

On-line partnerships and tele-radiology reporting - what you need to know

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Director of Global education and Outreach

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



Disclosure

Nothing to disclose



If you doubt the shortage of diagnostic radiology resources around the world - read this!

The Lancet Commissions

The *Lancet* Commission on diagnostics: transforming access to diagnostics



Kenneth A Fleming, Susan Horton, Michael L Wilson, Rifat Atun, Kristen DeStigter, John Flanigan, Shahin Sayed, Pierrick Adam, Bertha Aguilar, Savvas Andronikou, Catharina Boehme, William Cherniak, Annie NY Cheung, Bernice Dahn, Lluís Donoso-Bach, Tania Douglas, Patricia Garcia, Sarwat Hussain, Hari S Iyer, Mikashmi Kohli, Alain B Labrique, Lai-Meng Looi, John G Meara, John Nkengasong, Madhukar Pai, Kara-Lee Pool, Kaushik Ramaiya, Lee Schroeder, Devanshi Shah, Richard Sullivan, Bien-Soo Tan, Kamini Walia

Executive summary

At the end of 2019, the first reports of a new respiratory virus appeared in China. The subsequent COVID-19 pandemic has affected every person, in every country, in the world. One early lesson was the crucial importance of timely accurate diagnosis. A second lesson was the widespread scarcity of such diagnostic capacity and capability.

The second lesson supported the findings of the 2018 Lancet Series on Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in Low-Income and Middle-Income Countries, namely that despite diagnostics being central to health care, access to diagnostic testing in pathology and laboratory medicine (PALM) is poor and inequitable in many parts

of health systems, namely health service delivery, health workforce, health information systems, access to diagnostics (analogous to essential medicines), financing, and leadership and governance, as the basis. Given the dearth of reliable and comprehensive data, the Commission's first step was to quantify, where possible, the current state of diagnostics globally. We use six tracer conditions (diabetes, hypertension, HIV, and tuberculosis in the overall population, plus hepatitis B virus infection and syphilis for pregnant women) and show that the diagnostic gap (ie, the proportion of the population with the condition who remain undiagnosed) is, at 35–62%, the single largest gap in the care pathway (the cascade of care comprising screening, diagnosis, treatment, and

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[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(21\)02093-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)02093-6)

Green Templeton College, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK (K A Fleming FRCPATH); School of Public Health and Health Systems, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada (Prof S Horton PhD, D Shah BSc); Denver Health and Hospital Authority, Denver, CO, USA (Prof M L Wilson MD);

Categories of online partnerships for radiologists



frontiers in
PUBLIC HEALTH

PERSPECTIVE ARTICLE
published: 21 August 2014
doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2014.00126



Pediatric teleradiology in low-income settings and the areas for future research in teleradiology

Savvas Andronikou *

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Teleradiology is an established mechanism to overcome the lack of on-site radiologists and can benefit children in developing countries. In this "perspective" on teleradiology for pediatric care in underdeveloped countries, three low-cost teleradiology programs are discussed from experiences of one teleradiologist, in relation to previous publications on this subject. Key issues discussed include mechanisms for sustainability, cost-effectiveness, resources, and barriers to success. Reliance on each link of a telereading chain is highlighted as a constant source for concern.

Keywords: teleradiology, tuberculosis, pulmonary, HIV infections, developing countries, resource allocation, cost-effectiveness, X-rays

INTRODUCTION

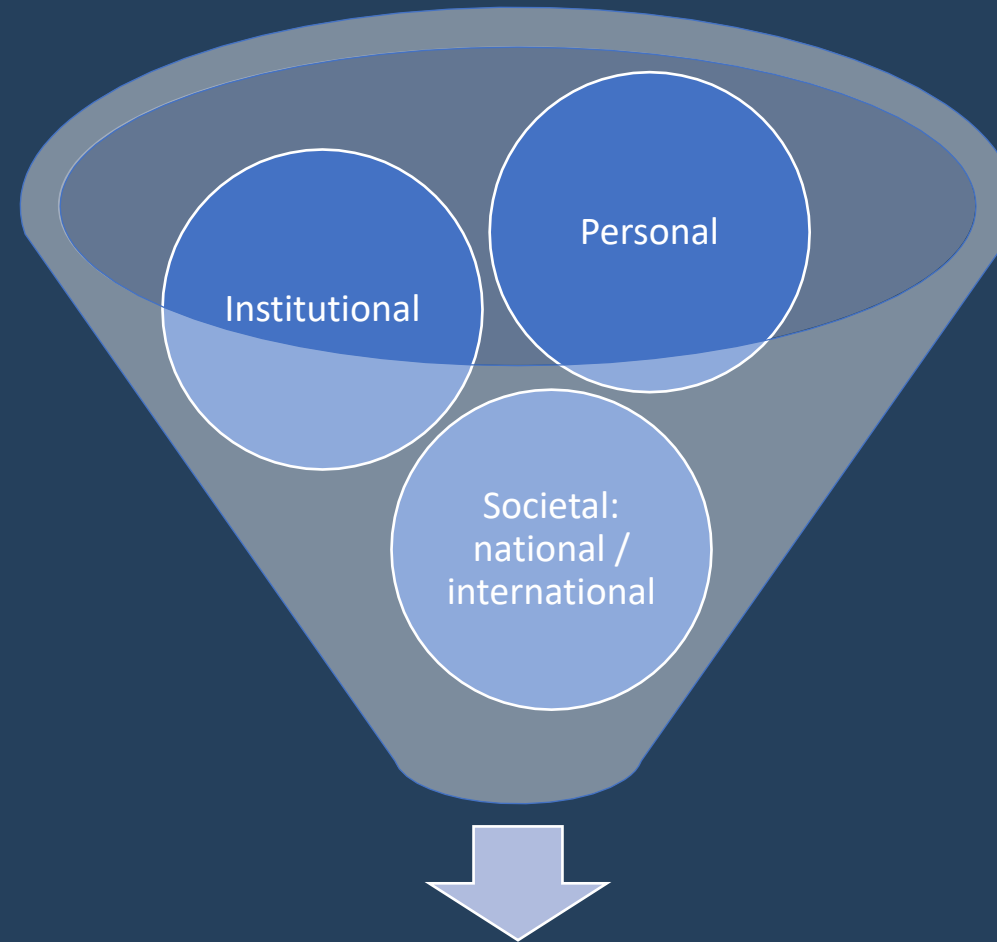
In low-income settings, teleradiology has a significant role to play in the diagnosis and management of respiratory diseases in children. Teleradiology has been shown to improve the diagnosis of tuberculosis, especially in settings with a high burden of HIV infection (1).

first obstacle to overcome. Referrals gave me concerns both with regard to the expectations of the clinicians and the quality of the imaging (Figure 1A). A colleague receiving regular referrals from a pediatric MSF site using a digital unit in Liberia had more success and satisfaction, managing to assist the clinicians regularly with management changing diagnoses.

