

GICS Newsletter And Announcements November 2018

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Global Initiative for Children's Surgery

GICS November 2018 Newsletter

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GICS Quarterly Online Meeting

Thursday, 13 December 2018

7:00am PST • 10:00am EST • 4:00pm GMT • 5:00pm WAT • 7:00pm EAT • 7:30pm
IST • 3:00am AEDT

Visit [SavvyTime World Clock](#) for other time zones

Agenda and link for the meeting will be provided as the date approaches

Summary of Quarterly Meeting 20 September 2018:

Operational updates: GICS member dues will begin in 2019, to help defray operational expenses (see below for details).

OReCS: The document was completed and submitted for publication...it has subsequently been accepted for publication in the World Journal of Surgery!

GICS status with WHO: Steve Bickler plans to speak with Walt Johnson in Geneva. Updates still pending.

Nicaragua Research Project: As a result of civil unrest, community outreach is on hold, although hospital work continues, along with data collection.

NSOAPs: Emanuel Ameh related that Nigeria is the only country working to include children in National Surgical, Obstetrics, and Anesthesia Plans; baseline assessments are nearly complete. The process is just beginning in Pakistan under the leadership of Lubna Samad. The impression at the NSOAP meeting in Dubai was that children's surgery is not being prioritized. Meanwhile Walt Johnson is very supportive of including children's surgery in NSOAPs. Diana will reach out to John Meara to emphasize the importance of children's surgery in NSOAPs.

Global PaedSurg: Data collection began 1 October 2018 and will continue for six months. Please contact [Naomi Wright](#) if you are still interested in

participating in this very important study.

KidsOR: Doruk Ozgediz gave an update on the incredible progress KidsOR has made this year. He will be helping to measure impact of the KidsOR projects. All those who wish their hospitals to be considered for a fully equipped operating room are encouraged to complete an application on the [KidsOR website](#).

Developing training modules for the District Hospital in all specialties:

Anesthesia: Faye Evans gave an update on a few of the short courses available in anesthesia. Those led by the WFSA/AAGBI include the Safer Anesthesia from Education (SAFE) courses. There are currently three: SAFE OB focusing on obstetric anesthesia, SAFE Paeds focusing on pediatric anesthesia, and SAFE OR which is multidisciplinary and focuses on interdisciplinary teamwork. There is also the INSPIRE through clinical teaching course, Essential Pain management course (EPM). The MEPA course for managing emergencies in pediatric anesthesia was originally developed for HICs but has recently been adapted for use in LMICs.

Pediatric general surgery: AiXuan Holterman described the PASS (Pediatric Acute Surgical Support) course offered in Vietnam, incorporating a multidisciplinary approach, train the trainers, interactive lectures, skill stations, and clinical scenarios. The goal of the course is to improve resuscitation and care of children at provincial and district hospitals.

Kokila Lakhoo noted that this course is similar to the one offered in India, with nurses' involvement and funding by the local government. Soji Ademuyiwa also commented that this is similar to a course offered in Lagos as well.

Discussion emphasized the need to coordinate the various courses being offered, as well as devising protocols for management of the acute abdomen and trauma. Marilyn Butler will assume responsibility for cataloguing the various courses on the GICS website.

The suggestion was made that each Working Group should identify the courses offered in its surgical subspecialty. Doruk Ozgediz suggested that the focus for the Working Groups in the coming year might be to optimize guidelines for care at the District Hospital, drawing on Steve Bickler and Emanuel Ameh's book

Surgical Care for Children: A Guide for Primary Referral Hospitals.

Member Dues Coming January 2019

GICS will begin collecting membership dues to help defray operational costs.

GICS membership will afford the following benefits:

- Access to member-only content of website
- Certificate recognition as a member of GICS
- Ability to serve as an officer or on working groups and committees
- Receipt of periodic newsletter updates and other internal communications
- Possibility for LMIC members of sponsorship for meeting attendance

Dues will be stratified by income level of member's home country:

- \$100 High-income country
- \$50 Middle-income country
- \$25 Low-income country
- \$25 Trainees
- \$25 Nurses

For GICS members who wish to remain involved but for whom dues are a hardship, they can be waived by writing a letter to the [GICS Treasurer](#).

