

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

## GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY UNIT NEWSLETTER

September 2021

Introducing our New Name:

# The Global Health Equity and Advocacy Unit

To better communicate the breadth of the work we are involved with in the unit, the Global Health Advisory Committee voted to change our unit's name from the Global Health Unit to the Global Health Equity and Advocacy Unit. We're involved in all the same projects and focused on the same issues as before, but we hope this shift will help communicate to others that global health includes both local international initiatives and emphasizes the connections between issues of health equity at home and around the world.

#### PHOENIX PARTNERSHIP

After a long delay due to covid, we plan to offer educational sessions about various topics related to sexual and reproductive health to youth in our community through a partnership with Phoenix.

Phoenix is a non-profit, community-based organization that is dedicated to supporting youth between the ages of 11 and 24, their families and communities across multiple locations in Halifax.

We hope to offer an educational session in October and to offer at least 1 or 2 other sessions throughout this academic year. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Heather Scott or Elise Sammons to express interest or ask for more information.



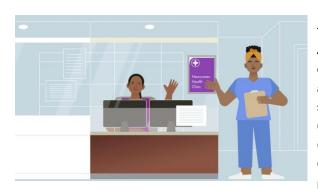
The Global Health Equity and Advocacy Unit is excited to invite residents and medical students to attend:

Opportunities in Global Health Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm, The Old Triangle

Hosted together with the Global Health Offices of the Surgery and Anesthesia Departments. *Please email Elise at <u>elise.sammons@iwk.nshealth.ca</u> for more information or to RSVP.* 

# UPDATE ON ADVOCATING FOR NEWCOMERS' REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Contributed by Aditi Sivakumar, Jocelyn Stairs, and Karla Willow



We are continuing to move forward with the ANCRR project. We have completed our data analysis and are finalizing our abstract submission to the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Conference, which will take place in Los Angeles in April.

We are also planning to submit our abstract to the SOGC Annual Clinical and Scientific Conference, and we are beginning to prepare our manuscript for submission.

Our analysis demonstrates that patients are very satisfied with the care received by the Newcomer Well Woman Clinic (NWWC) and the provision of translation services. Patients value the educational sessions provided by the NWWC and particularly value topics related to cervical cancer screening and contraception. We confirmed findings from a previous study that Arabic-speaking women in this sample demonstrated a preference for Copper IUDs. This differs from preference patterns in the general Canadian population demonstrated in prior studies. We will begin exploring the possibility of a future qualitative study to explore this preference in this population. We have contacted local experts in qualitative research and are seeking additional grant funding to support this follow up project.

Finally, we will roll out the education video at the next Newcomer Well Woman Clinic. This video was created with funds from the Women Deliver Grant and is

intended to orient patients to the clinic; provide education regarding pelvic examinations, pap testing and IUD placement; and fill a gap in education provision occurring as result of gathering restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This video is available in 5 languages and can be accessed through the QR code here. We are excited to see how this new educational tool is received by the clinic.



You can also view the English video

here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RI73CXhr61">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RI73CXhr61</a>

### **CAGH**

## Canadian Association for Global Health

Two major Canadian Global Health organizations (Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research and Canadian Society for International Health) recently merged to create the Canadian Association for Global Health. The Canadian Association for Global Health (CAGH) brings the Canadian global health community together to better achieve a shared goal of improving health You can join the organization and learn more about their work here: https://cagh-acsm.org/en

Registration is now open for the CAGH conference:

Canadian Conference on Global Health: Rethinking Partnership Paradigms in Global Health Ottawa, ON & Virtual Wednesday, November 24, to Friday, November 26, 2021



### Some global health equity and advocacy resources to explore:

#### TOWARD THE ABOLITION OF BIOLOGICAL RACE IN MEDICINE

This policy report is written by students of medicine and public health at the Joint Medical Program of the University of California, San Francisco's School of Medicine and University of California, Berkeley. Visit their website here to download and read the report and for other resources:

https://belonging.berkeley.edu/race-medicine

If you are interested in this topic, another great resource is the Ted Talk by Dorothy Roberts on "The problem with race-based medicine". Available at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxLMjn4WPBY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxLMjn4WPBY</a>





Global Health 5050 is an independent, evidence-driven initiative to advance action and accountability for gender equality in global health. The initiative brings together leading feminists, doctors, academics, policy, and political experts from all corners of the world to research and advocate on the issue of gender equality in global health. Visit their website to read their reports and learn more: https://globalhealth5050.org/

THE ESSENCE OF GLOBAL
HEALTH EQUITY IS THE IDEA
THAT SOMETHING SO PRECIOUS
AS HEALTH MIGHT BE VIEWED
AS A RIGHT.

Paul Farmer

Indigenous Canada is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta. From an Indigenous perspective, this course explores key issues facing Indigenous peoples today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. It is a free course and is a great resource for anyone looking to learn more about Indigenous histories and contemporary issues here in Canada. Click here for more info.

The recently established <u>Lancet</u>
<u>Commission on Gender and Global Health</u>
is delighted to announce a new fortnightly
seminar series open to all. The series aims
to involve a range of stakeholders and
voices in its work and promote discussion
and debate on gender and health. You can
visit their YouTube Channel, where they
post recordings of seminars:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClH y967-Ndq71aFvesiNQHq