## WORKSHOP ON INTRODUCTION TO EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS TRAINING (FOCUSING ON SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS): 26-27 OCTOBER 2021

As pressure increases for health researchers to establish an evidence base for best-practice guidance, identify gaps in knowledge, or help inform policy and practice, skills in conducting evidence syntheses has become increasingly relevant. Systematic reviews are one of the methodologies of evidence synthesis. They tell us what evidence exists on a particular topic, and through a critical appraisal of available evidence, help us to assess how reliable evidence is, and whether we know what we think we know. Systematic reviews employ a clear and reproducible method of identifying research on a particular topic, appraising its quality and summarizing the findings from the research. This calls for a systematic process from identifying a topic, up to the final report. The training will provide an introduction to the evidence synthesis process, grow familiarity with techniques and tools used in systematic reviews and evidence synthesis, and practice using PICO frameworks to develop search strategies.

The training will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 27<sup>st</sup> October 2021 from 9:00am-4pm. The training will be conducted in accordance with the COVID 19 SOPs by ensuring social distancing, sanitizing and hand washing as well as strict wearing of masks.

The Training will be facilitated by Dr. Alison Annet Kinengyere, Information Scientist at Sir Albert Cook Library, Search Coordinator at the Africa Centre for Systematic Reviews and Knowledge Translation, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University.

## TRAINING PROGRAM

| TIME           | 26 OCTOBER 2021                       | 27 OCTOBER 2021                            |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 09:00 AM-10:30 | Session 1:                            | Session 7: Literature searching I:         |
|                | -Welcome & introductions              | Aims to:                                   |
|                | -Workshop overview - aims to:         | -Understand the Boolean logic for          |
|                | -Inform participants about the mode   | searching for literature                   |
|                | of delivery of the workshop           | -Critically appraise a search strategy     |
|                | -Identify expectations of the         | used to find studies for a systematic      |
|                | workshop, using feedback from the     | review                                     |
|                | gaps analysis                         | - Develop an electronic search strategy    |
|                | Introduction to evidence synthesis    | with PICO/ST elements (frameworks)         |
|                |                                       | - Draft search strategies for 1 systematic |
|                |                                       | review question for participants with      |
|                |                                       | RQs.                                       |
| 10:30-11:45    | BREAK AND GROUP PHOTO                 |  |
| 10:45-11:15    | Session 2: Exploring different review | Session 7 continues                        |
|                | methodologies                         | Effective Literature searching II:         |
|                |                                       | Developing a search strategy               |
| 11:15-01:00    | Session 3: Introduction to systematic | Session 7 continues                        |

|                | reviews Session 4: Protocol development Session 5: Eligibility criteria Discussion & Lecture | -Exercise on literature searching using trainees review topics -One-on-one support for those with systematic review topics |
|----------------|--|--|
| 01:00 - 02:00  | L U  | N C H  |
| 02:00-04:00 PM | Session 6: Evidence synthesis steps<br>& librarians as co-investigators<br>-Discussion       | Session 8: -Workshop evaluation -Wrap up and closure of workshop   |
| 04:00-04:10    | Wrap up and closure of Day 1   | 1  |