



# The Institute for Global Health QUARTERLY EUPDATE

Issue 30 December 2023

# Happy Holidays!

from all of us at IGH-BCCWH

## Global Health News



### Working together to improve pediatric palliative care in Nepal

All over the world, millions of children suffer from pain and other distressing symptoms as a result of serious illnesses. Sadly, most of these children live in countries where access to specialized palliative care is extremely limited. This is especially true in Nepal, where over 40,000 children need palliative care annually. Last October, an interdisciplinary team from BC Children's Hospital/Canuck Place Hospice, BC Children's Health Research Institute (BCCHR), and the University of British Columbia travelled to Kanti Children's Hospital in Nepal to share their expertise in pediatric pain and palliative care. With support from Kanti Children's Hospital and Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration, the team coordinated the delivery of nine virtual training sessions in pediatric palliative care from May to July 2023.

Over the next year, the team is planning to create and deliver a sustainable program for Nepalese nurses in pediatric palliative care, led by trained healthcare practitioners from Nepal. This work, and the education this team is providing, will limit suffering for Nepalese children and families, and improve the care they receive in a sustainable way.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



## Digital Health Innovations for Quality Improvement: Smart Discharges Integration Workshop

In September 2023, WALIMU, together with the Institute of Global Health at BC Children’s Hospital and BC Women’s Hospital + Health Centre (IGH-BCCWH) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, was honored to co-sponsor the "Digital Health Innovations for Quality Improvement: Smart Discharges Integration Workshop" at Speke Resort Hotel in Kampala, Uganda. The workshop was hosted by the Uganda Ministry of Health, Department of Maternal, Reproductive and Child Health, and marked a significant step toward enhancing healthcare in Uganda through digital innovation.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

### TRANSITIONING FROM THE THREE DELAYS TO A FOCUS ON CONTINUITY OF CARE: A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF MATERNAL DEATHS IN RURAL PAKISTAN AND MOZAMBIQUE



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**The Continuity of Care Framework**

For the Sustainable Development Goals era, there is a need to reimagine the 'Three Delays' framework to the 'Four Critical Connections'.

We advise shifting the focus to continuity of care and the underlying social and systemic factors that contribute to maternal deaths.

**The Four Critical Connections**

- 1. The connection between stages of pregnancy**  
Maternity care should be linked between the stages of pregnancy from pre-conception to postpartum.
- 2. The connection between families and health care workers**  
Good communication is essential for a positive pregnancy experience and good health outcomes. This includes communication between pregnant women and their families, between pregnant women and her health care providers, and between various health care providers.
- 3. The connection between health care facilities**  
Women commonly access services at numerous facilities throughout pregnancy and postpartum. These facilities are often a mix of public, private, charity and faith-based centres as well as varying levels of care (primary, secondary, tertiary). Connection between these health facilities is required. This is often compromised by fragmentation and convoluted referral systems.
- 4. The connection between care-seeking journeys**  
Women tend to interact with the health system and receive care on multiple occasions throughout pregnancy. There should be clear links between health facility visits including appropriate discharge and treatment follow-up.

#### The Continuity of Care Framework





# Transitioning from the three delays to a focus on continuity of care

Consideration of the three delays in care seeking, transport, and appropriate care at health facility as determinants of maternal mortality was ground-breaking in global efforts to reduce the tragic preventable burden of maternal deaths. Yet inherent in the framework are four implicit assumptions: i) that women are giving birth at home, ii) all pregnant women are at an equal baseline risk, iii) deaths are due to direct causes, and iv) time is the key determinant. A recent review of 76 maternal deaths in Pakistan and Mozambique between 2015-2017 found that these assumptions no longer reflected the realities of the women who died. Through the voices of family members, the pathways of maternal mortality are reframed, which feature numerous interactions with health care systems and a need for careful consideration of the postpartum period.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

## Events



BC Children's Hospital  
BC WOMEN'S HOSPITAL+ HEALTH CENTRE  
W  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Branch for Global Surgical Care  
Department of Surgery | Faculty of Medicine  
HEALTHY STARTS

INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH  
GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2024

# GLOBAL SURGERY

ADDRESSING A NEGLECTED HEALTH CRISIS

**11 April 2024**

**2024 Keynote**  
Salome Maswime  
Head of Global Surgery  
University of Cape Town

### April 11, 2024 | Save the date!

We are thrilled to announce the **6th Annual Global Health Conference (GHC24)**! This year's theme is "**Global Surgery: Addressing a Neglected Health Crisis**". GHC24 is an annual event bringing together a community of students, trainees, clinicians, researchers, and faculty from across health professions and disciplines to share knowledge.

