

Predictors of Substance Use in Orphaned and Separated Children Living in 5 Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Alyssia Parsons, Master of Science in Global Health Candidate

OBJECTIVES



Duke study teams pictured with interviewers from the Ace Africa office in Bungoma, Kenya

Background

- Globally, substance use is responsible for 11.8 million deaths per year
- Orphaned and separated children (OSC) are at an increased risk of developing substance use disorders (SUDs)
- Low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are disproportionately affected
- In LMICs there is a large treatment gap (75-86%) for SUDs

Study Aims

- To identify predictors of substance use among OSC in LMICs
 - Aim 1: To evaluate the predictors of alcohol use among OSC in 5 LMICs
 - Aim 2: To evaluate the predictors of drug use among OSC in 5 LMICs

METHODOLOGY

Data Set

- Positive Outcomes for Orphans (POFO): a longitudinal cohort study designed to identify characteristics of care across diverse care structures and cultures
- 6 regions across 5 LMICs: Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Cambodia, and India (Hyderabad and Nagaland)
- Interviews were conducted with OSC and their caregivers by gender-matched local interviewers
- Funding: NICHD 5R01HD046345



Secondary Data Analysis

- Predictive model approach
- Potential predictors of substance use: trauma, gender, care setting, stigma, emotional wellbeing, health status, education, OSC status
- Evaluate potential predictors in a bivariable regression model
- If $p < 0.15$, predictor will be placed in a larger predictive model
- Perform a log binomial regression for a binary outcome, determine size and CI of coefficient

CONCLUSIONS

Characteristics of Parent Study Population

	n (%)
Gender	
Male	1693 (53.95%)
Female	1445 (46.05%)
Type	
Residential Care	1357 (43.24%)
Family-Based Care	1481 (47.2%)
Non-Orphan	300 (9.56%)
Site	
Cambodia	457 (14.56%)
Ethiopia	550 (17.53%)
Hyderabad	550 (17.53%)
Kenya	550 (17.53%)
Nagaland	481 (15.33%)
Tanzania	550 (17.53%)
Total	3138 (100%)

Next Steps

- Generate code for secondary data analysis
- Identify predictors of drug use and alcohol abuse
- Assess potential targets of future interventions
- Dissemination of results to study partners