

Grant application form - Project

Submission Date	2016-06-30 16:19:13
Name of applicant	Angel M. Foster, DPhil, MD, AM
Job title	Endowed Chair in Women's Health Research & Associate Professor
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A short CV of the applicant (or the principal investigator) should be provided here.	AMFoster CV OCGS_June2016.docx
Submission date of this form	30-06-2016
Is the person responsible for the project different to the person named in box A	Yes
Name of person	Kinga Jelinska
Job title	Executive Director
Address	Street Address: Women Help Women Street Address Line 2: Postbus 15798 City: Amsterdam State / Province: NG Amsterdam Postal / Zip Code: 1001 Country: Netherlands
Phone Number	(0031) 645956581
E-mail	kinga@womenhelp.org
Title of the project	Exploring Polish women's experiences obtaining medication abortion through an online provider

Comprehensive description of the project (max 1500 characters)

Abortion is legally restricted in Poland. Since 1993, the government has banned abortion except in cases when the pregnancy threatens the life of the woman, results from a criminal act, or involves a serious fetal abnormality. In recent years, a number of local, national, and international efforts have been undertaken to raise awareness about the harms associated with the restrictive abortion law and identify avenues to expand safe abortion care. Established in 2014, Women Help Women offers Polish women the option of consulting with an online provider and, if eligible, receiving a package of mifepristone/misoprostol for early abortion through the mail. Our proposed study explores women's experiences obtaining abortion care through this online service. In Phase I, we will review client data from January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 (approximately 400 cases) to evaluate clinical outcomes and acceptability. In Phase II, we will conduct in-depth telephone/Skype interviews with a sub-set of clients (n=20-30) in order to understand better women's perspectives and experiences. This mixed-methods study promises to make a significant contribution to the literature dedicated to telemedicine. Further, through engagement with local stakeholders we aim to inform efforts to improve and expand existing online abortion services in Poland. Given the ongoing efforts to roll-back reproductive rights in Poland, our study is especially timely.

When would it start / finish? (Max 20 words)

We will complete this project over a one-year period: September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017

Where will it take place – country / town, establishment? (Max 20 words)

Our team is located in Ottawa, Canada, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and Warsaw, Poland. We will collect data throughout Poland.

Objectives and needs identified. (Max 20 words)

- Evaluate outcomes of online provision of medication abortion
- Document women's experiences with the service
- Develop recommendations to improve service delivery

Sector in the area of contraception, sexual and reproductive health:

Abortion

Is it a 'new' project?

Yes

What outcomes will be measured? List. (Max 20 words)

Telemedicine abortion outcomes: Success, incomplete/failure, follow-up. Project outcomes: Stakeholder engagement meetings, journal articles, materials disseminated/obtained, media coverage.

Do you foresee any reasons (political, climatic, etc) why this project may be adversely affected? (Max 20 words)

Although studying abortion in legally restrictive settings can be difficult, we do not foresee any specific challenges to this project.

Are there other partners or organisations supporting this same project?

Yes

If yes, list

This project represents a partnership between researchers at the University of Ottawa and Women Help Women. We will also work closely with Kobiety w Sieci, a women-led grassroots hotline and support group (Poland), and the Polish Federation for Women and Family Planning to both recruit participants and disseminate the results of the study.

Have you already obtained any funding or still awaiting a response towards this project?

Yes

If yes or still awaiting a response, please give details (Max 20 words)

Dr. Foster's and Ms. Jelinska's time will be covered through in-kind donations from uOtatwa and Women Help Women, respectively.

How much money are you requesting? A maximum of 10,000 euro per project application can be requested. An overview of the budget must be provided here (max 50 words)

We are requesting EUR10,000 to complete this project. These funds will cover the costs associated with analyzing the online consultations, conducting in-depth interviews with Polish women, providing participant incentives, engaging with stakeholders, and developing and distributing bilingual (English-Polish) information about the findings. No overhead will be charged to this grant.

Detailed budget

[AFoster_ESC application_Detailed budget.docx](#)

Will this be part of a larger fund or stand alone? (Max 20 words)

This is a stand-alone fund. However, we hope that successful completion of this project will seed future work.

Who will oversee the budget & keep accounts?

Dr. Angel M. Foster

We, as responsible agents for this project, agree to the following 6 points:

	yes
We agree that all monies will be spent appropriately	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
We agree to advise you at the earliest time if this project is delayed or cannot be completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
We agree to provide a report to the ESC within 6 months of the end of the project and yearly, if the project lasts longer than 1 year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
We agree to present the ESC treasurer with a detailed budget at the end of the project. (if the project is longer than 1 year, the funding may be awarded in stages and be dependent on appropriate reporting)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
We agree that if you need to make any significant changes to the duration, contents or funding of the project after it has been awarded, we will advise the ESC Treasurer.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
We agree to acknowledge the ESC as a donor in any publications and oral communications resulting from this project. Ideally any manuscript should be sent to the ESC journal in the first instance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Full Name

Angel Foster

Date

30-06-2016