

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Social Psychology of Health and Health Psychology with specific focus on:
 - (a) Social representations of health and illness;
 - (b) Lived experience of diabetes and co-morbid physical and mental chronic conditions; and
 - (c) Chronic illness interventions with a focus on community-based cardiovascular disease and mental health interventions.
- Social Psychology of Knowledge with a focus on applying Social Representations Theory to studying the social construction, use and transformation of knowledge in African settings;
- Developing multidisciplinary approaches to address Africa's chronic non-communicable disease burden.
- Global health with a focus on health systems strengthening in low and middle income countries.
- Qualitative research methods (applied to health and community development)

PUBLICATIONS

1. PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

1a. Journal Articles

1. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Dzokoto, V., Yevak, E. (2015) Mass media constructions of „socio- psychological epidemics“ in sub-Saharan Africa: the case of genital shrinking in 11 countries. *Public Understanding of Science*. (Impact Factor (IF): 1.766)
2. Nyarko, Y, Goldfrank, L., Ogedegbe' G., Soghoain' S., **de-Graft Aikins, A.** and NYU-UG- KBTH Ghana Ebola Working Group. (2015) Preparing for Ebola Virus Disease in West African Countries not yet affected: Perspectives from Ghanaian Health Professionals. *Globalization and Health*, 11(7), doi: 10.1186/s12992-015-0094-z (IF: 1.83)
3. Afrifa-Anane, E., Codjoe, S.N.A., Agyemang, C., Ogedegbe, G., **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2015). The association of physical activity, body mass index and the blood pressure levels among urban poor youth in Accra, Ghana. *BMC Public Health*, 15(269), doi: 10.1186/s12889-015-1546-3 (IF: 2.32)
4. Sanuade, O.A, Anarfi, J.K, **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Koram, K. (2014). Patterns of CVD

- mortality in Accra, Ghana. *Ethnicity and Disease*, 24(1), 55-59. (IF: 0.92)
5. Agyemang, C., Buene, E.A., Meeks, K., Owusu-Dabo, E., **de-Graft Aikins, A**, et al. (2014) Research on Obesity and Type 2 Diabetes among African Migrants: The RODAM study. *BMJ Open*.4:e004877.doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2014-004877. (IF: 2.063)
 6. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Kushitor, M., Koram, K., Gyamfi, S., Ogedegbe. G. (2014). Chronic non-communicable diseases and the challenge of universal health coverage. Insights from community-based cardiovascular disease research in urban poor communities in Accra, Ghana. *BMC Public Health*. 14 (Suppl 2), doi:10.1186/1471-2458-14-S2-S3. (IF: 2.32)
 7. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2014). Food beliefs and practices during pregnancy in Ghana: implications for maternal health interventions. *Healthcare for Women International*. 35(7-9), 954-972. (IF: 0.696)
 8. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Awuah, R.B., Pera T., Mendez, M., Ogedegbe, G (2014). Explanatory models of diabetes in poor urban Ghanaian communities. *Ethnicity and Health*. Jul 22: 1-18. doi: 10.1080/13557858.2014.921896. (IF: 1.276)
 9. Awuah, R.B., Anarfi, J.K., Agyemang, C., Ogedegbe, G. and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2014) Prevalence, awareness, treatment and control of hypertension in urban poor communities in Accra, Ghana. *Journal of Hypertension*. 32(6), 1203-10. (IF: 4.222)
 10. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Anum, A., Agyemang, C., Addo, J. and Ogedegbe, O. (2012). Lay representations of chronic diseases in Ghana: implications for primary prevention. *Ghana Medical Journal*,46(2)Suppl,59-68.
 11. Agyemang, C, Attah-Adjepong, G., Owusu-Dabo E., **de-Graft Aikins A.**, Addo, J., Edusei, A.K., Nkum, B.C., Ogedegbe, O. (2012). Stroke in Ashanti region of Ghana: an urgent need for action. *Ghana Medical Journal*, 46(2), Suppl,12-17.
 12. Addo, J., Agyemang, C., Smeeth, L., **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Edusei' A.K., Ogedegbe, O. (2012). A review of population-based studies on hypertension in Ghana. *Ghana Medical Journal*, 46 (2), Suppl, 4-11.

