Global Initiative for Children's Surgery

Welcome to the GICS February Newsletter. The GICS working groups ad committees have been producing some valuable educational content of late, and we are happy to share their efforts below.

GICS will be at the ICBD Conference next month. We are so grateful to be able to connect in person again. If you are also attending please a point of stopping by and introducing yourself and/or saying hello!

We are excited to share that our new website will be launching later this month, and it will have not only a new feel but also will make it easier for members to access resources and educational tools.

Please reach out if you have any suggestions for content to be featured in the newsletter or on the new website.

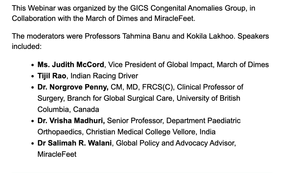
On February 4th at the Education Committee of GICS presented a Trauma Symposium moderated by Professor Kokila Lakhoo.

The objectives of the Webinar were to raise awareness about the significance of pediatric trauma-related injuries, present an orientation about the GICS Trauma Care Initiative, provide information about pediatric trauma preventative measures, and focus on necessary steps in the primary management of major pediatric trauma.

Presenters were:

- **Professor Adesoji Ademuyiwa**
- **Professor Abdellatif E Ali**
- **Professor Simone Abib**
- **Professor Warwick Teague**

We hope you will take the time to watch this educational webinar.



If you missed this informative webinar you can watch the recording here.

This Webinar was organized by the GICS Congenital Anomalies Group, in Collaboration with the March of Dimes and MiracleFeet.

The moderators were Professors Tahmina Banu and Kokila Lakhoo. Speakers included:

- **Ms. Judith McCord**, Vice President of Global Impact, March of Dimes
- **Tijii Rao**, Indian Racing Driver
- **Dr. Norgrove Penny,** CM, MD, FRCS(C), Clinical Professor of Surgery, Branch for Global Surgical Care, University of British Columbia, Canada
- **Dr. Vrisha Madhuri,** Senior Professor, Department Paediatric Orthopaedics, Christian Medical College Vellore, India
- **Dr Salimah R. Walani**, Global Policy and Advocacy Advisor, MiracleFeet

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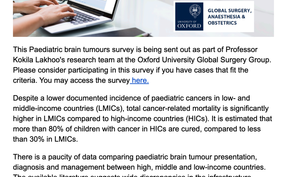


This Paediatric brain tumours survey is being sent out as part of Professor Kokila Lakhoo's research team at the Oxford University Global Surgery Group. Please consider participating in this survey if you have cases that fit the criteria. You may access the survey here.

Despite a lower documented incidence of paediatric cancers in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), total cancer-related mortality is significantly higher in LMICs compared to high-income countries (HICs). It is estimated that more than 80% of children with cancer in HICs are cured, compared to less than 30% in LMICs.

There is a paucity of data comparing paediatric brain tumour presentation, diagnosis and management between high, middle and low-income countries. The available literature suggests wide discrepancies in the infrastructure, availability of diagnostic techniques and treatment modalities available to children with brain tumours. The aims of this study are to explore the disparities in the management of paediatric brain tumours both between geographically different centres and centres located in HICs and LMICs.

We are disseminating this survey to surgeons worldwide. The questions focus on the diagnostic and therapeutic methods available for brain tumour management. No patient identifiable will be collected and all survey responses are anonymous. All survey respondents will be named as collaborative co-authors on any research work that stems from this work i.e., presentations and publications.

GICS will hold our next in-person meeting in Manila, Philippines February 22-25, 2024 Stay tuned for updates.

Due to the strong efforts of GICS Chair-Elect Professor Tahmina Banu, surgery is now on the agenda of one of the biggest organizations for the treatment of congenital anomalies.

There will be a panel on surgery at the March of Dimes' International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World, being held in Santiago, Chile on 1-4 March 2023.

Click here for more information on the conference. GICS will have a booth, so please stop by and say hello.

GICS is pleased to share this fellowship opportunity from our friends at Surgeons for Little Lives and the University of the Witwatersrand.

This is an exciting opportunity for a Paediatric Surgery fellow to work within the Department of Paediatric Surgical Oncology at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, University of the Witwatersrand.

This post will be part of the clinical oncology post graduate training rotation and will provide learning opportunities in a supportive environment. The role will ideally suit a trainee from Sub Saharan Africa wishing to pursue further training in Paediatric Surgical Oncology.

The post allows flexibility for participants to develop their clinical experience, and includes a requirement of completing research in an area of paediatric surgical oncology with subsequent publication in a recognised peer reviewed journal.

The successful candidate will gain experience in management of the spectrum of surgical oncological emergencies, as well as elective management, including outpatient care, intra-operative surgical technique, and the spectrum of peri-operative care. The candidate will be included into the call roster of the broader Department of Paediatric Surgery, and will be expected to participate in all departmental academic activities.

The position is for a fixed contract of 12 months duration with no opportunity for ongoing employment at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital. On completion, the successful candidate will be contractually obligated to work for a minimum period of 2 years in a Paediatric Surgical Centre in Sub Saharan Africa.

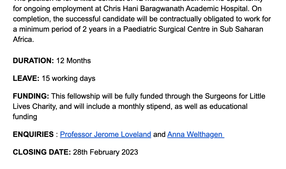
DURATION: 12 Months

LEAVE: 15 working days

FUNDING: This fellowship will be fully funded through the Surgeons for Little Lives Charity, and will include a monthly stipend, as well as educational funding

ENQUIRIES - Professor Jerome Loveland and Anna Welthagen

CLOSING DATE: 28th February 2023



Watch the most recent GICS Virtual Grand Rounds on Wilms' Tumor here.

Watch the GICS Virtual Grand Rounds on Anorectal Malformations here.

If you are not already a GICS member, you can join today!

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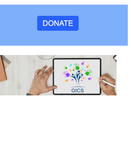
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