Limited radiology services are a major obstacle to health care

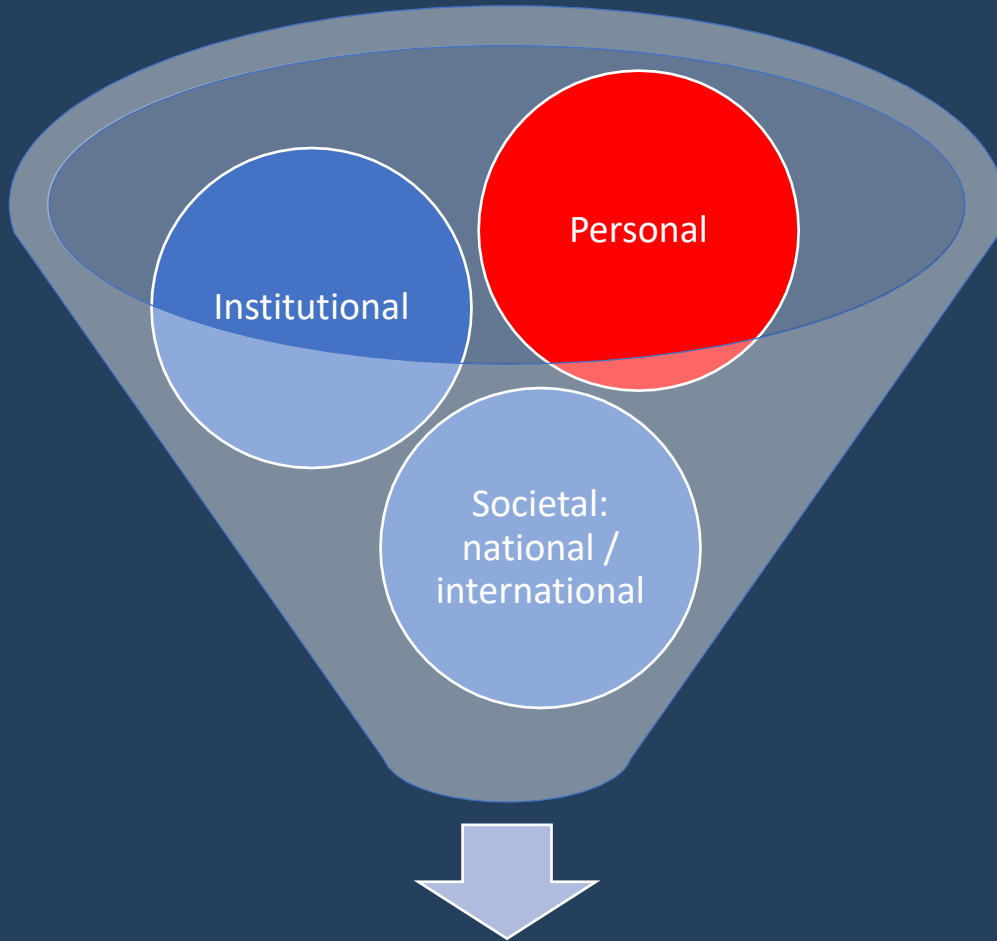
I re-oriented my efforts into education control centers on the

Types of Partnerships

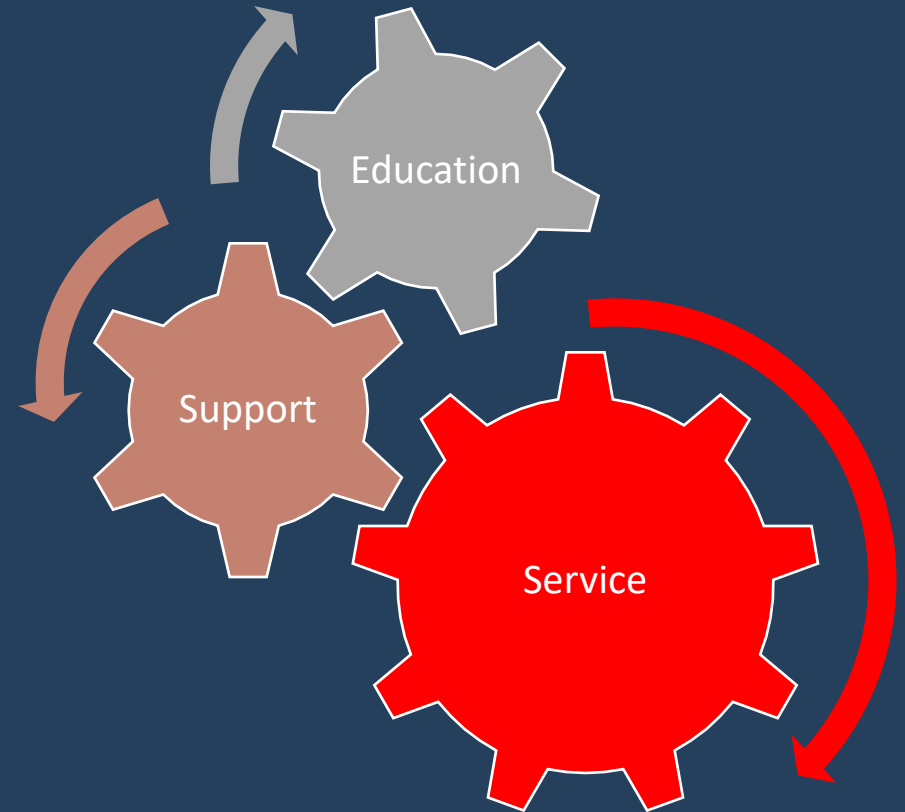


Global Support

Types of Partnerships



Global Support



Personal



NATIONAL OFFICE | BUREAU NATIONAL
551 Adelaide Street West
Toronto, ON M5V 0N8
Canada

Tel | tél : 1 800 982 7903
Fax | téléc : 1 416 963 8707
doctorswithoutborders.ca |
medecinssansfrontieres.ca

Dear Dr Savvas Andronikou,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of *Médecins Sans Frontières* for your time and commitment helping meet the medical needs of people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters, and exclusion around the world.