13. **de-Graft Aikins A**, Addo J, Bosu, WK., Ofei, F., Agyemang, C. (2012) Ghana's burden of chronic non-communicable diseases: future directions in research, practice and policy. *Ghana Medical Journal*. 46(2), Suppl,1-4.
14. de Menil, V., Osei, A., Hill, A.G., Douptcheva, N., Yaro, P., **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2012) Symptoms of common mental disorders and their correlates among women in Accra, Ghana: a population-based survey. *Ghana Medical Journal*. 46(2), 95-103.
15. **de-Graft Aikins A.**, Arhinful, D.K., Pitchforth, E., Ogedegbe, O., Allotey, P., Agyemang, C. (2012). Establishing and Sustaining Research Partnerships in Africa: a case study of the UK- Africa Academic Partnership on Chronic Disease. *Globalization and Health*, 8: 29. doi:10.1186/1744-8603-8-29 (IF: 1.83)
16. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2012). Familiarising the unfamiliar: cognitive polyphasia, emotions and the creation of social representations. *Papers on Social Representations*, 21, 7.1-7.28.
17. Leone, T., Coast, E., Narayanan, S and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2012) Diabetes and depression comorbidity within poor settings in low and middle income countries (LMICs): a mapping of the evidence. *Globalization and Health*, 8:39. doi:10.1186/1744-8603-8-39 (IF: 1.83)
18. **de-Graft Aikins, A**, Pitchforth, E., Allotey, P., Ogedegbe, G., Agyemang, C. (2012). Culture, ethnicity and chronic conditions: reframing concepts and methods for research, intervention and policy in low and middle income countries. Editorial. *Ethnicity & Health*, 17(6), 551-561. (IF: 1.276)
19. Agyemang, C., **de-Graft Aikins, A**, Bhopal, R. (2012). Ethnicity and Cardiovascular health research: pushing the boundaries by including comparison populations in the countries of origin. *Ethnicity and Health*, 17(6), 579-596. (IF: 1.276)
20. Van der Vijver, S. Addo, J., **de-Graft Aikins, A**, Agyemang, C. (2012). Review of community based interventions for prevention of cardiovascular diseases in low- and middle-income countries. *Ethnicity and Health*, 17(6), 651-676. (IF: 1.276)
21. Bennett, S, Corluka, A., Jane Doherty, J., Tangcharoensathien, V., Patacharanarumoi, W., Amar Jesani, A., Kyabaggu, J., Namaganda, G., Hussain, A.M.Z., **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2011). Influencing policy change: the experience of health think tanks in low- and middle-income countries. *Health Policy and Planning*, 1-10. doi:10.1093/heapol/czr035 (IF: 3.442)
22. Abanilla, P.K.A., Huang, K-Y, Shinnors, S, Levy, A, Kojo Ayernor, K., **de-Graft Aikins, A**, Ogedegbe, O. (2011). Cardiovascular Disease Prevention in Ghana:

Feasibility of a Faith-Based Organizational Approach to Prevention. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 89, 648-656. (IF: 5.25)

23. **de-Graft Aikins, A**, Boynton, P. and Atanga, L.L. (2010) Developing Effective Chronic Disease Prevention in Africa: insights from Ghana and Cameroon. *Globalization and Health*, 6:6. doi: 10.1186/1744-8603-6-6 (IF: 1.83)
24. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Unwin, N., Agyemang, C. Allotey, P., Campbell, C and Arhinful, D.K. (2010). Tackling Africa"s Chronic Disease Burden: from the local to the global. *Globalization and Health*, 6:5. doi: 10.1186/1744-8603-6-5 (IF: 1.83)
25. Agyei-Mensah, S. and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2010). Epidemiological transition and the double burden of disease in Accra, Ghana. *Journal of Urban Health*, 87 (5), 879-897. (IF:1.89)

