and questionnaires among randomly selected households. 10.4% of children under five who attended the Out-Patient Department in 12 months had acute watery diarrhea, associated with unsafe drinking water, open defecation, and lack of handwashing facilities after latrine use. Developed innovations to reduce acute watery diarrhea. Community sensitization on open defecation, hand washing, and home-based preparation of safe drinking water. Sensitized 80% of households on sanitation and hygiene. In one month a reduction from 10.4% to 8%. Acute watery diarrhea among children under five remains a major cause of morbidity in rural Uganda, due to poor sanitation and access to safe water</p>