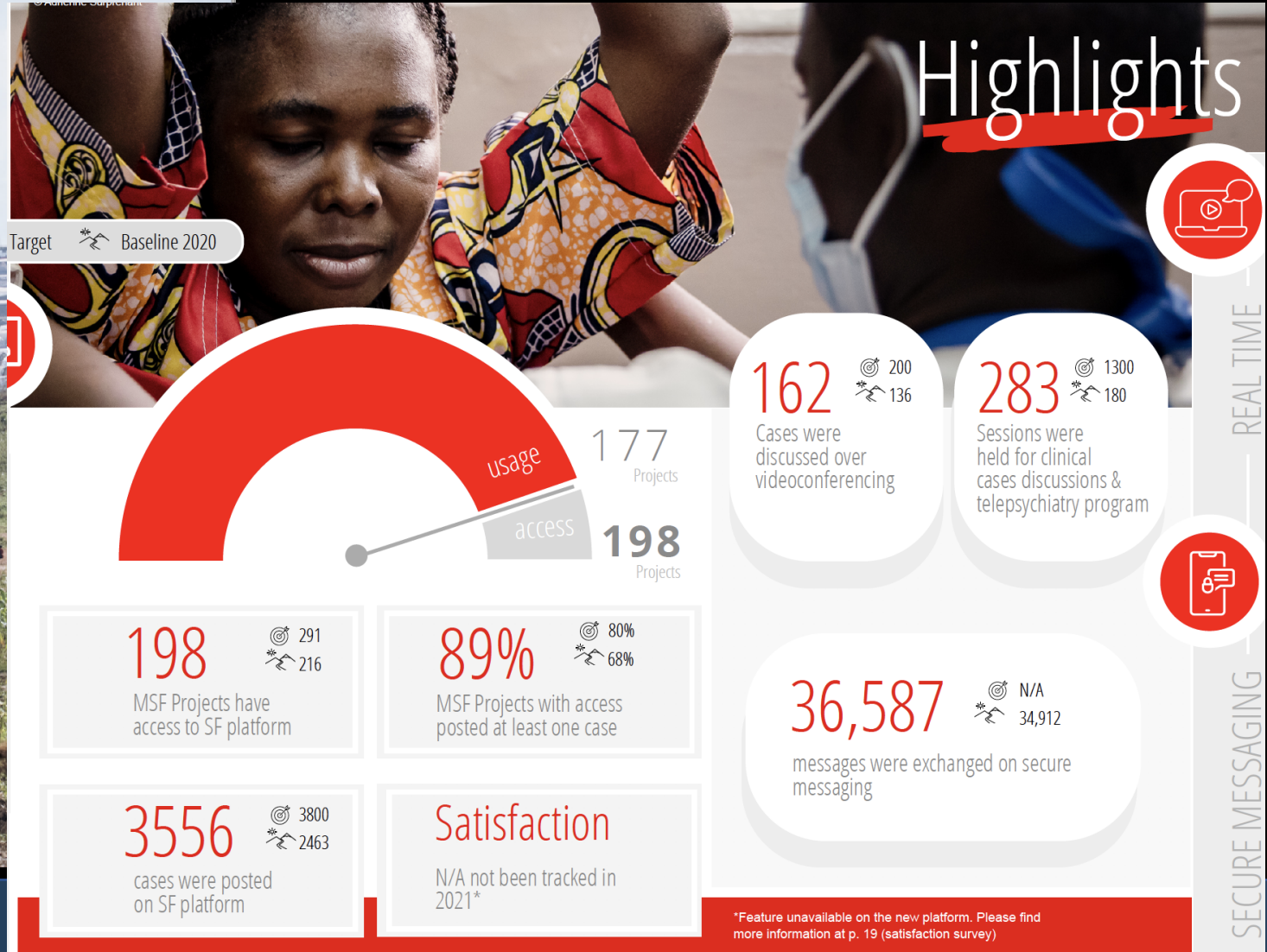
Your knowledge and expertise contribute immeasurably towards direct patient care in the field. We could not accomplish the high level of medical care we strive for without your assistance. Your remote expert consultation supports the delivery of timely, high-quality medical assistance to people in need guided by medical ethics and the principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality. Telemedicine is rapidly becoming integral to our medical humanitarian response worldwide and your role in this is essential.

Due to your dedication and valued assistance with specialty-level support, we are pleased to be nominating you today with the title of *Senior Specialist Consultant*.

Senior Specialist Consultant refers to a specialist who has shown significant commitment towards MSF's telemedicine program by providing timely expert opinion and consultation for our field doctors on over one-hundred cases in the field. At this point in time we feel your expertise goes beyond your specialty and also involves a greater understanding of situational awareness that MSF field hospitals face. Due to your high level of commitment and experience as a *Senior Specialist Consultant*, we invite you to begin mentoring junior level specialist consultants.

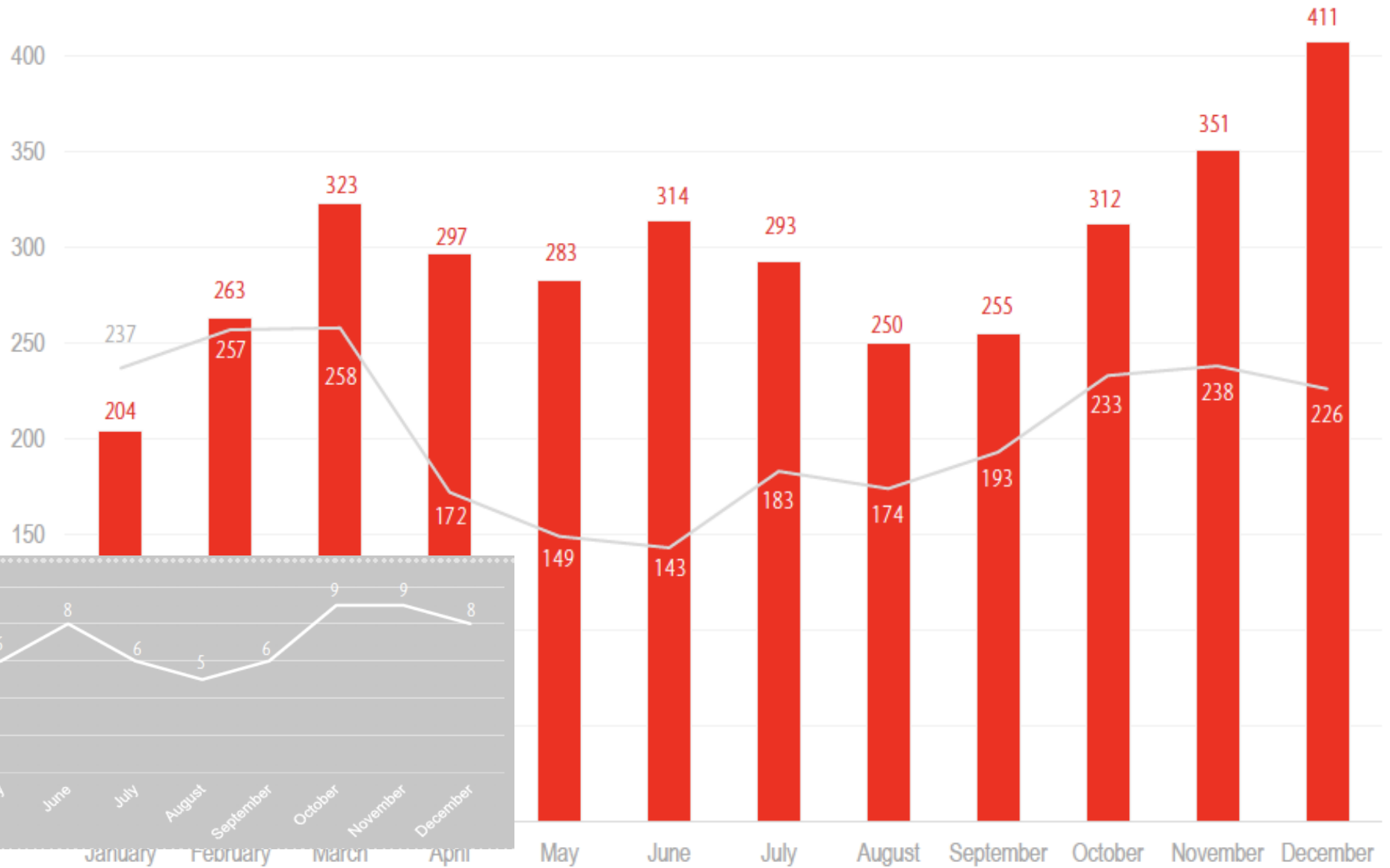
We hope to continue to grow our relationship with you and greatly look forward to your continued expertise in the

