

**CHRONIC NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (NCD) PROGRAMME OF WORK
AT THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR POPULATION STUDIES (RIPS),
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA.**

Since 2010, a programme of research and training on Ghana's chronic non-communicable disease (NCD) burden has been developed at RIPS, under the leadership of Professor Ama de-Graft Aikins.

The programme has received funding of approximately \$500,000 from the European Union, New York University College of Global Public Health, and Duke University, and support from research collaborators from UG (Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, School of Pharmacy), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, New York University and University of Amsterdam.

Conditions of focus have been diabetes, hypertension, stroke, co-morbid mental health conditions and their risk factors. Empirical research in the Greater Accra, Ashanti and Northern Regions has examined the prevalence of these conditions, the lived experience of these conditions and the feasibility of developing practical interventions to improve community knowledge and quality of care and social support.

Graduate studentships have been created from projects to support the successful completion of 3 PhD degrees, 3 MPhil degrees and 1 MA degree. Interdisciplinary training in community-based CVD interventions has been offered to 6 Population Studies PhD students, 4 Psychology MPhil students and 2 Social Policy MA students. Three postdoctoral researchers in Population Studies and Social Policy Studies have benefitted from coordinating roles in two projects.

Major collaborators of the RIPS NCD Programme of Work include Professor Francis Dadoo (RIPS), Professor Kwadwo Koram (NMIMR), Professor Charles Agyemang (University of Amsterdam) and Professor Gbenga Ogedegbe (New York University).

SUMMARY OF FUNDED RIPS NCD PROJECTS AND OUTPUTS, 2010 - PRESENT

	Project Title	Funding details	Description	Outputs
1	<p><i>UK-Africa Academic Partnership on Chronic Disease</i></p> <p>Now</p> <p><i>Academic Partnership on Chronic Conditions in Africa (APCCA)</i></p>	<p>Funder: British Academy <u>Amount:</u> £29,166 Period: 2006-2010; Phase 2, 2011- Present PI: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins</p> <p>Co-investigator: Dr Daniel K. Arhinful (NMIMR, UG)</p>	<p>The development of a collaborative academic network of social and medical scientists working on chronic diseases affecting Africans in Africa and the diaspora. Currently a network of members based mainly in Ghana, the UK and US. Further details can be found on www.appcafrica.org.</p>	<p><u>Research communication:</u></p> <p>4 international meetings held in Ghana (2007, 2009), UK (2008) and Malaysia (2010) all leading to publications</p> <p><u>Publications (selected):</u></p> <p><u>Journal Special Issues</u> <i>Globalization and Health</i>, 2009/2010, <i>Globalization and Health</i>, 2011/2012; <i>Ethnicity and Health</i> 2012; <i>Ghana Medical Journal</i>, 2012;</p> <p><u>Edited Books</u> de-Graft Aikins et al (Eds), 2013, Accra: Sub-Saharan publishers; de-Graft Aikins and Agyemang (Eds) (2016), CABI</p> <p>All project publications available on www.appcafrica.org or by request from Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins at adaikins@ug.edu.gh</p>
2	<p><i>Task-shifting program for cardiovascular risk assessment and development of dietary assessment tool in faith-based organizations in Ghana</i></p>	<p>Funder: NYU Amount: \$89,200 Period: 2012-2014 PI: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins</p> <p>Co-investigators: Prof Gbenga Ogedegbe, Prof Kristie Lancaster (NYU)</p>	<p>Developing a task-shifting model for training community health workers in Ga Mashie, Accra to deliver improved care for people living with hypertension, stroke and diabetes. Associated tasks include gathering baseline data on lay and health worker knowledge on CVD and major risk factors (diet, physical activity, alcohol consumption, smoking)</p>	<p><u>Publications</u></p> <p>de-Graft Aikins et al, 2014, <i>BMC Public Health</i>, de-Graft Aikins et al, 2014, <i>Ethnicity and Health</i>, Awuah et al, 2014, <i>Journal of Hypertension</i>, Afrifa-Anane et al, 2015, <i>BMC Public Health</i></p> <p><u>Graduate training</u> (3 MPhil studentships and 1 PhD studentship): Raphael Baffour Awuah (MPhil); Ernest Afrifa-Anane (MPhil); Alberta Teye (MPhil); Mawuli Kushitor (PhD)</p>