**When:** Thursday, April 11th, 2024 | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm PT

**Where:** In-person at BC Children's Hospital's Chan Centre + Virtual

Look out for the official invitation and registration details, which will be sent out in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, check out our [website](#) to view last year's conference. We will update this site with more information so stay tuned. You can also follow us on [X](#) [[@BCCWH\\_Global](#)] for updates and additional content.

# Two Decades of *Mukwanoship*

## The Past, Present and Future of BCCH Global Surgical Partnerships



SSGR

November 21st, 2023

### November 21, 2023 | Recording available!

Watch back the latest BC Children's & Women's Surgical Suites Grand Rounds, entitled '2 Decades of Mukwanoship – the Past, Present and Future of BCCH Global Surgical Partnerships'.

The recording is now available to [watch here](#).

### Digital Health Research Series Presented by BCCHR and WHRI

From digital health research and quality improvement to a learning health system: **shifting the dialogue on our use of EHR data to improve health services**

Monday, January 15, 2024

11:00 -12:00 pm, PST

### Panel of PHSA Leaders in Data Informatics

&

**Dr. Mark A. Clements,  
MD, PhD**

Pediatric Endocrine/Diabetes Clinical Research  
Director, Children's Mercy Kansas City;  
Pediatrics Professor,  
University of Missouri-Kansas City;  
Pediatrics Clinical Instructor,  
University of Kansas



### January 15, 2024 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Virtual

**Are you interested in realizing more benefits from our EHR data?** Join the event on January 15, 2024, from 11:00 am – to 12:00 pm for an illuminating panel discussion about - *“From digital health research and quality improvement to a learning health system: shifting the dialogue on our use of EHR data to improve health services.”*

**Discover how data can be used to better our health services!** The aim of this 1 hr virtual seminar is to provide participants with foundational knowledge that supports the integration of data access and quality in health research projects.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



# HEALTHY STARTS



## Research Day 2024

**February 9, 2024**

Healthy Starts Research Day 2024 will take place on **Friday, February 9th** at the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute. Watch your inbox for a preliminary schedule and registration details coming soon.

### Call for Abstracts

Submissions are currently open from trainees who wish to present their work at HSRD 2024. For more information and to submit abstracts, [visit the submission page](#). The deadline for submissions is **12PM on Thursday, January 11th**.

Should you have any questions or suggestions for Research Day 2024, connect via email ([healthystarts@bcchr.ca](mailto:healthystarts@bcchr.ca)).

# CUGH 2024



**Global Health Without Borders: Acting for Impact**

**March 7 - 10, 2024 | Virtual and In-Person**

CUGH's annual conference is a must attend event on the global health calendar. Over 2,000 scientists, students and implementers from academia, NGOs, government and the private

sector will present, learn and collaborate to address some of the pressing challenges our world faces. A wide range of medical and non-medical disciplines are represented throughout the in-person pre-conference satellite sessions (free to attend, register online) and the March 7-10th conference. Attendees will be inspired and challenged to learn new skills, gain new contacts and find ways we can improve the health of people and the planet.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



**12<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS OF  
THE WORLD FEDERATION  
OF PEDIATRIC  
INTENSIVE & CRITICAL  
CARE SOCIETIES**

**1-5 JUNE 2024**



## June 1 - 5, 2024 | Virtual and In-Person

The 12th Congress of the World Federation of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care Societies will be tailored to the entire interprofessional WFPICCS community of physicians nurses, scientists, and allied health professionals, providing a platform to advance professional knowledge, enhance skills, share experience and network with colleagues and friends from around the world. This is the first in-person WFPICCS event since the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic. WFPICCS 2024 will deliver a high quality scientific programme, sharing the latest developments in paediatric intensive and critical care across the spectrum from basic science to the bedside and beyond to global health challenges and opportunities.

