



Dear Allies and Friends of CHOP Global Health,

We are happy to welcome Dr. Lara Antkowiak and Dr. Henry Welch back to the U.S. after spending two years in the Dominican Republic and Botswana. The impact that both David N. Pincus Global Health Fellows have made on the communities where they worked has been tremendous, and they will surely be missed by both their patients and their colleagues. Both Lara and Henry have worked tirelessly to improve the health of children in resource limited settings, and have been successful in building key relationships and making strides in their research in the places where they have worked. Our Global Health department has been greatly enhanced by their efforts.

We are also thrilled to welcome Dr. Marc Callender and Dr. Matthew Kelly into the CHOP Global Health community. They will begin their two year fellowship this August.

In other news, there are a number of events planned over the summer and fall for all who are interested in Global Health. Continue to check our newly organized website for updated information about Global Health Allies opportunities, learn more about our 4th Annual Global Health Symposium and plan to spend a fun evening at our Global Health Night at the Phillies.

We wish you all a great summer!

Rodney Finalle, MD
Director of Global Health

Upcoming Global Health Events:

Mark your calendars for these exciting Global Health events:

August 21-27, 2011:
Global Health Allies trip to the Dominican Republic

Friday, September 16, 2011: 4th Annual Pediatric Global Health Symposium

Tuesday, September 20, 2011: Global Health Night at the Phillies

Global Health Publications and Awards:

Dr. Rodney Finalle and Dr. Elizabeth Lowenthal presented a Global Health workshop at the Pediatric Association Society in Denver, Colorado

Global Health Faculty Member, Dr. Andrew Steinhoff was elected as the new Secretary of the Lung Health Scientific Section by the International Union Against TB and Lung Disease (The Union)

Global Health Allies Survey

In February, CHOP staff who have participated as former and current Global Health Allies were asked to give their feedback on their personal experience working in the DR, Haiti and/or Botswana and how it impacted their work at CHOP. A total of 41 interdisciplinary Allies completed the survey. Here is what they had to say:

97% of Allies considered their experience to be “Extremely Meaningful”.

77% of respondents felt that volunteering with the Allies program at CHOP impacted their career goals.

90% said that their experience with the Allies changed the way they understood the way health problems are experienced by children internationally. In their own words:

“The Global Health experience in the Dominican Republic was a life changing experience. The opportunity to learn from families and children in such different situations that I have ever worked in before was moving both professionally and personally. I learned skills of patience, connection, teamwork, listening and communication, and true exploration of meaningful activity. Coming home from my experience I saw a direct change in the way I practice, valuing slowing down and building connection before attempting to impart knowledge.”

“As many CHOP Allies volunteers have described, my first Allies trip was a life-changing experience professionally and personally. It has completely changed my outlook on the world we live in, making me more acutely aware of the disparities in resources from food and clean water and health care that prevail between developed and underdeveloped nations. It has stimulated a passion for me to do whatever I can to erase these differences that the health, survival and life potential for children and families in resource-poor nations.”

Many Global Health Allies showed an interest in continuing their involvement in the GH program, either by staying up to date with the work of the program, traveling to one our sites, providing expert programmatic consultation, or through other means. As the Allies program continues to evolve, more opportunities for Global Health Allies will be posted on our website.

SAVE THE DATE

4th ANNUAL PEDIATRIC GLOBAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

September 16, 2011
The Union League of Philadelphia

*Highlighting Effective Interventions:
Targeting Newborn and Child Mortality*

Featured Lecturers:

Carol Bellamy- (former Executive Director of UNICEF) President and CEO of World Learning

Sonia Sachs, MD, MPH- Medical Director,
Millennium Villages Project

For more information, visit
www.chop.edu/cme

GLOBAL HEALTH NIGHT AT THE PHILLIES!

The year’s game is **Tuesday, September 20th** against the St. Louis Cardinals. We have the same great seats reserved in the 400 level (Terrace Deck) sections high behind home plate. Seats are \$28.00 per ticket, and all proceeds from tickets sold will directly benefit CHOP’s Global Health work in the Caribbean.

To order your tickets, please visit our Global Health Phillies page and enter the promotion code “CHOP”.

www.phillies.com/chopglobalhealth

Please place your orders by August 20. Tickets are subject to availability!



Of Rashes and Resources

Pamela Mazzeo, MD. Medical Hospitalist. CHOP Department of Pediatrics

Genesis, the baby from Barrio Villa Verde, was 23 days old. She was breastfed, growing well, and clearly bonded with her young mother. After leaving the CHOP Global Health *Niños Primeros en Salud* (NPS) clinic, mother and baby took a bus to San Pedro to run some errands. But while they were there, Genesis developed an eruption of small red bumps covering both palms and soles, and NPS nurse Ramona brought baby and worried mother back into the exam room at the clinic.

