



Title of PhD project / theme	Improving completion of Rabies post-exposure prophylaxis
Supervisory team	Chris Smith (Nagasaki) <i>Depending on the nature of the selected project the supervisory team will also include 1 or more of the following academic staff:</i> LSHTM: TBC Nagasaki: Dr Chris Smith, Prof Koya Ariyoshi
Brief description of project / theme	Rabies is a fatal disease but preventable with timely vaccine administration. A busy infectious diseases hospital in Manila assesses a large number of patients with dog bites and provides post-exposure prophylaxis including first-dose vaccine and immunoglobulin. However anecdotal evidence suggests that not all patients return for subsequent vaccines. We are interested in better understanding factors associated with incomplete post-exposure prophylaxis, risk of developing Rabies with incomplete vaccination, and possible interventions to improve post-exposure vaccine completion. An opportunity exists to conduct a research project in the Philippines, or possibly other countries in the region, including, but are not limited to, the areas outlined below: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Formative research to assess extent and factors associated with Rabies post-exposure vaccination completion, and consequences of partial vaccination2. Development and evaluation of digital health intervention to support Rabies post-exposure vaccination completion
Particular <i>prior</i> educational requirements for a student undertaking this project	Experience of clinical infectious diseases and training in epidemiology would be advantageous but are not essential. In addition, depending on the exact interests and background of students, experience in one of the following is highly desirable: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interest in intervention development and evaluation• Interest in digital health
Skills we expect a student to develop/acquire whilst pursuing this project	Field epidemiology, data management and analysis, intervention development and evaluation and more specialised skills depending on the nature of the final project.