



International Conference on
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TITLE: A systematic scoping review on causes of malnutrition among under-five children in Sub-Saharan Africa

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ABSTRACT (upto 300 words)

Background: Malnutrition is a major public health problem globally and particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Malnutrition remains one of the most common causes of morbidity and mortality among children under 5 years throughout the world. Research evidence shows that there is no single cause of malnutrition. This scoping review aims to systematically appraise existing research evidence on causes of malnutrition among under 5 children in SSA to:

- Point out the most common forms of malnutrition among under five children across Sub-Saharan Africa
- Classify the causes of malnutrition among under five children in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Make recommendations for future research direction in prevention of malnutrition Sub-Saharan Africa

Methods: A systematic scoping review will be conducted to assess existing evidence on causes of malnutrition among under 5 children in Sub-Saharan Africa countries. The search strategy comprises searching electronic databases for available peer reviewed studies from: Cochrane Reference Libraries, Academic Search Complete, Business Source Complete, EBSCOhost, Proquest, Medline, PubMed, Popline, World Bank's JOLIS search engine, British Library for Development studies BLDS at IDS, HRH Global Resources Center, CHW Central, and Google Scholar. Studies will be charted in two stages, with relevance of study titles, abstracts and subject descriptors being the basis for first stage charting. Qualified full text studies from stage one

will then be subjected to further inclusion criteria during the second stage. Data abstraction will be done by two independent reviewers. Thematic data analysis will be used with NVIVO program.

Discussion: Expected findings will uncover the different forms as well as the causes of malnutrition in SSA. The findings could inform policy makers and public health practitioners on how to prevent the classified causes of malnutrition among under 5 children. This could contribute to further reduction of burden of child morbidity and mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa.

BIOGRAPHY (upto 200 words)

Dr. Lucia M. Mupara is a Public Health Practitioner with research interests ranging from child nutrition & health, health systems strengthening & systems thinking, public health project management & implementation, health promotion, health policy, program monitoring & evaluation, as well as global health and humanitarianism. Dr. Mupara holds PHD in Public Health, Master of Public Health and BA Honors in Sociology. She also holds Postgraduate Diplomas in Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Teaching, Training and Assessing Learning. She is a trained facilitator of several childhood High Impact Interventions (HIIs) such as Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT), Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI), Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) and integration of Community Health worker (CHW) subsystems into national health systems for improved health outcomes. Dr. Mupara is



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conversant with vulnerability assessment, emergency relief operations and implementation of community health support strategies. She has expertise in both qualitative and quantitative research methods and in the application of these methods in program development and evaluation. Dr. Mupara is an author of a number of peer-reviewed articles published in academic refereed journals and scientific abstracts that have been presented at local and international academic conferences.

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Mode of Presentation: Oral

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