26. Allotey P, Reidpath DD, Yasin, S, Chan C, **de-Graft Aikins A.** (2010) Rethinking Health Systems: a focus on *chronicity*. *Lancet*, 377(9764):450-1. (IF: 39.207)
27. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2010). Beyond "Food is Medicine": Evaluating the impact of Ghana's Regenerative Health and Nutrition Pilot Programme. *Ghana Social Science Journal*, 7(1), 14-35.
28. Agyemang, C., Addo, J., Bhopal, R., **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, and Stronks, K. (2009). Cardiovascular disease, diabetes and established risks factors among populations of sub-Saharan African descent in Europe: a literature review. *Globalization and Health*, 5: 7. doi:10.1186/1744-8603-5-7 (IF: 1.83)
29. Akyeampong, E and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2008). Ghana at Fifty: reflections on independence and after. *Transition*, Issue 98, pp. 24-34.
30. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2007). Ghana's neglected chronic disease epidemic: a developmental challenge. *Ghana Medical Journal*, 14(4), 154-159.
31. **de-Graft Aikins, A.** & Ofori-Atta, A. (2007) Homelessness and mental health in Ghana: everyday experiences of Accra's migrant squatters. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 12(5), 761-778. (IF:1.826)
32. **de-Graft Aikins, A.** & Marks, D.F. (2007). Health, disease and healthcare in Africa. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 12(3), 387-402. (IF:1.826)
33. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2006). Reframing applied disease stigma research: a multilevel analysis of diabetes stigma in Ghana. *Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology*, 16(6), 426-441. (IF:0.88)
34. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2005). Healer-shopping in Africa: new evidence from a rural-urban qualitative study of Ghanaian diabetes experiences. *British Medical Journal*, 331, 737. doi:10.1136/bmj.331.7519.737 (IF:16.3)
35. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2004). Strengthening quality and continuity of diabetes care in rural Ghana: a critical social psychological approach. *Journal of Health*

Psychology, 2004, 9(2), 295-309. (IF:1.826)

36. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2003). Living with diabetes in rural and urban Ghana: a critical social psychological examination of illness action and scope for intervention. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 8(5), 557-72. (IF:1.826)
37. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2002). Exploring biomedical and ethnomedical representations of diabetes in Ghana and the scope for cross-professional collaboration: a social psychological approach to health policy. *Social Science Information*, 41(4), 603-630. (IF: 0.594)

1b. Book Chapters

38. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Sanuade, O., and Anie, K. (In Press) Ageing and neurodegenerative diseases in low and middle income countries. In A. de-Graft Aikins and C. Agyemang (Eds), *Chronic non-communicable diseases in low and middle income countries: a synthesis of research, interventions and policies*. Oxon: CABI Publishers.
39. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Atanga, L and Allotey, P. (In Press) Self help and chronic non-communicable disease care in low and middle-income countries. In A. de-Graft Aikins and C. Agyemang (Eds), *Chronic non-communicable diseases in low and middle income countries: a synthesis of research, interventions and policies*. Oxon: CABI Publishers.

