

No Borders, Only Frontiers

Global Health Track Newsletter (July 2013, Vol.1 No.1)

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I. Annual Review: July 2012- June 2013

► ‘Globalization of International Health’ presented at AAFP Annual Workshop

Senior residents, Drs. Melanie Golembiewski and Nek Nazary (both GHT '13) presented our global health curriculum as ‘Globalization of International Health’ at the AAFP Annual Conference in Global Health in Minneapolis in September 2012. They elaborated the development of core competencies required to global health practitioners in the Track and how we incorporate those topics in our residency curriculum. The room for the ninety-minute presentation was packed with more than 70 people and they lined up for questions afterwards, asking how we identified and put together the core subjects for learners. Our program has become one of the forefronts of global health family medicine programs in the US. Congratulations to Drs. Golembiewski and Nazary for an excellent presentation at their first national meeting.



► Launch Collaboration with Mercado Global in Panajachel, Guatemala



Mercado Global (MG) is a US community development NGO, focusing on empowering rural indigenous women by providing business education and leadership programs in Panajachel, Guatemala. We made two assessment trips. In October 2012, Drs. Aisha Al-Kubaisi, Umair Malik, Melanie Golembiewski, Nek Nazary and Alex Howard,

the 2nd and 3rd year Global Health Track residents and Dr. Masahiro “Mori” Morikawa conducted community needs assessment on the health status of Mayan women who



work as artisans for MG. We employed various methods of community assessment, diagraming, transcend walk and in-depth discussions with artisans of MG. One of our goals is to avoid focusing on material aid but rather building a positive relationship, which motivates local women to learn about health and nutrition and to encourage them to modify unhealthy behaviors.

The residents took time to listen to their health related concerns and questions. Their final report and the presentation will be posted on our website (<https://casemed.case.edu/fammed/education/index.html>).

In the second assessment trip in March 2013, the GHT graduates, Drs. Aaron Lear (GHT '06) and his resident from Akron General Hospital Leon Gedeon, Kate Conway (GHT '08), Kerry Lecky (GHT '08), and Hisam Goueli (GHT '09) joined Dr. Mori. There were three primary findings in the 2 assessment trips; 1) the artisan women appear to have many stress and anxiety related symptoms that may manifest as



physical illness and discomfort; 2) Musculoskeletal complaints such as upper and lower back pain, head/neck pain, and well as wrist pain and paresthesia were common; and 3) their communities have many public health problems that have short and long term health and workplace productivity impacts. To help alleviate those problems, we are going ahead to implement the following community-based

interventions in the coming academic year:

- 1) A “Pain Away” program for Musculoskeletal (cervical, thoracic and lumbar) pain, repetitive wrist motion and dysfunction
- 2) A support program for Anxiety/Stress: “Power to Change: The Community Behavior Activation (MG) Model”
- 3) Participatory workshops on sanitation and hygiene

► Technical Collaboration with the Chiang Rai Provincial Hospital, Thailand

NCD (non-communicable diseases) has been incorrectly perceived as a health problem of the affluent. In northern Thailand, NCD is epidemic in one of the most remote and impoverished areas. The goal of this trip is to develop strategies to contain this epidemic



through primary care. In January 2013, Dr. Mori made a trip to Chiang Rai to assess training needs among community health workers and primary care physicians working under the provincial health system. It is to help Dr. Daranee Intralawan (GHT '10), now a faculty member of the Chiang Rai Provincial Hospital teaching family medicine, develop



a training program serving for the population. Drs. Mori and Intralawan visited villages of mountain tribes located near Chinese border and a field hospital on the other side of the Mekong River, actually in Laos, which the Thai hospital system provides assistance. Fifteen years have passed since Dr. Mori's last visit to the area. The district hospital in Laos has become ready to provide various types of care because the facility now has electricity and equipped with an oxygen concentrator and an ultrasound machine. They even have private patient rooms for an extra fee (Our official welcome ceremony was at a meeting room with big portraits of Marx and Lenin, it is a reminder that Laos is still a communist/socialist country).

It was clear that there should be several different training modules that meet different needs of the health care providers depending on their skill levels, medical needs of the community, and the roles of each facility. Such continuing medical training will be implemented for practicing primary care physicians, residents and medical students, and community health workers for next few years in annual basis. Next trip is scheduled Jan- Feb 2014.

► Consultation on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Program in Korogwe, Tanzania

The current situation in St. Raphael Hospital, Korogwe, Tanga, Tanzania, is one of the examples that public and private hospitals are fighting for the limited resources. In response to the request from Dr. Damian Mpundu, Dr. Mori visited the hospital to make recommendations on the long-term strategies to strengthen their services and hospital capacities. Started as a missionary hospital in the 60s, St. Raphael hospital is run by an Anglican church. However, just like many other missionary hospitals, it has been in a financial crisis due to the limited support from the government and shrinking funding support from the church partners abroad. We came to a conclusion that each hospital should define their unique role in the health care system. We will help them develop and implement on-site training programs that are hands-on, goal-oriented, and contextually appropriate.

