



**MicroResearch Virtual Forum Information Sheet**  
**June 19-21, 2023**

**Registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/y6wp9mh6>

**Forum objectives:**

1. Provide an opportunity for MicroResearch PIs to present their research
2. Encourage networking with other MicroResearchers from Africa
3. Create a dialogue around the forum themes: “Climate change: The impact of the environment on health” and “The potential impact of universal primary healthcare”
4. Foster discussion around MicroResearch’s core Mission and Values

**Key presentations**

Each section of the forum will begin with a presentation on the corresponding session theme: (I) Climate change: The impact of environment on health; and (II) Universal healthcare. Each session will be followed by project presentations and a panel discussion.

**Forum themes:**

1. Climate change is changing the world we live in with significant impact on our health and wellbeing. Some examples include but aren’t limited to:
  - Change in seasons – with impact on agriculture, food security and nutrition; heat stress; change in malaria seasons
  - Major weather events – impact on health, access clean water, clean air, housing, ability to access health care, migration patterns, etc.
  - More information available: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health>
2. The Potential Impact of Universal Primary Healthcare: WHO emphasizes Primary healthcare as “*a model of care that supports first-contact, accessible, continuous, comprehensive and coordinated person-focused care.*” The aim is to provide optimal care, reduce disparities and ensure equal access to services. There is overwhelming evidence that this will lead to improved health outcomes for individuals and communities. There will be challenges in meeting these goals:
  - The challenge of increased demand of services on the existing workforce
  - The training of nurses, midwives, physicians, and other health providers to meet their new roles

Panelists from Canada and Eastern Africa will discuss the challenges that may be expected, the impact on existing human resources and infrastructure, as well as the educational challenges to gear up to this new model.

**Participant MicroResearch project presentations:**

Potential presenters can submit an abstract to [Kelly.hunter@iwk.nshealth.ca](mailto:Kelly.hunter@iwk.nshealth.ca) by **May 26, 2023**.

**Abstract submission guidelines:**

- Submissions shall not exceed 300 words overall and must include: Background/Introduction, Methods, Results (if applicable), Limitations (if applicable), Conclusions (if applicable), and proposed KT plan

- Submissions must clearly indicate the presenting author
- Submissions must indicate the MR project code (e.g. MR\_22O\_MUS\_04)
- Submissions should indicate which conference theme the project fits under
- Presentations on completed MR projects will be 10 minutes each, while ongoing and proposed projects will be 5 minutes each.

Presenters will be notified of their acceptance by June 2, 2023.

In order to adhere to the strict presentation time limits, presenters will be asked to submit their PowerPoint with an embedded voice recording of their presentation ahead of time. These will be **due Wednesday June 14, 2023** to ensure adequate audio quality. MR will play each presentation's recording through the Zoom conference call.

**Panel discussions:**

Panel discussions will be held on each of the two themes: climate change and primary healthcare. Each panel discussion will commence with a short presentation followed by African examples with short presentations from MR projects. After the presentations, the panelists will make general comments on the topic, as well as provide feedback on the project presentation.

**Forum attendees/guests:**

The forum will also be attended by guests who will not be presenting or participating as a panelist. These attendees can register through MR or their local site organizer. Certificates of attendance will be given to these attendees who request one.

To register to attend the forum, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y6wp9mh6>