**PETRA: trade and health network**

**CALL FOR EVIDENCE**

**Introduction**

PETRA is an interdisciplinary network set up with UK Prevention Research Partnership funding for three years to look at the impact of trade and investment agreements on the risk factors for non-communicable diseases.

**Objective**

PETRA is tasked with identifying the short- and long-term research and development objectives which would be most useful for informing policy users on the implications of future trade and investment agreements on the public’s health and wellbeing.

As it is not possible to convene the intelligence-gathering events originally planned because of COVID-19, PETRA is now running an enquiry to collect submissions from as wide a range of academic, third sector and policymakers as possible. Evidence from submissions, along with a set of commissioned position papers, will be used to draft an outline research priorities framework at a sandpit exercise in 2021.

**Terms of reference**

The research priorities framework will consider the impact of trade and investment agreements on the public’s health and wellbeing from a wide range of perspectives. Your input is sought to help answer the following questions and identify what further research needs to be undertaken.

**Non-communicable diseases**

* What new UK trading and investment principles, arrangement and measures should ideally be in place to reduce the harm from the health damaging alcohol (tobacco and processed foods)
* What do you want to learn from other NCD risk factor prevention areas?
* What are the main concerns/barriers at a general and NCD prevention level and how might they be addressed?
* How can trade policy and TIAs increase prosperity and reduce health inequalities?
* What are the opportunities for “taking back control” and thus maximally strengthening public health measures at a general level and for NCD prevention?

**Economics**

* What economic analysis should be utilised for ensuring the public’s health is fully considered in trade and investment agreements?

**Trade**

* What are the barriers and facilitators for incorporating health into trade and investment agreements?
* How can health impact assessments be incorporated into the formulation of trade and investment agreements and mechanisms?

**Sustainable prosperity**

* How can trade and health be incorporated as part of the sustainable prosperity agenda?

**Legal**

* Do human and social rights affect the promotion of health in trade and health agreements and mechanisms
* What are the main legal principles and provisions in trade and investment agreements used to protect public health and specifically for NCD prevention?

**COVID-19**

* How might Covid-19/pandemic preparations and recovery affect future trade and investment agreements especially from the perspective of the prevention of NCDs?

**International**

* What are the lessons from international experience on trade and health in specific countries and trading block areas?
* What can be learnt from other countries who have addressed the links between trade and health in other areas such as environmental protection, sustainable development and tobacco control (FCTC etc)?

**Public opinion**

* What are the public’s views on protecting and promoting health through trade and investment agreements?
* What general provisions should be made for promoting and protecting the publics’ health?

**Submission details:**

Submissions in the form of a Word document should:

* be no more than a maximum of 3000 words
* be in a minimum font size of 11pt Arial
* include a summary
* be well-structured with numbered paragraphs for ease of reference

Send submissions to h.lodge@chester.ac.uk by ***31 July 2020***

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your help.

May 2020