The differential diagnosis of a palm-and-sole rash is particular, and none of the illnesses that commonly cause one seemed to fit this baby's picture. We puzzled over it. NPS's senior pediatrician, Dr. Ingrid Japa, arranged for the baby to be seen by a pediatric dermatologist in San Pedro the following morning, and the duo was sent home with instructions to go to the hospital right away if the baby developed fever, poor feeding, or any other worrisome sign. It made me uneasy to let the newborn out of my sight.

Clinic hours over, Global Health Program Manager Maura Murphy and I joined Ramona on her daily afternoon trek through the barrios. In Barrio 41, Dr. Japa called Ramona's cell phone with an urgent message: the dermatologist from San Pedro, upon hearing the story of the baby's rash, wanted Genesis to have blood tests done before the appointment in the morning. But there was no way to reach the family except by foot.

To get to Barrio Villa Verde from 41, you walk a mile or so through a deep green valley known by Consuelans as "*paraiso*," or paradise. As rain started to fall, we headed through paradise towards Villa Verde. Ramona located the mother easily and gave her the list of tests the dermatologist wanted. To my relief, the rash hadn't spread and the baby looked well. But I worried. The road through *paraiso* seemed fraught with danger and uncertainty for such a vulnerable little child — would they make it to clinic the next day in time to get to San Pedro for the appointment?

Making the "right" decision for a patient is not always straightforward even back home, and, lying awake in Casa Roja, I struggled with whether we should have done more for Genesis. We had no dermatology consult service, no dermatology atlas, no camera phone with which to send an image to an expert, not even a Google image search. Admitting the baby to the hospital in San Pedro for observation wasn't a real consideration — the expense and logistical burden seemed unthinkable, given that the baby was otherwise well.

As it turned out, Genesis and her mother did make it to the clinic the next morning in time to have her labs drawn, the baby still looking perfect except for her rash, and that's the last I saw of them. The next time Genesis came to clinic, for a visit with Dr. Japa some weeks later, she was completely well — the palm-and-sole rash had gone away on its own after a few days. It stayed with me, though. I often wonder about the concept of a "right" decision — whether it exists, whether it differs from one practice setting to another, and whether it'll be a little clearer the next time I'm at NPS, with dermatology atlas and cameraphone in hand.



Mother to Mother support group in Villa Verde

Updates from *Niños Primeros en Salud*, *Consuelo*

- Dr. Lara Antkowiak began her breastfeeding study in the 4 barrios where CHOP's NPS program is currently working. Her study involves providing support groups to pregnant and new mothers, lactation consultation in the hospital and trainings for community health workers to become experts in breastfeeding support.
- 8 new community health workers are working in the barrios to promote pediatric health and breastfeeding efforts.
- In August, a new barrio, will begin enrolling patients in the NPS program.

Millennium Development Goals and CHOP's 4th Annual Pediatric Global Health Symposium

In the year 2000, world leaders met and agreed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, which provided concrete, numerical benchmarks for tackling extreme poverty in its many dimensions.

One of these goals is of particular importance to the health of children, Millennium Development Goal #4: Reduce childhood mortality by two thirds. This target is broken down into three indicators of success; reducing the under-five mortality rate, reducing the infant mortality rate and increasing the proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles. Most children in developing countries die from thoroughly preventable illnesses like pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria and measles. Under nutrition contributes to a third of all under-five deaths. The MDGs have provided the global platform for investing in the reduction of these unnecessary deaths.

The good news, according to the UN, is that the number of children in developing countries who died before they reached the age of five dropped from 99 to 66 deaths per 1,000 live births between 1990 and 2009. Many countries, including the Dominican Republic where CHOP Global Health works, have made great strides to improve their childhood mortality rate.

However, there is much work to be done to achieve MDG #4 by 2015. Almost nine million children still die each year before they reach their fifth birthday. Disparities exist in all regions of the world; the under-five mortality rate is higher in rural areas, in the poorest households, among less educated mothers, and usually higher among boys than girls. Many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia are not slated to achieve the MDG #4 goal by 2015 at all.

The 4th Annual CHOP Pediatric Global Health Symposium will address the progress of the Millennium Development Goals through the use of successful interventions in pediatric health on September 16, 2011, at the Union League in Philadelphia. Experts in the multidisciplinary field of pediatric global health will be joining us to discuss their successes and highlight next steps in the process of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Keynote speakers Carol Bellamy, former Executive Director of UNICEF, and Sonia Sachs, MD, MPH, the Director of Health for the Millennium Villages Project, as well as other experts in the field of malaria, vaccinations, microfinance, health delivery and mobile health will provide stimulating lectures and audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions from the experts.

Mark your calendar for September 16, 2011 for the 4th Annual Pediatric Global Health Conference, held at the Union League of Philadelphia. To register, visit www.chop.edu/cme.

To learn more about the progress of the Millennium Development Goals, visit <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>