Medical Internship and Community Service Placement Study
Introduction

**Background**

Transition from student to health professional

Launch of the online ICSP applications process

Selection of posts across 375 facilities

Lack of comprehensive facility data

Perception of facilities
Introduction

Aim

Provide applicants with the opportunity to learn from the experiences of junior doctors before them.

Expose applicants to the range of environmental, social and educational experiences that may be gained.

Encourage a more informed application choice.

Encourage a greater distribution of application choices.

Dr Cornelia Smith
Ermelo Hospital, Mpumalanga
Method

Online

Online survey

Snowball recruitment

Facility data

Dr Thulani Ntangashe
Vryheid Hospital, KwaZulu Natal
Method

On-site

Further recruitment at facilities in all 9 provinces

Photography

Dr Sewela Maentjie
Tzaneen Hospital, Limpopo
Preliminary Findings

**Demographics**

**Category**

Total of 419 participants by mid-August

- 48% intern
- 49% comserve
- 3% post comserve

286 internship facility reviews

133 comserve facility reviews
Preliminary Findings

Demographics

Facility distribution

Total 240 facilities reviewed to date

Greatest number of responses from GP (99)

Least number of responses from NC (11)
Preliminary Findings

**Perceived Experience**

**Application Choice**

78% reviewed an allocated facility of their application choice

22% were not allocated to a facility of their choice
**Preliminary Findings**

**Perceived Experience**

**Perception**

57% of total participants reported a positive perceived facility experience prior to commencing work.

Greatest proportion of positive perceived experiences (76%) from WC.

Greatest proportion of negative perceived experiences (46%) from FS.
Preliminary Findings

Actual Facility Experience

Change in Perception

53% of total participants reported a change in perceived facility experience during employment

51% of negative perceived facility experiences changed to positive actual experiences after commencing work

Dr Liyabona Luthuli
Edenvale Hospital, Gauteng
Preliminary Findings

Actual Facility Experience

Positive Facility Achievements

Identified Facility Shortcomings

Staffing
Stockouts and equipment
Professional relationships
Supervision and academic training
Working Hours
Accommodation and facility maintenance
Holistic Support
BUFFALO CITY SUBDISTRICT

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL COMPLEX

CECELIA MAKIWANE HOSPITAL

```
Regional Hospital
Billie Rd, Mdantsane Township, East London
043 709 2300
1000
"I loved learning to work independently and being able to help people that are in desperate need of medical care."
```

```
FRERE HOSPITAL

Provincial Tertiary Hospital
Main Rd, Amalinda, East London
043 709 2006
850
"There are reasonable working hours, and an overall lovely place to be. People are generally friendly and helpful and it feels like a community here."
```
Outcomes

Long Term Applications
ICSP integration
Expansion to all healthcare providers
Annual updates

Recommendations

Dr Danielle Swanepool
Uniondale Hospital, Western Cape
This project has been approved by the NDOH, and is funded by UAT (PTY) LTD. The project team consists of Dr Farah Jawitz (researcher) and Dr Yakesh Baldeo (researcher), who are assisted by Dr D Archary (project advisor), Dr J Ndirangu (statistician), and Mr T Mguni (assistant). Questions related to the project can be directed to icspstudy@gmail.com.