

African Pediatric Fellowship Program: Kenyan Perspective

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Background

- APFP has helped train many pediatric fellow for Kenya
 - Nephrology 2
 - Neurology 1
 - Neonatology 2
 - Gastro 4
 - Pulmonology 3
 - Critical care 1

Background

- Population about 40 million
- 20 million children and adolescents
- Doctor to patient ratio well below the WHO standards
- 70% live below poverty line
- Most doctors in the city not accessible to most patients

Kenyan medical structure

- 2 main types
 - Public sector
 - Private sector
- Public sector run by ministry of medical services
- It is a 6 tier system
- From national referral hospitals to health centres

- 2 public tertiary hospitals in Kenya or national referral centres:
 - Kenyatta National Hospital
 - Moi Referral Teaching Hospital
- Private hospitals working at the tertiary level:
 - Aga Khan University Hospital
 - Gertrude Children Hospital
- Only centres where subspecialty pediatrics being practised at the moment

Medical training in Kenya

- Medical schools offering medicine degrees:
 - University of Nairobi
 - Moi University
 - Kenyatta University (just begun)
 - Aga Khan University (2014)
- University offering postgraduate training in pediatrics:
 - University of Nairobi
 - Aga Khan University Hospital
 - Moi University

Fellowship Training in Pediatric subspecialty

- None in Kenya at the moment
- Historically preferred western countries now in South Africa and India.
- With help of APFP number of subspecialists in pediatrics improving

Current situation

- Pediatric Neurologists: 5
- Pediatric Nephrologist: 4
- Pediatric Gastroenterologist: 4
- Pediatric Intensivist: 1
- Pediatric pulmonologist: 4
- Neonatologists:14
- Pediatric cardiologists: 4

Needs

- In view of the big players in infant mortality rates and to achieve millenium developmental goals
- Neonatology
- Pulmonology
- Infectious diseases

Other areas of need

- Support for the current subspecialties to develop
- Pediatric radiology (urgent need)
- Developmental neurology
- Others like haematooncology/genetics
- Other suggestions:
 - Collaborate in training of specialty nurses
 - Refresher courses maybe in the country by some of the faculty after training for post training support

Short comings maybe something to address later on....

- Inequal distribution of subspecialties..>90% in Nairobi
- Maybe need later on to start spreading out due to specific needs whilst making sure the doctors return to develop the sbspecialty in their specific areas