

Development of a Community Partner Survey Reflecting the Perspectives and Opinions of Community Partners with the Purpose of Fostering Sustainable Global Engagements

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Purpose/Hypothesis: The purpose of this study was to develop a survey that captures global health (GH) community partners' needs that can be utilized when developing GH partnerships. GH partnership engagements are not well-represented in the literature.^{1,2}

Subjects: Six community partners were interviewed representing Tanzania, Peru, Haiti, Kenya, South Sudan and Zambia.

Materials/Methods: Literature based structured interviews were performed, transcribed and coded in order to derive themes across the interviews.³⁻⁵ Identified themes were then referenced back to literature before a final survey was drafted.³⁻⁷

Results: From the community partners' perspective five themes emerged as important factors in GH partnerships, including: communication, sharing culture and knowledge, expectations, professional development and respect. Additional literature revealed reflection in the context of improving future endeavors as the final theme.⁸⁻¹⁰

Conclusions: After extracting data received from interviews it was evident that there were coinciding emerging themes amongst all partners interviewed. These themes guided the development of a survey tool from the partners' perspective. Data collected and analyzed in this study will be useful in encouraging unbiased dialogue regarding the sustainability and effectiveness of global health partnerships.

Clinical Relevance: Using the survey, it will be possible to gather the community partners' perspective in all of the identified areas in order to create experiences, assess the return on investments, determine effective assessment methods, and incorporate lessons learned to improve future engagements. Without guidance from community partners attempts to develop meaningful GH partnerships may exclude key factors identified as important by community partners.^{2,6,7,8,10}

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