

The following is a list of global health events that may interest our OBGYN staff, residents and personnel, as collated by
[The Dalhousie Global Health Office.](https://medicine.dal.ca/departments/core-units/global-health.html)

**Apr 25, 2019, Rm 311 CHEB (5793 University Avenue):**
Global Health Discussion: Global and Local Barriers and Solutions to Maternal Health – Exploring Ghana, Rwanda and Halifax.

**Call for Abstracts:** [Canadian Conference on Global Health 2019](http://www.csih.org/en/events/canadian-conference-global-health)
Deadline June 2019

**Jun 3 - 6, 2019 in Vancouver:** [Women Deliver Conference](http://womendeliver.org/conference/)

**June 11-14, 2019 in Halifax:**[SOGC’s Annual Clinical and Scientific Conference](https://www.sogc.org/acsc-en)

**Call for Abstracts fir apr 26**

[**2019 International Conference on Prenatal Diagnosis and Therapy**](https://dalobstetrics.ca/loader.ajax?id=EftjezRFrLDTuYTh8nDsML1bmbyrlPRb)

For a comprehensive list of events, please explore the bi-weekly [Global Health Office Bulletin](https://us12.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=31610721bdb91c03a62da79be&id=bb1671286b)

**Elective Opportunity at the IWK**

We are excited to welcome Dr. Frederick Oduro for his one-month elective with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology! Dr. Oduro is a PGY4 resident at Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra and will be spending the month of April at the IWK.

**Newcomer Health Clinic**

Our OBGYN residents and staff members continue to run the Newcomer Women’s Health Clinic on Mumford Road offering education and services to newcomer/refugee women. Educational sessions include prenatal care, nutrition, activity during pregnancy, labour and delivery, and post-partum and newborn issues. The clinic also provides preventative health and primary medical services for women who are government assisted refugees, privately sponsored refugees and refugee claimants in the greater Halifax area.

The next clinic will be held on **November (Day to be announced)** – **Volunteers needed!**

**North End Community Health Clinic**

The NECHC continues to be part of the OBGYN residents’ rotation schedule and continues to be held once a month.

The next clinics will be held on **May 13th** and **June 10th**.

For more information, please contact Hala Nader at hala.nader@iwk.nshealth.ca

**Global Health Unit**

**Newsletter** *April 2019*

**Department of**

**Obstetrics and**

**Gynaecology**

**Announcements**

My name is Frederick Oduro, a PGY4 Resident at Korle Bu Teaching Hospital. I had my Secondary Education at the Achimota School and went on to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. In Medical School, I went on an Elective at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. I’ve been working at the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital since 2013, and I entered residency training in 2015. I am a Member of the Ghana College of Surgeons and the West African College of Surgeons. I am currently pursuing Membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist ( I have passed my part one and preparing for part two) and also pursuing Fellowship with the West African College of Surgeons. I have been married for 4 years to Abena Oduro and I have a 3 year old son and a 1 year old daughter.

 **The Three Encounters that Led Me Here** *By: Dr. Frederick Oduro*

Coming to Canada and to Halifax wasn’t something I actually planned. My journey from the West African Coast of Ghana to Canada was shaped by three events:

Dr. Nash had come to Ghana to teach residents and give lectures on Maternal and Fetal Medicine. By some twist of fate, I was with him most of the time in his practical sessions. The sessions were impactful, probing and inspirational. When he was leaving, he directed me to the Fetal Medicine Foundation modules which have been life changing.

I do a lot of work in Quality Improvement. For the past 4 years, I have been working with Dr. Jerry Coleman in improving some very important metrics in our department. Over the years we have worked on setting up a triaging system, implementing a surgical safety checklist, giving feedback on referrals among others. Late last year, while I was preparing for my membership exams, he told me about Halifax and how it would further my interests in fetomaternal medicine. Later in November, I met Dr. Heather Scott and had a lively chat on the possibility of spending sometime in Halifax. She told me about all the interesting stuff I could actually learn. I was hooked and decided to take advantage of the opportunity to visit the IWK; after months of planning and a ‘million’ emails later, I ended up here in Halifax.

“Martha” was a patient I met one afternoon in the clinic. She had had multiple stillbirths and had been called a witch by her family. She had Rhesus isoimmunization and thanks to lessons from Dr. Nash I got round to doing MCA Dopplers to monitor fetal anemia. However, when she got to 28 weeks the fetus had become anemic and we had no means of performing an intrauterine transfusion. The baby was finally delivered at 30 weeks with an Hb of 5. The baby became jaundiced and after 2 exchange transfusions in NICU, the baby died. For Martha, it was sad but at least for once she knew it wasn’t witchcraft. In spite of her loss, she was grateful. Martha says she will be back later this year; she hopes we succeed in saving her baby this time round.

Coming to Dalhousie Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the IWK Health Centre is a big learning opportunity for me. I hope to use the skills I acquire to transform my hospital and impact the lives of a whole generation of residents and patients. I am grateful to the Global Health Unit for making this possible.