



LE IUNIVESITE AOA O SAMOA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SAMOA

University Research & Ethics Committee

Final Report Template

Approved 20 November 2014

AMOA “

I. RESEARCH PROPOSAL DETAILS

TITLE OF PROJECT:	Child health care and feeding of children: knowledge, attitude and practice, and the hierarchy of resort
PRINCIPAL RESEARCHER ¹ :	Penelope Schoeffel
FACULTY/CENTRE:	Centre for Samoan Studies, Faculty of Applied Science
ASSOCIATE RESEARCHER (S) ² :	Madda Magbity (postgraduate student in CSS)
RESEARCH SUPPORT STAFF ³ :	Seiuli Vaifou Temese (CSS), Alovale Sa'u (FoAS), Mohammed Sahib (CSS), Safua Akeli (CSS)
FACULTY(IES)/CENTRE(S):	Centre for Samoan Studies, Faculty of Applied Science
DURATION OF PROJECT ⁴ :	5 months (August 2015-February 2016)
DATE OF SUBMISSION:	5 August 2016

II. RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES⁵

What are the aims and objectives of the research?

The aims and objectives of this research are to:

- Explore the barriers in association with Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) for implementing evidence-based infant and young child feeding practices in the cultural setting within Samoa.
- Analyse survey data to understand the current practices in relation to under nutrition and/or malnutrition in Samoa.
- Review cultural practices through KAP survey in selected villages and health centres in Samoa.

Malnutrition in the form of obesity, and its relationship to the prevalence of non-communicable diseases has been the major concern about nutrition and health in Samoa. However since 1969

¹ State the individual whom will assume reporting and financial responsibilities under the approved project.

² State the individual(s) whom are part of the research team, as approved by UREC; all individuals must either be members of the University staff of student body.

³ If any, give number required, names and qualifications, if known; if not known at this time, the names and qualifications must be included on Progress or Final Reports.

⁴ As approved by UREC in the research proposal; state in months.

⁵ As approved by UREC in the research proposal.

malnutrition in the form of under-nutrition has been identified as a health problem among Samoan children. Over the years, a steady stream of underweight and malnourished children has been admitted to the paediatric wards. An audit of malnutrition cases admitted in the years 2006-2010 to the national hospital in Apia reported that 182 malnourished children had been admitted. Almost all of the cases were aged less than 2 years, with the majority being at weaning ages of 12-18 months. The factors contributing to these cases were considered not only to be the result of inadequate infant feeding practices but also poor quality water and sanitation leading to diarrhoea, which can underlie infant malnutrition if inadequately treated (Litara, 2011). Government policy on the practice of child feeding to be recommended to mothers or other caregivers is based on WHO and UNICEF standards and health workers are trained to give advice based on these. While there is some evidence about the prevalence of child malnutrition, which we document in this article, there has been limited research on the extent to which key recommendations are understood and practiced by health workers and mothers or other care-givers.

III. SUMMARY OF RESEARCH

In relation to the issues outlined above, a small research project was designed by staff and post-graduate students of the National University of Samoa in 2015. It aimed to review the evidence (summarised above) on infant malnutrition, and to design a small representative survey to examine the extent to which the government's recommended child feeding practices are known, understood and practiced by mothers/caretakers and advised by health workers. The survey applied a knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) methodology. Nutrition-related KAP studies assess and explore peoples' KAP relating to nutrition, diet, foods and closely related hygiene and health issues. Assessing nutrition-related knowledge, attitudes and practices offers an opportunity to better understand a given situation by providing insights into the social, psychological and behavioural determinants of nutritional status. The use of the KAP survey in relation to this research was to enhance the knowledge, attitude, and practices of specific infant and young child feeding practices in Samoa specifically within two target groups: mothers/caretakers of infants and young children, and public health professionals in district health centres.

Site selection was based on a non-probability purposive cluster sampling method. The population of Samoa is approximately 180,000 and statistically, the country is divided into four regions (Figure 1), Apia urban area (AUA), North West Upolu (NWU peri-urban and rural), rest of Upolu (ROU rural), and Savaii (rural). Within these regions sample clusters of villages were chosen. The study sites selected covered a total of eight villages from these four different regions in Samoa. These comprised two selected urban villages (Lauli'i and Vaimoso villages) representing the Apia urban statistical region; Faleasi'u village representing the 'North West Upolu' statistical region, (Lufilufi, Saanapu, and Poutasi villages representing statistical region 'Rest of Upolu', and; and two villages Puapua and Salailua, representing the Savaii statistical region. Pretesting of KAP survey for caretakers and health centre staff was conducted through the first village and health centre identified for study (Lufilufi village and Lufilufi Health centre).

