



2017 BHEARD Scholar
Joyce Ware

Profile

Country of Study:	Kenya
University:	University of Nairobi
Department:	Veterinary Medicine
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—MSc.
Home Country:	South Sudan
Home Institution:	Catholic University South Sudan
Home Position:	Teaching Assistant
Mentored By:	

Research Area: Zoonoses

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: September 2017

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: BSc. Veterinary Medicine

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Joyce's research interest is zoonoses, which can be defined as those diseases that are transmissible between animals and humans. Joyce is interested in zoonoses for several reasons. Firstly, it is a major public health concern and represents significant public health threats, but many of them are neglected, i.e. they are not prioritized by health systems at national and international levels. They affect hundreds of thousands of people especially in developing countries, although most of them can be prevented.

Secondly, human health is inextricably linked to animal health and production and about 75% of diseases that affect humans are caused by agents originating from animal or animal products. Many of these diseases have the potential to spread through various means over long distances and to become global problems. In addition to well-known and preventable animal diseases that can be transmitted to humans such as Rabies, Brucellosis, Leptospirosis, Leishmaniosis and Echinococcosis continue to occur in many countries especially in the developing countries where they mostly affect the poorest population. They cause a serious amount of deaths and millions of affected people every year.

Lastly, all major zoonoses prevent the efficient production of food of animal origin particularly of much needed proteins, and they can create obstacles to international trade in livestock and livestock products. Consequently, they impede the overall socioeconomic development.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: After being awarded with the MSc in VPH (MVPH), Joyce's plans to continue her field and laboratory surveillance in the epidemiology of zoonoses and implement her knowledge and skills in the diagnosis, control, prevention and elimination of zoonoses. When she returns to her profession as a lecturer, she will apply the acquired knowledge and skills to students by giving them what she has gained at the University of Nairobi. She will contribute to the improvement of human and public health by improving agriculture and food systems, preventing and addressing zoonotic diseases, enhancing environmental and ecosystem health, and helping manage future public health challenges more specially in her beloved country, South Sudan.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Joyce always enjoy social interactions during her free time with students and livestock communities, visiting research centers, participating in workshops, trainings, scientific discussions and seminars with professionals. In addition to this, Joyce enjoy tourism and sports.