40. Agyemang, C., Boatemaa S., Agyemang G., and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (In Press) Obesity in Africa. In R. Ahima (Ed), *Metabolic syndrome: A comprehensive textbook*. Springer.
41. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2015) Poverty and mental health in Ghana: insights from the lives of vagrants and squatters. In N. Apt (Ed), *Positioning Ghana: Challenges and Innovations*. Leiden: African Studies Centre (ASC) & Institut Français de Recherche en Afrique (IFRA).
42. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2015). Mental illness and destitution in Ghana: a social psychological perspective. In Emmanuel Akyeampong, Alan Hill and Arthur Kleinman. (Eds). *Culture, Mental Illness and Psychiatric Practice in Africa*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. (pages 112-143)
43. Read, U.M., Doku, V., and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2015). Schizophrenia and Psychosis in West Africa from the colonial era to the present. In Emmanuel Akyeampong, Alan Hill and Arthur Kleinman. (Eds). *Culture, Mental Illness and Psychiatric Practice in Africa*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. (pages 73-111)
44. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Ofori-Atta A., Anum, A., Dzokoto, V. (2014) Psychology in Ghana: a review of research and practice. In S. Agyei-Mensah, A. Oduro and J. Ayee (Eds) *Changing Perspectives in the Social Sciences in Ghana*. Dordrecht: Springer. (pages 75-93)
45. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2014). Social cognition, social representations and social knowledge: themes in Ghanaian social psychology. In C. Akotia and C. Mate-Kole (Eds), *Psychology: Readings from Ghana*. Accra: DigiBooks Ghana Ltd. (pages 249-272)
46. Anum, A and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2014). The psychology of ageing and longevity. In C. Akotia and C. Mate-Kole (Eds), *Psychology: Readings from Ghana*. Accra: DigiBooks Ghana Ltd. (pages 87-108)
47. Aryeetey, E and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2013) Ethnicity, social development and wellbeing in sub-Saharan Africa: a conceptual review. In C. Agyemang, C. Airhenbuwa and A. de-Graft Aikins (Eds), *Ethnicity: Theories, International Perspectives and Challenges*. New York: Nova Science Publishers. (pages 133-147)
48. Agyemang, C., Airhenbuwa, C. and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (2013). Introduction. In C. Agyemang, C. Airhenbuwa and A. de-Graft Aikins. (Eds). *Ethnicity: Theories, International Perspectives and Challenges*. New York: Nova Science Publishers. (pages vii-xi)
49. **de-Graft Aikins,** Agyei-Mensah S, Agyemang, C. (2013). Introduction: Multidisciplinary perspectives on Ghana's chronic non-communicable disease

burden. In A. de-Graft Aikins, S. Agyei-Mensah and C. Agyemang (Eds). *Ghana's Chronic Non-communicable disease burden: multidisciplinary perspectives*. Accra: Sub Saharan Publishers. (pages 1-12)

50. **de-Graft Aikins, A.,** Owusu-Dabo, E., Agyemang. C (2013). Diabetes in Ghana: a review of research on prevalence, experiences and healthcare. In A. de-Graft Aikins, S. Agyei-Mensah and C. Agyemang (Eds). *Ghana's Chronic Non-communicable disease burden: multidisciplinary perspectives*. Accra: Sub Saharan Publishers (pages 41-55)
51. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2013). The socio-cultural and socio-economic context of chronic disease in Africa. In A. de-Graft Aikins, S. Agyei-Mensah and C. Agyemang (Eds). *Ghana's Chronic Non-communicable disease burden: multidisciplinary perspectives*. Accra: Sub Saharan Publishers (pages 124-136)
52. de-Graft Aikins, A (2011) Culture, diet and the maternal body: Ghanaian women's perspectives on food, fat and childbearing. In Maya Unnithan-Kumar and Soraya Tremayne (Eds). *Fatness*

and the Maternal Body: Women's experiences of corporeality and the shaping of social policy. Oxford: Berghahn Books. (pages 130-154)

53. de-Graft Aikins, A. (2011). Nonverbal communication in everyday multicultural life. In D.

Hooks, B. Franks, and M. Bauer (Eds). *Social Psychology of Communication.*

London: Palgrave

Macmillan. (pages 67-86)

2. EDITED VOLUMES

2a. Journal Edited Volumes

54. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Pitchforth, E., Allotey, P., Ogedegbe, G., and Agyemang, C. (Guest

Editors) (2012). Culture, Ethnicity and Chronic Conditions: a Global Synthesis. *Ethnicity and*

Health. 17(6),543-695 (available at

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ceth20/17/6>) (Impact Factor

(IF): 1.276)

55. **de-Graft Aikins A**, Agyemang C, Addo J, Ofei F, Bosu WK (Guest Editors).

(2012). Ghana's burden of chronic non-communicable diseases. *Ghana Medical Journal*, Vol 46, No2, Supplementary Issue, Pages 1-78. (available at

<http://www.ghanamedj.org/supplementary.php>)

56. Nasin, S., Allotey, P., Reidpath, DD, Chan, C., Pitchforth, E . **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, (Guest Editors) (2011/2012) "Chronicity" and Chronic Health Conditions: Implications for Health and Health Care. *Globalization and*

Health, 7/8. (Available at

www.globalizationandhealth.com/series). (IF: 1.83)

57. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Unwin, N., Agyemang, C. Allotey, P., Campbell, C and Arhinful, D.K (Guest Editors) (2009/2010). Africa's Chronic Disease Burden: local and global perspectives. *Globalization and Health*, 5/6. (available at

www.globalizationandhealth.com/series) (IF: 1.83)

58. **de-Graft Aikins, A** and Marks, D.F (Guest Editors) (2007). Special Issue: Health, disease and healthcare in Africa. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 12(3) 387-559. (IF:1.826)

2b. Edited Books

59. **de-Graft Aikins, A** and Agyemang, C. (Eds) (In Press). *Chronic non-communicable diseases in*

low and middle income countries. Oxon: CABI Publishers

60. Agyemang, C and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (Eds). (2014). *Culture, Ethnicity and Chronic*

Conditions: A Global Synthesis. London: Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group.

61. Agyemang, C., Airhenbuwa, C. and **de-Graft Aikins, A.** (Eds). (2013). *Ethnicity: Theories, International Perspectives and Challenges*. New York: Nova Science Publishers.
62. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Agyei-Mensah, S., Agyemang, C. (Eds). (2013) *Ghana's Chronic Non- communicable disease burden: multidisciplinary perspectives*. Accra: Sub Saharan Publishers.

3. OTHER PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (TECHNICAL REPORTS/CHAPTERS AND JOURNAL ABSTRACTS)

3a. Technical reports and chapters

63. González Block, M.A., Akosa, A.B., Chowdhury, M. (with **de-Graft Aikins, A.**) (2012). Health

systems research and infectious diseases of poverty: from the margins to the mainstream. In the *Global Report for Research on Infectious Diseases of Poverty*. Geneva: WHO/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR). (available at http://www.who.int/tdr/capacity/global_report/en/)

64. Bennett, S. Adrijana Corluka, A, Doherty, J., **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Zakir Hussain, A.M., Jesani, A., Kyabaggu, J., Namaganda, G., Patacharanarumoi, W., Tangcharoensathien, V. (2010). *Health Policy Analysis Institutes: Landscaping and Learning from Experience*. Final Report. Geneva: Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, WHO. (available at http://www.who.int/alliance-hpsr/evidenceinformed/alliancehpsr_healthpolicyanalysisinstitutesreport.pdf)

65. The British Academy (2010). Africa's neglected epidemic: multidisciplinary research, intervention and policy for chronic diseases. London: The British Academy. (Acknowledged author: Ama de-Graft Aikins) (available at http://www.britac.ac.uk/intl/Africa_Chronic_Disease.cfm)

66. World Health Organization (WHO) (2001). *Interventions and strategies to improve the use of antimicrobials in developing countries: a review*. A Background Document for the WHO Global Strategy for Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance. (Acknowledged contributors: **de Graft- Aikins, A.**, Chalker, J., Lee, D., and Miralles, M.) Geneva: WHO. (available at http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/drugresist/WHO_CDS_CSR_DRS_2001_9/en/)

3b. Peer reviewed journal abstracts

67. de-Graft Aikins (2014). I.22 Barriers to patient empowerment in sub-Saharan Africa: a social

psychological evaluation. *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice*, 103(Supp 1), p.S7.(IF: 2.536).

68. **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Owusu-Dabo, E., Addo, J., Agyemang, C. (2014) I.6 Perceptions of obesity and diabetes among Ghanaians in Europe and Ghana: preliminary insights from the RODAM study. *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice*, 103(Supp 1), pp S2-S3.(IF: 2.536).

69. Agyemang, C., Beune, E., Meeks, K., **de-Graft Aikins, A.** and Bahendeka, S. (2014).I.4 Type II diabetes and obesity among sub-Saharan African native and migrant populations: dissection of environment and endogenous predisposition.

Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice, 103 (Supp 1), p. S2. (IF: 2.536).

70. Galbete, C., Schulze, M.B., Nicolaou, M., **de-Graft Aikins, A.**, Owusu-Dabo, E., Addo, J., Beune, E., Klipstein-Grobusch, K., Agyemang, C., and Danquah, I. (2014). P73 Dietary assessment in Ghanaian migrants: the RODAM Study. *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice*, 103(Suppl 1), p.S54. (IF: 2.536).