Although this study only draws on a small sample, it covered villages in four regions of the country and found no significant regional difference in the knowledge, attitude and practice of those surveyed. The findings are generally positive. Public health nurses understood and professed to practice the recommendations that are endorsed by the government and by international agencies on the best practices for feeding infants and young children. However it was evident that they need more training and supply of resources to treat malnourished infants.

a. Did your research progress as planned? Why or why not?

The research progressed as planned with co-ordination between the project team and the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development.

b. What activities have been undertaken to share, present and/or publish the research?

A publication has been accepted and approved for the *NUS Journal of Samoan Studies (JSS)* which will be published later in the year (see attached Appendix B).

c. List all equipment purchased with UREC funds during the project⁶

- Please refer to the attached acquittal report (Appendix A) which had been presented at the UREC Meeting on 26 February 2016.

⁶ Any equipment purchased with UREC funds and worth SAT\$500 must be declared to UREC Finance personnel and listed on the NUS asset register.

IV. SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET⁷

Travel:	\$662
Subsistence & Accommodation:	\$5,840
Equipment & Consumable:	\$440
Research support staff:	\$2,640
Miscellaneous:	\$2,400
TOTAL	\$11,982.00

V. SUMMARY OF ALL INSTALMENTS RECEIVED⁸

Instalment 1 amount:	\$4,792.80
Date instalment received:	14/10/2015
Instalment 2 amount:	\$2,995.50
Date instalment received:	23/11/2015
Instalment 3 amount:	\$2,995.50
Date instalment received:	23/11/2015
Total:	\$10,783.80

⁷ As was approved by UREC.

⁸ Instalments received during the reporting period and as was approved by UREC.



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VI. ACQUITTAL REPORT⁹

Provide an account of research expenses incurred during the reporting period. See example below.

AMOA “

Instalment amount

xxxx.xx

Date instalment received: xx/xx/xxxx

Total

xxxx.xx

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Details of expense</u>
xx/xx/xxxx		xxx.xx	
xx/xx/xxxx		xxx.xx	
xx/xx/xxxx		xxx.xx	

Total expenses

xxxx.xx

Endorsed by UREC Finance
personnel:

(Finance to sign upon receipt
of all receipts and copy of final
report)

Balance

xxxx.xx

Any un-expensed funds must be receipted back to Finance with the associated receipt included in future progress and/or final report

⁹ All original receipts must be given to UREC Finance personnel with only copies of receipts to be provided along with progress and/or final reports.



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VII. CERTIFICATION BY PRINCIPAL RESEARCHER

I AMOAN certify that all the details contained in this progress report are true and that all research partners and co-investigators agree that this report is an accurate representation of the project's progress so far.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Terms and Conditions for all Researchers to follow
As approved on 5th October 2001, Amended 2005

1. The project shall be carried out within a period of 12 months and at such time a detailed report of its implementation and outcome shall be provided to the Committee.
2. The Committee may at any time require a progress report from the researcher.
3. A copy of the completed research must be deposited with the Institute upon completion of the research.
4. The Researcher shall be accountable to the Committee for the funds given by providing receipts or other evidence of expenses and a log book of activities for the duration of the research.
5. The Researcher shall not publish the whole or any part of the outcome of the research without the written approval of the Committee being obtained.
6. The Researcher agrees to be bound by universal ethics and good practices of research and a code of research ethics that may be adopted by the National University of Samoa and amended from time to time.
7. The Researcher declares that the funding granted by the University is the only funding which he/she will receive to fund what is being sought and approved for this research.
8. The Researcher declares that the funds will be used for the purposes stipulated and detailed in the research budget unless an alternative use is approved by the Committee or the Director of the Centre for Samoan Studies.
9. Acceptance by the researcher of the offer comprises acceptance of all the conditions expressed and implied by this offer.
10. No monies shall be disbursed before acceptance of the offer by the researcher has been effected and a plan for the disbursement of funds is lodged with the Director of the Centre for Samoan Studies and the Finance Registrar.
11. In the event of the researcher breaching any of the terms and conditions of the funding hereby provided the Committee may take whatever action is necessary against the researcher including demanding that the researcher repays to the University all or part of any funds disbursed for the project.