Dr. Mori met a very dedicated community health worker in a Maasai's village. The worker was keeping primary care post in the middle of nowhere; no electricity, no tap water, and an-hour drive from the last segment of the paved road. He has been living there for 5 years, sharing the basic life style with the Maasais. People call him respectfully doctor and indeed, he does deal with everything they need from immunization to delivering babies. This visit gave Dr. Mori another opportunity to



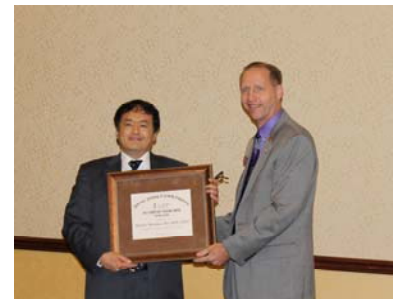
witness how primary care is practiced in such a remote corner of the world. Skill sets required for health care providers are different in each community. 'One-size fit-for-all' approach does not work when it comes to primary care training.

► Consultation on MCH Strategy Development in Afghanistan

Dr. Mori continues his involvement as a medical advisor for Kinderberg International, e.V. (KBI), Stuttgart, Germany for their emergency relief program in Afghanistan implementing programs of the Basic Package for Health System (BPHS). We have been working in 3 northern provinces as the largest NGO in providing primary care in the area. The phased withdrawal by NATO, however, affects the future of available funding to continue our activities in Afghanistan. So far, KBI will continue to provide BPHS until the end of 2014, but we have to plan ahead to develop and implement more comprehensive and locally sustainable health programs in the area. Dr. Mori is regularly on conference call with KBI headquarters in Germany to advise how to design training programs for primary care providers in the field to better serve mothers and children and how to measure the impact of the intervention.

► Good news

In addition to 8 new residents joined in the GHT track, the 2012-2013 academic year kicked off with a couple of great news. Dr. Mori was recognized as the recipient of the **2012 Exemplary Teaching Award**, which is presented to a full-time faculty member by American Academy of Family Physicians in August. This was the second recognition following the **2011 Educator of the Year Award** recognized by Ohio Academy of Family Physicians for his bedside teaching and global health. Dr. Mori was humbled by enthusiastic support from his current & past residents as well as his colleagues in his department.



In October, one of the GHT residents, Dr. Umair Malik (PGY2) was honored as one of the recipients of **Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award** by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation. This award is given through rigorous nomination process by the medical students nationally. Dr. Malik was granted for his exceptional dedication to guide and mentor medical students in global health and primary care.

Dr. Mori was then awarded with the inaugural **Ann S. & Anthony J. Asher Chair in Family Medicine & Community Health** in December 2012. Dr. Mori was overwhelmed by the generous support from Mr. Tony and Mrs. Ann Asher and their family and for their understanding of what he and the GHT are working to accomplish. This new support prompts Dr. Mori to take a moment to reinvigorate his passion to advance both global health and bedside training to a different level.

► **Activities ahead**

This past academic year was an enlightening year for Dr. Mori in global health activities. What he has witnessed so far has truly re-convincing him how powerful the principle of family medicine is to analyze, design and implement effective, practical primary care training in communities in dire needs. The Global Health Track will continue to provide training not only for our residents but reach out primary care providers in communities both in the US as well as abroad.

Please stay in touch with us and join our effort to transform the primary care in many different corners of the world one trainee at a time. Please send me your comments and inquiries to Dr. Mori. Thank you for your help and support.

Contact Information:

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II. ACTIVITIES LOG:

Education:

Rotation:

Community-health assessment I in Guatemala, Sepember - October 2012

Drs. Aisha Al-Kubaishi, Alex Howard, Umair Malik,
Nek Nazary, Melanie Golembiewski

Obstetric training for OB residents in Guyana, January 2013

Melanie Golembiewski

Community-health assessment II in Guatemala, March 2013

Dr. Leon Gedeon (PGY 3 Dept of Family Medicine, Akron General Hospital)

Presentation/Lecture:

“Globalization of International Health” at AAFP Global Health Workshop, September 5, 2012, Minneapolis, MN: MJ Morikawa, Melanie Golembiewski, Nek Nazary

“Family Medicine in Global Health” for 1st and 2nd year students, School of Medicine, CWRU, Cleveland, OH, January 8, 2013: MJ Morikawa

“Globalization of Family Medicine” January 24, 2013, Chiang Rai Provincial Hospital, Chiang Rai, Thailand: MJ Morikawa

“Global Health and Family Medicine” , Family Medicine Grand Round, January 30, 2013, Ramathibodi Hospital/Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand: MJ Morikawa

“Public Health Issues in War-torn Communities” , SAGES Seminar, Dept. of Economics, CWRU, April 10, 2013: MJ Morikawa

Research:

Publication:

Morikawa, M, Polanc, A, Becker, S. “Continuous weight and height gain among at-risk children discharged from a supplementary feeding center in Kabul, Afghanistan”
ICAN: Infant, Child, & Adolescent Nutrition 2013;5:97-99

Consultation:

Guatemala

- Mercado Global (MG), Health education module development and implementation, Panajachel, Guatemala (June, September-October, 2012, March 2013)

Thailand

- Strengthening Chiang Rai Provincial Hospital Family Medicine Program (January 2013)

Tanzania

- Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for Anglican Diocese of Tanga and district government. (May - June 2013)

Afghanistan

Strategic planning for implementation, monitoring, & evaluation of BPHS, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Kinderberg International, e.V.

Award:

Masahiro Morikawa, MD

2012 Exemplary Teaching Awards American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), July 2012

Umair Malik, MD

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award, October 2012

Masahiro Morikawa, MD

Ann S. & Anthony J. Asher Chair in Family Medicine & Community Health, December 2012

Masahiro Morikawa, MD

Jack H. Medalie, MD Residency Enhancement Award Dept of family Medicine Graduating Class of 2013, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, May 2013