### Call for Abstracts

[Submit your work](#) for presentation at WFPICCS 2024. Abstract/Case Submission Deadline is January 22, 2024.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)

## Perinatal & Child Health Research Annual Meetings

*Bringing the Canadian Community Together*

**June 3 – 6, 2024**

Sheraton Wall Centre - Vancouver, BC



## June 3 - 6, 2024 | In-Person

The realm of perinatal child health research is undergoing a rapid transformation. To enhance the well-being of our children and families, it is imperative to foster collaborative research endeavors, facilitate data sharing, provide training, and encourage networking among researchers and institutions. Consequently, eight networks have united their annual meetings to facilitate connections and eliminate obstacles to top-tier health research and training. Join this multi-disciplinary community in person for programming and networking that will include renowned keynote speakers, oral and poster sessions, workshops and early career



researcher (ECR) lectures. This is a great opportunity to submit abstracts, gain valuable experience and network with fellow perinatal child health researchers.

## Call for Abstracts

[Submit your work](#) for presentation at the Perinatal & Child Health Research Annual Meetings. Abstract Submission Deadline is January 15, 2024.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)

# Grants & Awards



## IGH Global Health Trainee Grant

**Deadline:** Accepted on a rolling basis.

**Award:** \$2,500

Are you a trainee participating in a rural/remote elective in a high-income country (HIC) or a global health elective in a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) in 2023 as part of your clinical training? Does your training focus on health care of neonates, children, adolescents, and/or women?

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but must be received no later than 4 weeks before the elective start date.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Digital social innovation as a vehicle for accelerating inclusive and sustainable development

**Due:** January 5, 2024

**Award:** £1,500,000

Support projects that use digital technologies in exploring new ways to solve development challenges. Proposed solutions must have already passed the early stages of ideation, prototyping, testing and have at least one successful implemented case study, preferably in one of the 13 African partner countries of the [Belgian Development Cooperation](#).

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Epidemic Science Leadership and Innovation Networks

**Due:** January 31, 2024

**Award:** \$4,000,000 USD/5 years

Aims to establish research networks that will nurture and promote world-class epidemic and pandemic sciences research and innovation in Africa. Must include 3 African institutions (including lead). International partners are allowed.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Project Grant

**Registration:** February 7, 2024

**Award:** Average of \$825,970/4 years

Designed to capture ideas with the greatest potential to advance health-related fundamental or applied knowledge, health research, health care, health systems, and/or health outcomes. Supports research projects proposed and conducted by individual researchers or groups of researchers in all areas of health.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Applied global health research: stage one

**Due:** February 14, 2024

**Award:** £150,000 - £2,000,000

Supports applied research that will address global health challenges and inequities. LMIC or UK-based leads only. Funds for late-stage intervention development and testing (phase 2b clinical trials only); implementation and scale-up research; health systems, health policy and health economics research.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Early Career Awards

**Due:** February 15, 2024

**Award:** £400,000

Funding includes salary and research expenses. Meant for researchers who have completed their PhD or have 4 years equivalent research experience, with no more than 3 years of postdoctoral experience.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Molly Towell Perinatal Research Foundation Fellowship

**Due:** March 18, 2024

**Award:** \$30,000

Supports original and innovative research, defined as the pursuit of new information derived from basic biomedical or clinical research. High priority is given to projects that concern fetal development, but any studies that involve original research in fetal or neonatal medicine will be considered. Intended for post-doctoral research training (not undergraduate) in a discipline relevant to areas of support.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)



## Rural Global Health Partnership Initiative

**Due:** April 30, 2024

**Award:** Up to \$10,000



## Project Grant

**Due:** September 29, 2024

**Award:** €30,000

Open to BC medical trainees or physicians with experience and a demonstrated interest



Open to BC medical trainees or physicians with experience and a demonstrated interest in rural medicine and global health. Supports partnerships with underserved communities in BC, Canada, and in developing countries.

[VIEW ALL DETAILS](#)

in rural medicine and global health. Supports partnerships with underserved communities in BC, Canada, and in developing countries.

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The Institute for Global Health operates on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples — x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwḵwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We invite everyone to reflect on the traditional territories and land that they currently work and live on.

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