

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY UNIT

NEWSLETTER

December 2022

OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

North End Clinic and MOSH

Together with the North End Community Health Centre (NECHC), we continue to hold a monthly half-day gynecology clinic. While Dr. Melissa Brooks is away, Dr. Elizabeth Randle, along with the gynecology residents, provide care to a population of patients that might otherwise have difficulty accessing care.



Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH) is a program of the NECHC. The MOSH program seeks to bridge the gap on access to healthcare for marginalized communities. MOSH aims to meet people in spaces where there is a greater level of comfort, take primary health care to them, establish relationships and build trust as a means to improve their health outcomes.

We have commenced our partnership with MOSH for the Gynecologists and Residents to ride along with the MOSH team on a mobile clinic. Clinics are being rotated between North End Community Clinic and MOSH monthly. The

Residents will be attending these two clinics as part of their clinical rotation. The first clinic with MOSH was on December 1, 2022.

Phoenix

We are happy to announce that we have resumed our partnership with Phoenix. In January, we are hoping to hold our first educational session with the youth staying at Phoenix Shelter, Phoenix House, and Phoenix Homes for Independence as well as those who access the Phoenix Centre. We plan to offer these educational sessions



about various topics related to sexual and reproductive health to youth in our community through our partnership with Phoenix. The topics include Menstrual cycle, Breast health, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), Prostate Health, High-Risk Pregnancy, Healthcare access for marginalized groups, Virginity, Birth control, Community resources, etc.

Vital Anesthesia Simulation Training (VAST)



Dr. Heather Scott visited Rwanda for a VAST (Vital Anesthesia Simulation Training) Symposium at the beginning of September. The VAST course brings the benefits of simulation training to a wide range of contexts. It is designed to be portable, locally adaptable, and affordable. It reinforces essential clinical practices and focuses on non-technical skills relevant to anesthesia providers and perioperative teams. Through partnership and capacity building of a local facilitator network, VAST promotes the ability for enduring and sustainable delivery of simulation-based education.

During his Elective last May, our Resident from Ghana, Dr. Kwaku Doffour-Dapaah joined the VAST course and expressed interest in a possible VAST Course with our partners in Korle-bu.

UPCOMING GLOBAL HEALTH EVENTS:

<u>WOMEN DELIVER 2023</u>: The theme of the Women Deliver 2023 Conference (WD2023) is Spaces, Solidarity, and Solutions. WD2023 will enable inclusive and co-created spaces that foster solidarity for sustainable solutions on gender equality. WD2023 will take place in person in Kigali, Rwanda, as well as virtually, from 17-20 July 2023. The conference will center intersectional feminist principles, to address compounding issues impacting girls and women — from climate change to gender-based violence, to unpaid care work — and collectively identify and action evidence-based solutions.

Indigenous Canada

Indigenous Health Conference 2023: This interdisciplinary conference aims to enhance the number and increase the cultural safety of healthcare providers who currently work with or wish to work with indigenous populations in the future. The goal of this conference would be to improve health outcomes and access for Indigenous peoples across Canada. Guest Speakers will be speaking on the themes such as Racism and its impact on Indigenous health, and land-based healing from February 2-4, 2023.

Health Law Institute, Dalhousie University

Time: 12:10pm - 1:20pm

Webinar link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84824705324

In-person: Room 104, Weldon Law Building, 6061 University Avenue

- Decarcerating Disability through the Courts: Deinstitutionalization and Prison Abolition Friday, January 20, 2023
- Abortion Rights after the Fall of Roe vs Wade- Friday, February 10, 2023.

SOME GREAT RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT:



<u>Time to dismantle systemic anti-Black racism in medicine in Canada</u>: The Black Health Education Collaborative is a community of scholars and practitioners committed to improving Black health through education and research with a mission to address anti-Black racism and the interlocking systems that impact the health and wellbeing of Black

communities across Canada. To read other publications, visit their website: https://www.bhec.ca/

Global Health 50/50 works to advance action and accountability for gender equality in global health. <u>Hungry for Gender Equality</u>:



This report by Global Food 50/50 Report assesses whether and how such organizations are integrating gender and equality considerations in their work. Visit their website to read more about their reports: https://globalhealth5050.org/

Your Gynecology Clinic Visit – Multilingual Videos

The staff at IWK Health work to provide the best possible care for you in the gynecology clinic. Please ask questions if there is something you do not understand and ask for assistance if you need help or have a concern about our services.

Please find below educational videos that will give you information about your gynecology (linic visit, intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD) placement, and cervical cancer screening in Nova Scotia. These videos are available in English, French. Arabic, Farsi/Dari, and Somali. If you have questions about these videos, please ask your gynecologist at your visit

Your Gynecology Clinic Visit - English



UPDATE ON IWK WEBSITE

We are happy to announce that the IWK website has been updated with educational videos for Newcomer women. These educational videos will give the Newcomer women information about their gynecology clinic visit, intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD) placement, and cervical cancer screening in Nova Scotia. These videos are available in English, French, Arabic, Farsi/Dari, and Somali. These videos can be found under the Women's and Newborn Health tab on the IWK website. https://www.iwk.nshealth.ca/your-gynecology-clinic-visit

GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Global Health Equity and Advocacy Advisory Committee has representations from Midwifery, Nursing, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Anesthesia, and Pediatrics Departments. We are involved in local and international partnerships and organize educational sessions and other outreach programs.

For more information or suggestions on global health initiatives, kindly contact:

Medical Director: Dr. Heather Scott (<u>Heather.Scott@iwk.nshealth.ca</u>), Co-Medical Director: Dr. Jocelyn Stairs (Jocelyn.Stairs@iwk.nshealth.ca) or Coordinator: Crenda Marfo (Crenda.Marfo@iwk.nshealth.ca)