RESEARCH CHECKLIST:
Implementing Surgical Services in a Rural, Resource-Limited Setting: a Study Protocol

Preliminary Phase (planning period):
☐ Procure funding for surgical theatre construction
☐ Prepare protocol design
   o Determine recording instruments/checklists to be employed
   o Design quality improvement and follow-up policies
☐ Review/edit protocol
☐ Reach consensus with all collaborators
☐ Provide open-source information regarding prospective protocol to ensure transparency

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:

Initial Phase (first 6 months):
☐ Finalize construction of operating theatre and surgical facilities
☐ Provide staff trainings on utilization of recording instruments/quality improvement mechanisms
☐ Provide staff sensitivity training
☐ Provide surgical services to patients in catchment area
☐ Begin collecting data on areas of study:
   o Burden of surgical disease
   o Financial inputs
   o Pharmaceutical and consumable item utilization
   o Qualitative documentation of implementation process
☐ Observe:
   o Adherence to stocking protocols
   o Adherence to surgical safety and resuscitation protocols
   o Community-follow up
   o Complication rates
☐ Analyze areas in need of change/improvement
☐ Adapt surgical protocols to include any updates/improved methods

Follow-up Phase (next 18 months):
☐ Continue to provide surgical services to patients in catchment area
☐ Update/improve protocols as per observations during initial phase
☐ Continue collecting data on areas of study:
   o Burden of surgical disease
   o Financial inputs
   o Pharmaceutical and consumable item utilization
   o Qualitative documentation of implementation process
☐ Continue observation of:
   o Adherence to stocking protocols
   o Adherence to surgical safety and resuscitation protocols
   o Community-follow up
   o Complication rates
☐ Statistically compare data collected during initial and follow-up phases
☐ Analyze areas in need of change/improvement
☐ Adapt surgical protocols to include any updates/improved methods
☐ Publish open-source information on data/results/changes to protocol to ensure transparency and reproducibility of study