Publication Updates:

The **[Optimal Resources for Children's Surgery \(OReCS\) document](#)** has been accepted for publication at the World Journal of Surgery! This is a tremendous landmark for GICS and a step toward the WHO adoption of OReCS as approved guidelines for the standard of children's surgical care. Doruk Ozgediz will be reaching out to the Working Group Leads, to see if they would be willing to write commentaries in their respective subspecialty journals to highlight the importance of OReCS. Please contact [Doruk Ozgediz](#) if you are interested in contributing for your subspecialty journal.

Also, the manuscript entitled **[Global Initiative for Children's Surgery: A Model of Global Collaboration to Advance the Surgical Care of Children](#)** has also been accepted for publication in the World Journal of Surgery. Look for it in a special

accepted for publication in the world Journal of Surgery! Look for it in a special Global Surgery issue coming soon. All those who were previously consulted regarding authorship will be included.

Research Updates:

1. GICS member [Naomi Wright](#) would like to ask GICS members to consider being a mentor within the Global PaedSurg Research Training Fellowship. The fellowship will consist of monthly webinars covering all stages of developing a research project from concept to publication and presentation. There are currently 225 collaborators signed up to participate from countries all round the world, with the group split into juniors (medical students and house officer level doctors) and seniors (registrars, consultants and professors). Collaborators wishing to undertake their own project will be paired with a mentor to help support them through the process. The idea is that collaborators have a chance to undertake their own research project alongside the main study so they can produce their own abstract for conference presentation and their own publication.

As a mentor, all that is required is an hour of your time once a month for a meeting with the mentee and occasional email support. You can choose whether to have just one mentee or more than one. We have 23 mentors already, but we desperately need more. Your help would be greatly appreciated to ensure this exciting initiative is a success. Together we can make it happen! Please contact [Naomi Wright](#) if you are interested.

2. GICS member [Naomi Wright](#) continues her ambitious work on the [Global PaedSurg](#) study on congenital anomalies. Enrollment is underway and will collect data on outcomes of congenital anomalies. All GICS members are encouraged to participate. Please contact [Naomi Wright](#) or visit the website www.globalpaedsurg.com if you are interested!

3. The next GICS Research Webinar will be [Tuesday, 11 December 2018](#), topics and speakers pending. November's speakers were Tiffany Paradis and Katie LaRusso who presented on "Pediatric Bellwethers: The Current State and the Way Forward." The presentation was recorded if you are interested in viewing it. Questions or looking to get more engaged and present your work? Contact [Emily Smith, PhD](#) for more information.

**Shop on AmazonSmile
and raise money for GICS**

Spread the word to all of your friends and family! If you shop at Amazon through the AmazonSmile website and choose the Global Initiative for Children's Surgery as your charity of choice, then GICS will receive 0.5% of the price of each eligible purchase. Signing up is easy...just go to smile.amazon.com (or smile.amazon.co.uk in the UK), click Register Now, and search for the Global Initiative for Children's Surgery. Once you set it up, it will default to GICS each time.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

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Please see complete AmazonSmile [program details](#).

Spotlight on the GICS Nurses Group:

[Bunmi Lawal-Aiye](#) would like to share the following update on the GICS Nurses Group:

This year GICS has chosen to embrace the Nurses Working Group as a focus area and platform for nurses all over the world to contribute to achieving the mission of the initiative. You may be curious to know why. Is the Global Initiative for Children's Surgery meant for physicians alone?

GICS thinks differently. We know that nurses in the day-to-day work are in the act of protecting, promoting, supporting optimal care and providing resources for communities, particularly those children in greatest needs in resource-poor regions of the world. We know that when nurses pull forces together remarkable success is achieved. The GICS Nurses Group represents the voice of nurses around the world. We influence surgical interventions for children, promote health, effect social and economic policy at country, regional and global levels, and share evidence-based medicine and best practices.

STRENGTH TO LEAD IN THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR CHILDREN'S SURGERY (GICS). Nurses are in the position to inform, participate and galvanize their expertise from all over the world in ensuring necessary knowledge, skill, awareness, procedures, passion, policies, innovations and technical approaches for surgery interventions. I urge Nurses all over the world to join the GICS Nurses Group.

