

Report on Workshops 2 &3

Date and Venue

The training-workshops took place on 19th -23rd June, 2017 at the School of Public Health University of Ghana. The training coordinating team arrived at the venue one day before in order to meet for fine-tuning of the agenda and coordination of facilitation.

Training Team

The members of the training team were

- Dr. Amos Laar, School of Public Health, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, GHANA
- Prof. Eric Tenkorang, Department of Sociology, Memorial University, CANADA
- Dr. Robert Akparibo, School of Public Health and Related Research University of Sheffield, United Kingdom (UK)
- Dr. John Ganle – School of Public Health, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, GHANA
- Tony Godi – School of Public Health, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, GHANA

Participants

The training workshop was attended by a total of 45 participants (for both workshop 2 and 3). They included researchers of varied academic backgrounds, research assistants, doctoral, and master's students as well as faculty members.

The Training-Workshop

First workshop: “Application of Bibliographic Tools in Literature Review and Manuscript Preparation

Day One

Dr. Amos Laar of School of Public Health, University of Ghana and Founder of HM2R opened the session by welcoming the participants. He further outlined the objectives and perspectives of the workshop and delivered the opening speech pointing out the purpose of the workshop making it clear that HM2R training workshops, which are currently essentially free aim to mentor and to build capacity in research and public health practice. Through mentoring, the workshops equip individuals with professional tools to enhance the quality of research and practice.

The first session of the workshop was facilitated by Dr. Amos Laar, detailing what literature review entails. Some of the highlights from the presentation included the following:

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- When undertaking a literature review, you identify a research question and then seek to answer this question by searching for and analyzing relevant literature using a systematic approach.
- Dr. Ganle presented on the types of literature review and further explained the differences between each of them and what each type of review entails.
- The last session for the day was facilitated by Dr. Robert Akparibo. He took participants through Search Strategy Development. Following the presentations and debrief, the training-workshop was adjourned.

Day Two

Day two started with a practical session on Search Strategy Development which was led by Dr. Robert Akparibo. Participants were asked to divide themselves into three groups, with each group identifying and developing a search strategy for a topic presented. The groups then presented the result of their discussions, and the rest of the participants commented on each of the presentations.

The second session for day two saw the demonstration of the Use of Bibliographic Software in Literature Review, creating, building and managing EndNote library/your references, by Mr. Tony Godi. The last session of the workshop explored keying in references manually into EndNote library, importing references from secondary databases into EndNote library, doing in-text citations and editing references in word document.

Second workshop: "Data Analysis Using SPSS."

Day 1

The second workshop titled Data Analysis Using SPSS was facilitated solely by Prof. Eric Tenkorang. The goal of the training session was to train participants in data analysis through interactive session using SPSS. The training session demonstrated Estimation & Hypothesis Testing, Bivariate Analysis with Chi-Square & One-Way ANOVA, Bivariate Analysis with Continuous variables and Simple Linear Regression.

Days 2 and 3

In days 2 and 3, Professor Tenkorang treated Multiple Linear Regression with both continuous and categorical predictors, doing regression diagnostics (Looking for non-normality, non-linearity, heteroscedasticity, multivariate outliers etc.) and interpreting regression output/results. The workshop ended with a practical exercise on data management with SPSS. Participants provided feedback and lauded the effort put in by the facilitator in solely facilitating such an informative session.

Wrap-up and Adjournment

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The workshops ended with certificates awarded to each participant. Facilitators were given certificated and tokens of appreciation for their time and support. Dr Amos Laar concluded with a few words about the next workshop and HM2R's future capacity building and mentoring opportunities.



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