TELEMEDICINE ANNUAL REPORT



Cases per month

● 2020
● 2021



erical cancer screening

lizes telemedicine for



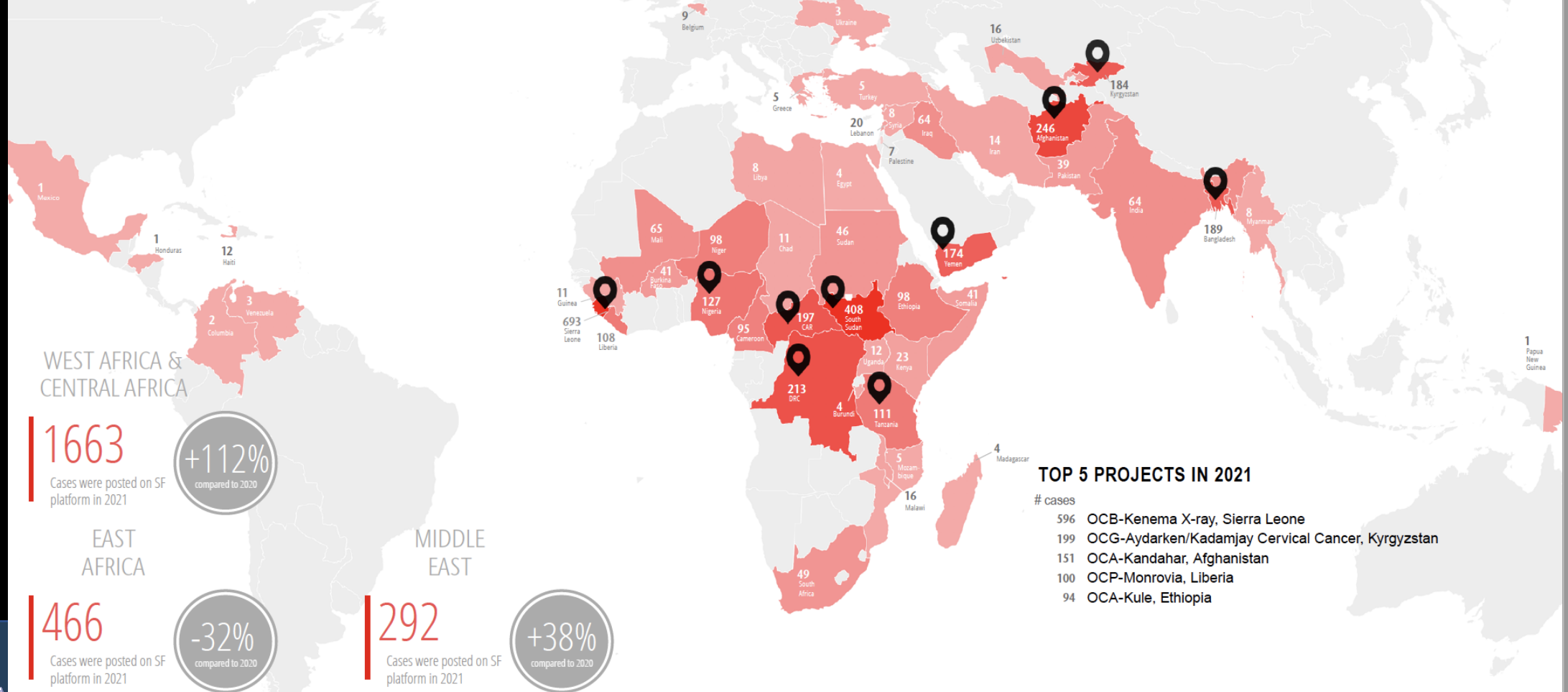
Active specialties and subspecialties

Telemedicine cases often involve the consultation of more than one specialist. There were **8213 total consultations** in 2019.

Allied Health	14	Mental Health	180	Pathology	9
Physiotherapy	12	Psychiatry	145	Clinical chemistry	6
Rehabilitation	2	Psychology	12	Microbiology	3
Anaesthesia	30	Nurse	10	Radiology	1591
Intensive care	28	Midwife	10	Diagnostic	1437
Emergency medicine	61	Obstetrics and gynaecology	232	Ultrasound	16
Toxicology	3	Colposcopy	26	Surgery	771
Internal Medicine	1457	Reproductive	78	Abdominal	6
Cardiology	85	Paediatrics	3365	Burns	14
Dermatology	235	Cardiology	259	ENT	36
Endocrinology	24	Dermatology	7	General	107
Gastroenterology	33	Endocrinology	27	Max-Fac	94
Genetics	40	Gastroenterology	59	Neurosurgery	40
Geriatrics	2	Haematology	70	Oncology	13
Haematology	91	Immunology	5	Ophthalmology	80
Hepatology	28	Infectious diseases	229	Orthopaedics	154
Infectious diseases	573	Intensive care	336	Plastic	12
Intensive care	42	Neonatal	125	Urology	43
Neurology	63	Neurology	220	Vascular	1
Oncology	4	Oncology	49	Other	63
Renal	49	Radiology	63	Dietetics	26
Respiratory	93	Renal	358	Hospital pharmacy	1
Rheumatology	7	Respiratory	33	Wound care	36
Toxicology	2	Rheumatology	10	Undefined	471
Tropical medicine	57	Surgery	72		

Store-and-forward cases per country

In 2021, SF services were used in 48 countries where MSF operates. Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Afghanistan and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) posted the most cases through the year. The 10 countries that used the service the most are identified on the following map.