3	<i>Assessing the Dietary Patterns and Health Status of Ghanaians in Ghana and New York City outputs</i>	Funder: NYU Amount: \$15,000 Period: 2012-2014 PIs: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins and Prof Kristie Lancaster (NYU)	Developing, piloting and standardizing a dietary assessment tool to assess dietary patterns among Ghanaians in Accra and New York	Research tool development: Dietary survey tool used in RIPS Urban Poverty and Health Project surveys - Edulink II and III (see de-Graft Aikins et al, <i>BMC Pub Health</i> , 2014) Graduate training (PhD Experiential learning and fieldwork support): Sandra Boatemaa PhD <i>Publications in progress</i>
4	<i>Type 2 diabetes and obesity among sub-Saharan African native and migrant populations: dissection of environment and endogenous predisposition</i>	Funder: European Union Amount (total): €2,992,200/ Amount (RIPS): €160,200 Period: 2011 - 2014	Multidisciplinary study of the factors underpinning the high prevalence of obesity and T2D among Ghanaians and Ghanaian migrants in Europe. Focus on the complex interplay between environmental exposures (e.g. lifestyle, psychosocial stress), culture (e.g beliefs, habits) and genetics and to identify specific risk factors to guide intervention programmes.	Publications (selected) Agyemang et al, <i>BMJ Open</i> , 2014; Agyemang et al, <i>Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences</i> , 2016; Addo et al, <i>Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health</i> , 2017 Graduate training (2 PhD studentships): Raphael Baffour Awuah and Ernest Afrifa-Anane. Visit the RODAM website: http://www.rod-am.eu/
5	<i>Developing a community-based cardiovascular disease care in Ghana: a therapeutic lifestyle approach to hypertension</i>	Funder: ORID Amount: GHC59,995 Period: 2014 - 2016 PI: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins Co-PIs: Prof Kwadwo Koram (NMIMR), Dr Barima Afranie (School of Pharmacy, UG)	Developing a therapeutic lifestyle intervention approach (diet, exercise, psychosocial stress management) to improve health outcomes for people with hypertension in Ga Mashie.	Graduate training Experiential learning and fieldwork support for 6 PhD students, 4 Psychology MPhil students, 2 MA students <i>Publications in progress</i>

6	<i>Scaling Services through a proven model for mental health in Ghana.</i>	Funder: Grand Challenges Canada Amount: \$101,028.5 Period: 2014 - 2016 PI: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins Co-PI: Mr Peter Yaro	To test the cost utility of the Basic Needs' Mental Health and Development Model. Focus on recipient communities Basic Needs interventions in the Northern Region	<i>Publications in progress</i>
7	<i>Catastrophe and impoverishment from diabetes(CID): a case study on the economic burden of diabetes in Ghanaian households</i>	Funder: Duke University Global Health Institute. Amount: \$15,000 Period: 2014 - 2016 PI: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins Co-PIs: Professor Shenglan Tang (Duke University) and Professor Pascale Allotey (Monash University, Malaysia).	Project constitutes part of a multi-country study (China, Ghana, Malaysia) to examine household burden of diabetes	<u>Postdoctoral training:</u> Dr Henry Tagoe (RIPS) and Dr Tobi Sanuade (Institute for Advanced Studies, University College London, UCL) <i>Publications in progress</i>
8	<i>Mental Health Needs and System Evaluation Research: A US-Ghana Mental Health Partnership Initiate Research</i>	Funder: NYU Global Institute of Public Health (GIPH) Affinity Challenge Grant Amount: \$30,000 Period: 2015 - 2016 PI: Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins Co-PI: Prof Keng-Yen Huang	This project examined child and adolescent mental health and the role of family care and functioning in Ghana. Data was collected in selected schools in the Greater Accra Region, from students, teachers and parents.	<u>Postdoctoral training :</u> Dr Ernestina Dankyi (Centre for Social Policy Studies, CSPS) <i>Publications in progress</i>