How to build research capacity in LMIC’s to address the challenge of NCDs?

Professor Brian Oldenburg
Director, Centre for Health Equity &
Director, NonCommunicable Disease Control Unit,
Melbourne School of Population and Global Health

Traditionally, a lot of the training for early career researchers from low/middle income countries has taken place in high income countries. There are problems with this approach and moreover, the crisis of NCDs which is now occurring in most LMICs requires more local and scalable approaches to research training and capacity building that also give strong emphasis to implementation science and knowledge translation. We have been trialling and evaluating a new approach – the ASCEND Program - funded for the last 5 years by US NIH. The learnings from that program are now being incorporated into a new program between Australia and India – called the ENCORE Program – and this program is being supported by University of Melbourne. A number of the new ENCORE trainees from University of Melbourne and the top health and medical research institutes in India will attend this presentation.

Brian Oldenburg is a behavioural scientist and population health researcher. His research focuses on how to improve the prevention and control of diabetes, heart disease and co-morbid mental health conditions. He has also developed and evaluated new technologies and m-Health interventions to improve diabetes control and outcomes. In recent years, he also has been studying the spread of cardiometabolic disease in in Asia and Africa and how this can be addressed. He is a current Visiting Professor in Finland and China, including Shanghai Jiao Tong University.