Get Mail

New Message

Archive

Delete

Junk

Reply

Reply All

Forward

Flag

Mute

Move

Mailboxes

Inbox

VIPs

Sent

Drafts

Mailboxes

Sort by Date

Inbox

docsa...

Google

VIPs

Flagged

Drafts

Outbox

Sent

On My Mac

docsa...

Google

MSF

URGENT: Case Updated...

Dear Savvas Andronikou - Paediatric Radiology, Jiske Steensma [OCA HQ] P...

Jovan & Joanna

ESPR outreach

I'll be there. Looking forward to meeting all of you. Best regards to...

Joanna Kasznia-Brown

ESPR outreach

Dear All, I hope you are keeping well and looking forward to the ESPR meeting ne...

American Airlines

Action required - Enterin...

Verify with VeriFLY [https://www.aa.com/content/images/email/cne/hdr_email_lo...

Medecins Sans Frontieres

CASES

TO-DO

Search

Draft

Closed

ID	Creation	Country	Project	Initial CCC	Last CCC		Primary Specialty
103001	09/06/2022, 07:44	South Africa	OCB-Kawazulu na...	Jaap Karsten, t...	Jaap Karsten, t...		Pediatrics
102996	09/06/2022, 07:37	Afghanistan	OCA-Kandahar	Jaap Karsten, t...	Jaap Karsten, t...		Radiology
102568	06/06/2022, 10:21	Yemen	OCG-Ad Dahi	Lindsay Osei	Jaap Karsten, t...		Pediatrics
102567	06/06/2022, 09:53	South Africa	OCB-Kawazulu na...	Lindsay Osei	Lindsay Osei		Pediatrics
102566	06/06/2022, 09:45	South Africa	OCB-Kawazulu na...	Lindsay Osei	Lindsay Osei		Pediatrics
102417	05/06/2022, 08:33	Afghanistan	OCA-Kandahar	Serge Kabore	Serge Kabore		Radiology
102369	05/06/2022, 02:57	Afghanistan	OCA-Kandahar	Jaap Karsten, t...	Jaap Karsten, t...		Radiology
102367	05/06/2022, 02:50	Afghanistan	OCA-Kandahar	Jaap Karsten, t...	Jaap Karsten, t...		Radiology
102053	02/06/2022, 11:17	Yemen	OCG-Ad Dahi	Jaap Karsten, t...	Teresa Gadsden		Pediatrics
101573	30/05/2022, 00:18	India	OCA-Bihar	Angmo Nilza	Angmo Nilza		Infectious Diseases
101293	27/05/2022, 07:44	Sierra Leone	OCB-Kenema Xray	Sophie Delaigue...	Jaap Karsten, t...		Radiology
101157	26/05/2022, 03:32	Kenya	OCP-Homa Bay	Sophie Delaigue...	Adi Nadimpalli		Radiology
101125	25/05/2022, 12:43	Sierra Leone	OCB-Kenema Xray	Lindsay Osei	Lindsay Osei		Radiology
101034	25/05/2022, 05:08	Somalia	OCA-Galkayo	Jaap Karsten, t...	Teresa Gadsden		Surgery
100926	24/05/2022, 07:28	Pakistan	OCA-East Baloch...	Jaap Karsten, t...	Jaap Karsten, t...		Radiology
100678	22/05/2022, 05:51	South Sudan	OCA-Unity Prima...	Jaap Karsten, t...	Serge Kabore		Pediatrics
100572	21/05/2022, 08:00	Congo - Kinshasa	OCBA-Salamabila	Serge Kabore	Jaap Karsten, t...		POCUS

Comments only

Patient

I confirm that informed consent has been obtained from the patient about making an E-referral and its consequences.

Patient Age

11 Years

Patient Gender

Male

General

Question/Primary Reason

differential diagnosis

Patient Weight

29 kg

Presenting Complaint

swelling on the left proximal tabia for 4 months

History of Presenting Complaint

10 years old boy presented with left proximal tabia swelling for 4 months, which started small and gradually increasing in size. mother reported child experience pain especially during cold weathers.Mother wound developed over the overlying 2 weeks ago but healed. The wound was not discharging pus.

Telemedicine specialists

External volunteer specialist



HQ Medical Advisor

407



288 (71%)



119 (29%)

specialists in the network

303



214 (71%)



89 (29%)

specialists have logged
in the last 3 months

(From October 1st to December 31st, 2021)

61



28 (46%)



33 (54%)

specialists onboarded in 2021

“ Without adequate care, a child's earliest years can be the deadliest in many low-resource countries.¹ ”

In 2021, the specialties most often requested² in the cases sent to the SF platform are Radiology and Pediatrics. A high demand for pediatrics is hardly surprising considering the contexts in which MSF operates. In 2020, children under 15 years represented more than 60 percent of patients in MSF projects. Pediatric cases come from many different projects whereas radiology cases

ACHIEVEMENTS & UPDATE

- Specialist recognition initiative launched at the end of 2021 to thank TM volunteer specialists for their precious contributions.
- Recruitment of 61 new specialists through the year (33 HQ medical advisors and 28 external volunteer specialists).

CHALLENGES

- Lack of pediatricians and radiologists within the pool of specialists

Action: Targeted recruitment towards those two specialties was initiated.

- Difficult to determine the availability of specialists when allocating a case

Action: Contact the specialist directly via other communication means to assess the



Telemedicine case

By Jaap Karsten
Clinical Case Coordinator

Why this case was selected among 3,000?

The easiest answer, "it was selected because it represents one of the most frequent telemedicine postings: pediatrics and radiology", is not correct. It was chosen for a completely different reason.

This case illustrates how MSF Telemedicine is not merely a complementary medical service to be used at the doctor's discretion.

MSF Telemedicine is an essential part of what MSF has to offer in order to correctly help patients with conditions that have to do with their specific habits and unique envi-

A three-year-old boy, weighing 7 kg (normal weight at that age is 14 kg) from a Middle East country, is admitted in an MSF project focusing on severe malnutrition in children under five.

After a fall two months prior to admission, the child no longer walks. The grandmother further reports that the boy is often feverish and both his knees are painful and swollen. There are no other complaints.

At the physical examination, the boy is found to be severely malnourished and anemic. Both knees are exactly as described by the grandmother. No other remarkable physical findings, specifically no other swollen joints. After the start of antibiotics for possibly bone infection, the fever stops. However, the boy still refuses to walk.



Karen Chetcuti
Radiologist & Ultra-sound
trainer

Jaap Karsten
Clinical Case Coordinator &
Pediatric specialist for TM

Jarred Halton
Radiographer

Michelle Fink
Radiologist

There is a strange fracture line in the lower right leg. A type unlikely to happen after a simple fall in an otherwise healthy child. She notices lack of calcification of the bones, but there are more highly unusual findings. Michelle then solves the case with an elaborate search in medical (online) literature.