GICS NURSING GROUP MISSION: To advance nursing care by defining and promoting optimal resources for children's surgery in resource-poor regions of the world.

PRINCIPLES: GICS NURSES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING:

1. Prioritize worldwide surgical intervention for children;
2. Include newborn and childhood conditions requiring surgery;
3. Engage in educational activities (either for professionals or for the general population) in the field of birth defects, surgical interventions, and promote the creation of groups for technical task force;
4. Promote guidelines for conducting surgical intervention, research and surveillance program;
5. Coordinate research activities with the Members, Affiliates and other collaborators;
6. Coordinate global prevention and awareness efforts across global community;
7. Maintain appropriate standards for nursing care, confidentiality and security of data.

WHO: The GICS Nurses Group is an aggregate of nurses from the world over. The GICS Nurses Group is run by nurses globally to ensure high quality nursing care, before, during and after surgical interventions for children at the facility and community level.

WHEN CAN I JOIN: The best time to join this movement is now when the group is building the foundation and operational guidelines for better global impact.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN: The burden of conditions amenable to surgical interventions globally is great where about 5 billion people lack access to safe, affordable, and timely surgical care. Hence Nurses globally are committed to saving lives, promoting health and ensuring priorities of improving access and availability of service to provide surgical care for children in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and bringing together resources to address surgical care.

HOW DO I JOIN: Please contact Bunmi Lawal-Aiyedun (olubunmia255@gmail.com) if you or your colleagues would be interested in joining this vital Working Group.

GICS Leadership

Officers

Kokila Lakhoo (Chair): UK

Diana Farmer (Past Chair): USA

Emmanuel Ameh (Chair Elect): Nigeria

Neema Kaseje (Secretary): USA

Doruk Ozgediz (Treasurer): USA

At Large Directors

Tahmina Banu (2017-2019): Bangladesh

Dan Poenaru (2017-2019): Canada

Stephen Bickler (2017-2019): USA

Sabina Siddiqui (2017-2019): USA

Michael Cooper (2017-2019): Australia

Zipporah Gathuya (2017-2020): Kenya

Lily Saldana (2017-2020): Peru

Patrick Kamalo (2017-2020): Malawi

Rashmi Kumar (2017-2020): Kenya

Bertille Ki (2017-2020): Burkina Faso

Marilyn Butler (2017-2021): USA

Vrishna Madhuri (2017-2021): India

John Sekabira (2017-2021): Uganda

Benjamin Yapu (2017-2021): Papua New Guinea

Keith Oldham (2017-2021): USA

Associate Members (Core Operations and Logistics)

Sarah Greenberg

Laura Goodman

Guy Jensen

Etienne St. Louis

Jamie Anderson

Naomi Wright

Sarah Cairo

Working Groups (Facilitators)

Anesthesia ([Zipporah Gathuya](#))

Cardiac Surgery ([Eltayeb Ahmed](#))

Critical Care ([Rashmi Kumar](#))

Dental/Oral Surgery ([Sunday Ajike](#))

General Surgery ([Basil Leodoro](#))

Neurosurgery ([Anthony Figaji](#), William Harkness)

Nursing ([Olubunmi Lawal-Aiyedon](#))

Ophthalmology (pending)

Orthopedic Surgery ([Vrisha Madhuri](#))

Otolaryngology ([Shazie Peer](#))

Pediatric General Surgery ([Soji Ademuyiwa](#))

Plastic Surgery ([Peter Nthumba](#))

Radiology ([Cicero Silva](#))

Trauma Surgery ([Charles Carapinha](#))

Urology ([Bankole Rouma](#))

Committees (Facilitators)

Financing, Advocacy, Policy ([Lubna Samad](#))

Infrastructure, Standards, Verification (including OReCS) ([Emmanuel Ameh](#))

Research, Data, Quality Improvement ([Tahmina Banu](#))

Training, Human Resources, Education ([Neema Kaseje](#))

Website, Networking, and Communications ([Marilyn Butler](#))

Publications ([Keith Oldham](#))

Research Webinar ([Emily Smith](#), Dan Poenaru)

Newsletter ([Marilyn Butler](#), Sarah Cairo)

Core Operations and Logistics ([Naomi Wright](#))

Website: <http://www.globalchildrenssurgery.org>

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