

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

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Title	Evidence into action: Implementation research on task-shifting to community-based outreach social workers for psychosocial support in armed-conflict-areas of Northernmost Myanmar
Type	Oral Presentation Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment
Presenting Author	Thazin La
Co-Authors	Rachel Whelan, Eindra Htoo, Myat Sandi Min, Aung Hpone Myint, Sabai Tun
Country	Myanmar
Abstract N°	TUFH117
Content	<p>Globally, one in four people experiences mental health conditions during their lifetime, but internally displaced people (IDP) in conflict-affected settings like Kachin State, Myanmar are more likely to experience them but less likely to be identified due to low awareness, acceptance, and accessibility of related services. Community Partners International has developed an evidence-based, culturally-adapted, and community-based 10-week mental health intervention for adults which includes screening, referral, and case management of mild/moderate cases of depression and anxiety. This implementation research aims to evaluate its feasibility and effectiveness as delivered by trained lay volunteers in IDP camps and host communities in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State. From 9/2019-11/2020, this mixed methods study uses a case series design (n=730), focus group discussions (n=12), and in-depth interviews (n=65) in 30 camps and host communities. Participants are screened at baseline using the Patient Health Questionnaire-Anxiety and Depression Scale (PHQ-ADS), and measures of resilience and perceived social support, and assessed at the intervention's end (Week 10). Focus group discussions and in-depth interview will explore the evolving community psychosocial needs, perceptions of the intervention, and contextual factors to better understand its effectiveness and feasibility. Paired t-tests will be used to evaluate pre- and post-intervention changes in participants' PHQ-ADS scores. Qualitative data will undergo open coding and framework analysis. The findings of the study will provide lessons learned on implementing a community-based program to promote strategic placement of human resources to decrease the vulnerability of communities in conflict-affected settings.</p>



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