Though radiology did not exist at the time that this disease was common and responsible for the death of 2 million seamen, the images are typical for scurvy

told by our history teacher, Vitamin C deficiency is caused by the lack of fresh produce over a prolonged period.

The team quickly examines the boy again but cannot detect the other, better-known symptom of scurvy e.g., red, swollen and bleeding gums.

Still, after providing ample Vitamin C, the knee pain disappears within weeks and the boy starts walking again.



Apply Now

Telemedicine Medical Specialist (Volunteer opportunity)

at Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières
(Telemedicine) ([View all jobs](#))

Anywhere

Department: Programs Department, MSF Canada

Reports to: Telemedicine Clinical Operations Lead for administrative and operational matters; MSF Clinical Referents for technical matters

Position status: Volunteer

Duration of Contract: Minimum time commitment is for 12 months

Location: Offsite (remote)

Working Hours: Normally expected few hours (2 to 3) per week, depending on cases from clinical projects. Sometimes there might not be a case for months or there might be 3 to 4 cases in a week.

POSITION OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of this position is to provide long-distance clinical support to MSF projects' medical teams worldwide. When cases require a specialist clinician's opinion, Medical Specialists in the volunteer network are consulted. This consultation is provided via MSF's dedicated Telemedicine solutions.

BACKGROUND:

MSF Canada is the lead section rolling out Telemedicine services across MSF projects movement wide. MSF Canada works with all MSF operational centers implementing Telemedicine services in projects globally.

MSF's International Store & Forward Telemedicine Platform has a global network of more than 300 specialists and has been providing specialist support to MSF patients since 2010. The platform provides services in English and French.

MSF's telemedicine specialist pool is a vast network of clinical specialists worldwide who support MSF's telemedicine services on a volunteer basis and contribute actively to the social mission of MSF. Our team is consistently looking for multilingual (EN, FR, ESP) medical specialists from all over the world to support our field medics using their relevant expertise. We are actively looking for the profiles below:

- Radiologists

Education and experience

- University degree in pediatric specialization/ super-specialty training.
- Certificate of registration with the Order of Physicians for the current year.
- At least 4 years of work experience in the area of specialization.
- MSF experience or experience in low resource settings and exposure to Telemedicine/ remote clinical training, supervision is highly desirable.
- Training in tropical medicine is an asset.
- Ability to read and understand English, French and Spanish. Arabic is highly desirable.
- Skilled in the use of smart phone and/or a computer.
- Skilled in the use of technological tools including those that can be used in telemedicine.

Teleradiology - Impact

Bull World Health Organ. 2012 September 1; 90(9): 705–711.

PMCID: PMC3442390

Published online 2012 June 21. doi: [10.2471/BLT.11.099473](https://doi.org/10.2471/BLT.11.099473)

Language: English | [French](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Russian](#)

Feasibility of using teleradiology to improve tuberculosis screening and case management in a district hospital in Malawi

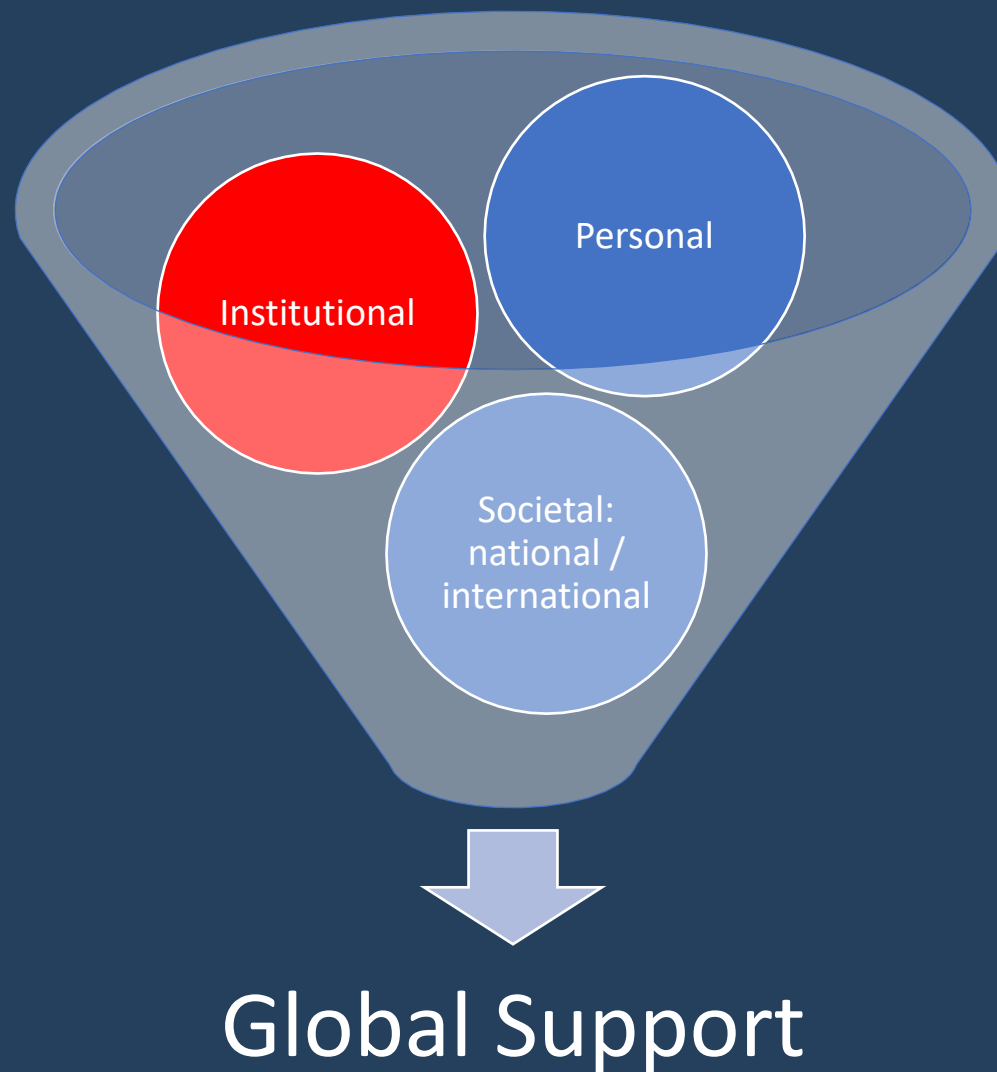
[Rebecca Marie Coulborn](#),^a [Isabella Panunzi](#),^a [Saskia Spijker](#),^b [William E Brant](#),^c [Laura Triviño Duran](#),^a [Cara S Kosack](#),^b and [Michael Mitchell Murowa](#)^d

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Relevant changes

From September 2010–2011, 159 images (from 158 patients) were reviewed by teleradiology. Teleradiology changed patient management in 36 cases (23.5%). Two (1.3%) of them were cases of pulmonary tuberculosis not previously suspected by clinical staff. In addition, the radiologist's review corrected the misdiagnosis of tuberculosis and averted inappropriate treatment in 16 patients (10.5%).

