We are thrilled to announce that registration is now open for the upcoming GICS V conference! The Conference will be held 25-28 February in Manila, Philippines with a theme of “Children’s Surgery as an Essential Component of Global Health.” Register now to register.

We are also pleased to share a wound care survey developed by the GICS Nursing Working Group, and encourage you to take the survey and share it with your nursing colleagues.

In addition, we are happy to highlight the work of two GICS members, Emmanuel A. Ameh, and Justina O. Seye-Ojaide, on the Africa Surgical Initiative 2030. We look forward to seeing you all in Manila in February!

Registration is now open for the much-anticipated GICS V Conference; "Children’s Surgery as an Essential Component of Global Health: Eliminating Disparities". Whether you’re near or far, we’ve got you covered with both in-person and virtual options to join this transformative event. But hurry – prices will rise after January 1st.

Hotel reservations at our conference rate are only available through our registration process (please do not contact reserve directly with the hotel). The conference program is coming soon. Please check the GICS website for information and updates.

Register Here!

Two GICS members, Emmanuel A. AMEH, Professor & Chief Consultant Paediatric Surgeon at the National Hospital, Abuja, Nigeria, and Justina O. Seye-Ojaide, Consultant Paediatric Surgeon at Lagos University, contributed to this report.

As a part of their efforts a baseline assessment was conducted in 2022, to identify gaps in the following areas: infrastructure, human resources, service delivery, information management, finance, governance, and leadership, in 801 district hospitals in 32 sub-Saharan African countries.

The study shows an alarming situation that requires urgent action in all countries.

The findings show that:

- 75% of countries do not have a National Surgical, Obstetric and Anaesthesia Plan;
- The density of specialized health professionals (surgeons, anaesthesiologists and obstetricians) is 1.36 per 100,000 inhabitants; 1 in 4 district hospitals has no water or electricity and, only one in twenty-five has an internet connection;
- 70% of countries did not have a proven universal health insurance system, and populations were still subject to out-of-pocket payments for health services;
- 70% of district hospitals had no dedicated operating rooms for children’s surgery; only 20.3% of district hospitals were able to provide blood transfusion always possible within 2 hours of request.

The survey reveals the fragility and weakness of the health systems in most of the African countries. These facts indicate that surgery is a particularly neglected component of health systems in Africa. Despite the advances made in Africa in recent years in improving the health of the African people, surgery, obstetrics and anaesthesia continue to face many challenges. The survey’s findings affirm the need for investment in infrastructure, continued education and surgical support in Africa.

Read the full report here.

Attention Nurses and Nursing Community! We need your valuable insights! If you’re a nurse with experience or interest in wound care, we invite you to participate in an important survey designed to enhance our understanding and practices in this crucial area of healthcare. Your input is vital in shaping better outcomes for patients. And if you’re not a nurse but know someone who is, please help us by sharing this survey with your nursing colleagues. Together, we can make a significant impact on wound care practices and patient care. Thank you for your contribution and for spreading the word!

Click here to take the survey.