



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



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

TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

#TUFH2020
TUFH2020.COM



TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Community Eye Health: how do they manage?
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Building the Capacity of Future Leaders in a Socially Accountable World</i>
Presenting Author	Deon Minnies
Co-Authors	
Country	South Africa
Abstract N^o	TUFH234

Content

The Postgraduate Diploma in Community Eye Health (PgDCEH) has been offered at the University of Cape Town, South Africa since 2009 to develop management capacity to support the delivery of effective and efficient eye care services in sub-Saharan Africa. This study investigated how graduates applied the PgDCEH-acquired management competencies and the factors that enabled or constrained them to apply these competencies. A multiple case study design was used, employing mixed methods of data collection and analysis. Data collection comprised of a questionnaire survey, in-depth interviews and review of various supporting documents, including assignments submitted by students. We found that the PgDCEH elicited some positive effects on the graduates, especially in their ability to perform management tasks and the level of confidence they have in their abilities. There were some personal achievements, but no significant programme improvements were observed. This study provided evidence that the PgDCEH as a health system strengthening intervention struggled to generate the anticipated response of improved eye care programme performance. Personal motivation, suitability of the training and opportunity to apply were the main factors determining this. This research broadened understanding of how PgDCEH graduates interact with their work environment and uncovered ways to improve the design and delivery of management training for eye health workers in the future. Revision of the criteria for selection, strengthening focus on leadership, project and relationship management topics, and integrating the training into health professions' education programmes may substantially improve the impact of health management education.