Types of Partnerships



Institutional: CHOP Radiology Global Outreach & Education



Hansel Otero, MD
Director, Global Outreach
& Education Program



**Hermon Miliard
Derbew, MD**
Research Fellow,
Global Outreach &
Education Program



Tigist Hailu, MPH
Manager, Global
Outreach & Education
Program



**Monica Miranda-
Schaeubinger,
MD, MSPH**
Research Assistant,
Global Outreach &
Education Program



Yadel Mekete, BS
Coordinator, Global
Outreach & Education
Program



CHOP Radiology Global Outreach & Education



Black Lion Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (www.pedradethio.org)

- 2 Peds Radiology Fellows - final exam held virtually by 4 examiners
- Annual CME Course - 2021 & 2022 virtual via Zoom
- Weekly Case Sessions - residency and fellowship programs (started March 2021)- via Zoom



Virtual Case Review Sessions:

Enhancing our pediatric radiology outreach program at Black Lion Hospital in Ethiopia
Faculty Presenters Needed

The CHOP Radiology Global Outreach and Education team has established a weekly case review session to enhance pediatric radiology education in the Department of Radiology at Black Lion Hospital in Ethiopia. The goal of these weekly sessions is to increase the number of cases seen by the residents and pediatric radiology fellows. These interactive, hour-long virtual meetings serve as a collaborative learning experience for both trainees and presenters. We need faculty presenters for this program! Please note that these presentations can be added as "invited lectures" to your CVs - a small act that benefits all involved!

The case sessions take place on Fridays from 7:30 to 8:30 am. We ask that you present between 8 and 10 cases, depending on complexity. The presentation may be via a PowerPoint or directly from iSize.

If you're interested, please add your name to our database [HERE](https://www.chop.edu/derbew) or use the QR code below. You can also send an email to Herman at derbew@chop.edu.



CHOP Radiology Global Outreach and Education team:

Hansel Otero, MD
Director, Global Radiology Outreach & Education Program

Herman Miliard Derbew, MD
Global Outreach & Education Research Fellow

Tigist Haile, MPH
Coordinator, Global Outreach & Education Program

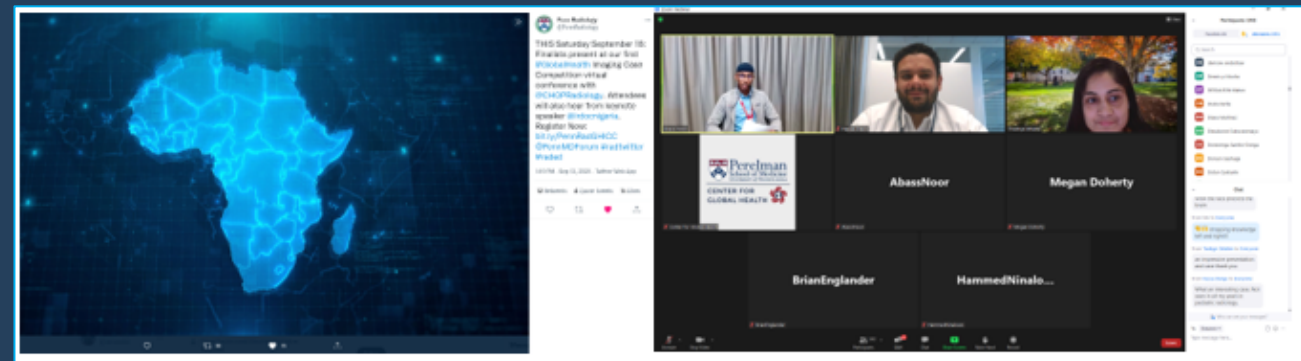
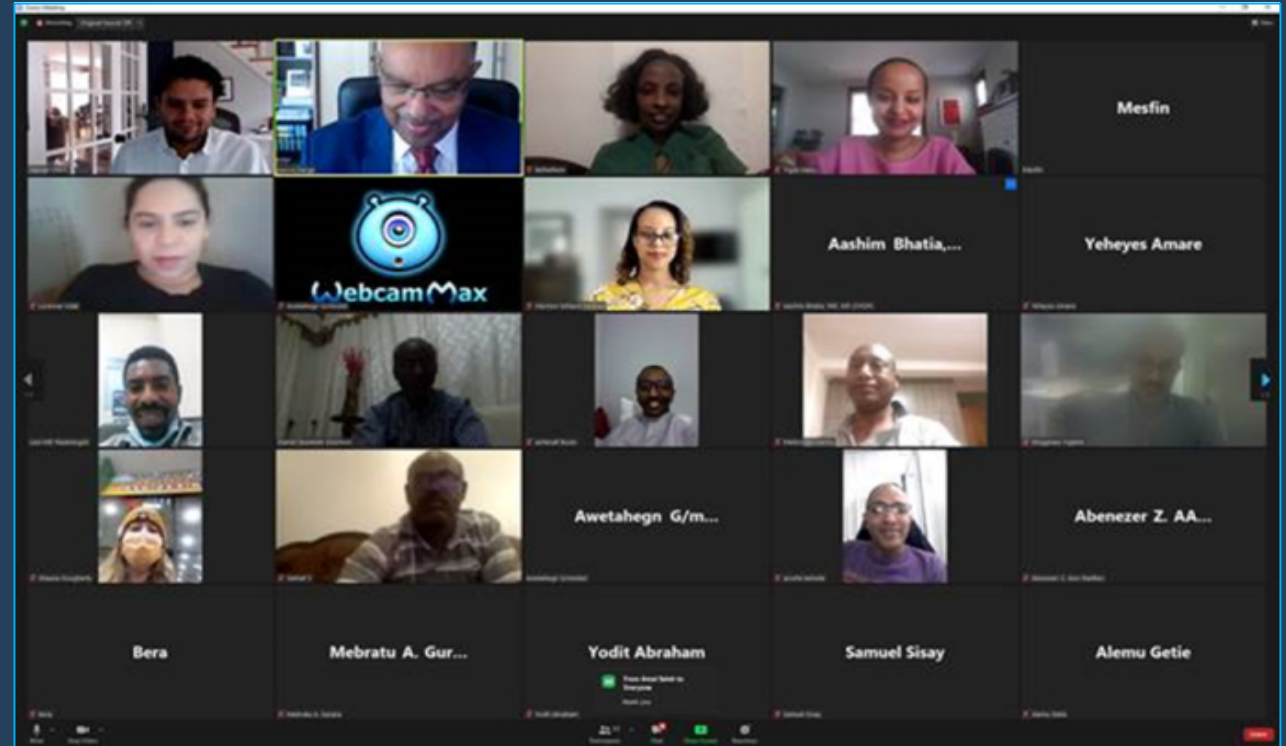
*For any questions, contact:
Dr. Herman Miliard Derbew (DERBEW71@chop.edu)*



