

The specific study objectives are to:

1. Administer a mental health questionnaire to a randomly selected 100 adult individuals in the Madetere community
2. To collect blood samples from the volunteers for genetic tests for the currently known risk marker, rs2535629, for mental disease
3. To carry a family history analysis and collect samples from the two families with several members afflicted by mental disease.

3. METHODS

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

To answer the research question and test our hypothesis, we will conduct a set of experiments which include defining the sampling sites in Madetere community.

Data collection

We will develop a structured questionnaire (see attached) to gather data mental health of selected volunteers in the Madetere community.

Sample collection

Genomic DNA from cases and controls will be isolated from peripheral blood lymphocytes and diluted to a final solution of 50 ng/μl. DNA concentration will be determined using the using a Nanodrop 2000 spectrophotometer. The

Genotype Analysis

The rs2535629 (A/G) assay will be ordered from Thermofisher for analysis on the Thermofisher RT_PCR, 7500. The genotyping assays will be done according to the suppliers protocol.

Data Analysis

The frequency of the rs rs2535629 variant in population of volunteers will be determined and the Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium tested.

The presence of the rs2535629 SNP in the two families with many mental illness victims will be evaluated.

RISKS / BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS

There is no social, economic or legal risk to the volunteer.

COSTS , COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENTS

The volunteer will not be paid for their participation in the study. Travel cost reimbursement for coming to the interview and sample collection centre will however be made.

CONFIDENTIALITY ASSURANCES

The volunteers DNA samples will be kept at the AiBST Biobank and DNA database . On behalf of the St Faith School . Access and use of the samples and database will be controlled by St faith School and other approved authorities. At