

15/8/25

Ref: CHG/ERC/2025/001

Dear Dr. Gumbo,

ETHICAL APPROVAL – RESEARCH PROPOSAL: COMMUNITY-DRIVEN EARLY MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR AFRICANS IN DIASPORA

This letter serves to confirm that the Chiromo Hospital Group (CHG), has reviewed and granted ethical approval for your retrospective cohort study titled “Community-Driven Early Mental Health Support for Africans in Diaspora,” to be conducted at CHG Bustani Branch.

This project has been found compliant with CHG’s internal research and ethical protocols. Ethical safeguards, including anonymization of all patient data, were ensured to protect participant confidentiality.

Furthermore, all data analysis will be conducted strictly for the purposes of service development and knowledge sharing within the hospital and the wider mental health community.

The approval is valid for the period from start date to end date, and is contingent upon adherence to the following conditions:

- i. Only the approved study documents, including data collection tools and protocols, shall be utilized throughout the study.
- ii. Any amendments, deviations, or violations to the approved protocol must be promptly submitted to CHG’s IRB for approval before implementation.
- iii. Any serious adverse events identified retrospectively or otherwise must be reported immediately to CHG IRB upon discovery.
- iv. Any changes that may impact the privacy, confidentiality, or welfare of patients, or compromise the integrity of the research, must be notified to CHG IRB within 72 hours.
- v. All findings and reports should maintain anonymization and be used solely for service improvement and knowledge dissemination.
- vi. A comprehensive progress report and final executive summary must be submitted to CHG IRB upon completion of the study.

Please ensure compliance with these requirements to maintain ethical standards and uphold the reputation of CHG.

Should you require any further assistance or clarification, feel free to contact the CHG Internal Review Board.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Rose Ngondi
Head of Research and Training
Chiromo Hospital Group

Cc:
Head, Corporate Psychiatrist Team, CHG
Research & Innovation Department, CHG