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Tackling chronic respiratory disease in low-resource settings

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Propositions belonging to the thesis

Tackling chronic respiratory disease in low-resource settings

Exploring, engaging, and leveraging local contexts to facilitate successful implementation of lung health programmes

1. To successfully tackle chronic respiratory disease in low-resource settings, commence before the start (preconception). [*this thesis*]
2. The silent and ongoing pandemic of chronic respiratory disease deserves at least the same level of awareness and action as infectious diseases like COVID-19 and tuberculosis. [*this thesis*]
3. Context-driven approaches, guided for example by the SETTING tool, should be used to improve the chances of successful implementation of evidence-based lung health interventions. [*this thesis*]
4. Implementing a train-the-trainer awareness programme which empowers communities to tackle chronic respiratory disease can be feasible, acceptable, and effective. [*this thesis*]
5. More than generating additional evidence on how to successfully implement cleaner cooking interventions, we need to implement the existing implementation evidence. [*this thesis*]
6. “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” [*Nelson Mandela, 1918-2013*], but for cleaner cooking and climate change alike, please prioritise funding too.
7. “There is so much pollution in the air now that if it weren’t for our lungs, there’d be no place to put it all” [*Robert Orben, 1927-*]; to protect our lungs and the planet on which they function, we urgently need to move away from fossil fuels.
8. “Whatever you do for me but without me, you do against me.” [*Mahatma Gandhi, 1869-1948*]; the implementation of interventions without an engaged local context is prone to fail and to waste resources in settings where these are already scarce.
9. “Never forget to include old African proverbs (...); how else will your readers know yours is a global health paper [or thesis]?” [*adapted from Desmond Tanko Jumbam, 2020*]
10. The climate crisis is a health crisis; as the most trusted professionals in society, health workers urgently need to move from leading in pollution to leading the solution.
11. If you don’t like it, change it.
12. An effective systole requires a proper diastole. [*adapted from Professor Jim Stout, 2016*]