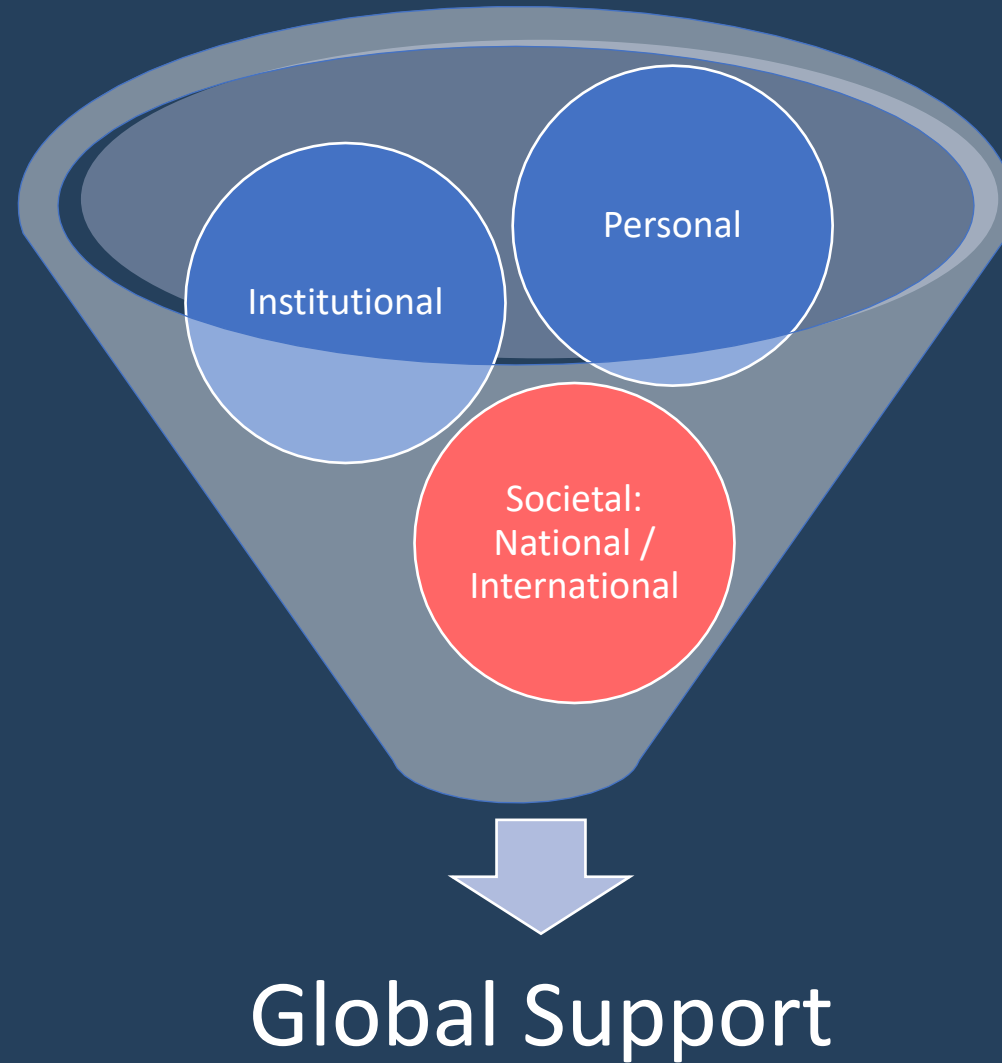
CHOP Radiology Global Outreach & Education

CHOP-HUP Global Health Imaging Case Report Competition

- For trainees in low- and middle-income countries to present cases unique to their region.
- Free virtual webinar event features presentations by the finalists, “unknown cases” challenge, and a keynote speaker.
 - Inaugural focused on Africa
 - Second focused on Latin America and Caribbean



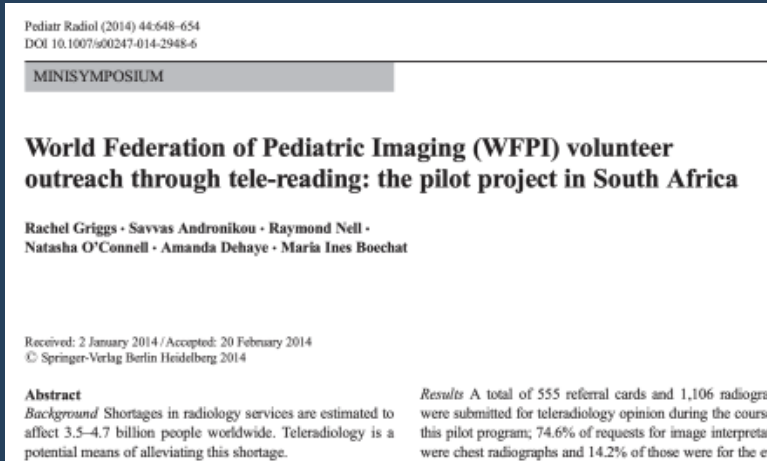
Types of Partnerships



Societal



WFPI in South Africa



- Program design:
 - acquiring / delivering images
 - interpretations
- Referral load
- Types of referrals
- Volunteer demographics
- Technical, language, legal barriers
- Sustainability challenges



- Volunteer tele-readers enlisted
- Mass e-mail WFPI and SASPI
- Digital radiographs anonymized on-site- export JPEG
- Forwarded by email to the project control teleradiologist
- Control radiologist distributed to a volunteer
- Tele-readers interpreted on personal computers
- Findings returned via e-mail
- Considered expert opinion

Considerations

Khayelitsha hospital

230 beds: 32 pediatric, 12 neonatal, 10 kangaroo prem care, 6 short-stay emergency

Pediatric outpatient clinics three times a week.

2012 the admitted a total of 2,524 children

2013 increase to 2,399 admissions first 6 months.

Prior to the WFPI pilot teleradiology project, only clinicians interpreting radiographs.

Volunteer tele-reading program was developed after district pediatrician requested

Response

50 teleradiologist from 18 countries

United States (12)

South Africa (8)

Brazil, China and India (4 each)

Colombia, Pakistan, China, Spain, the United Kingdom, Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Sri Lanka, Australia, Panama, New Zealand and Italy

14 bilingual

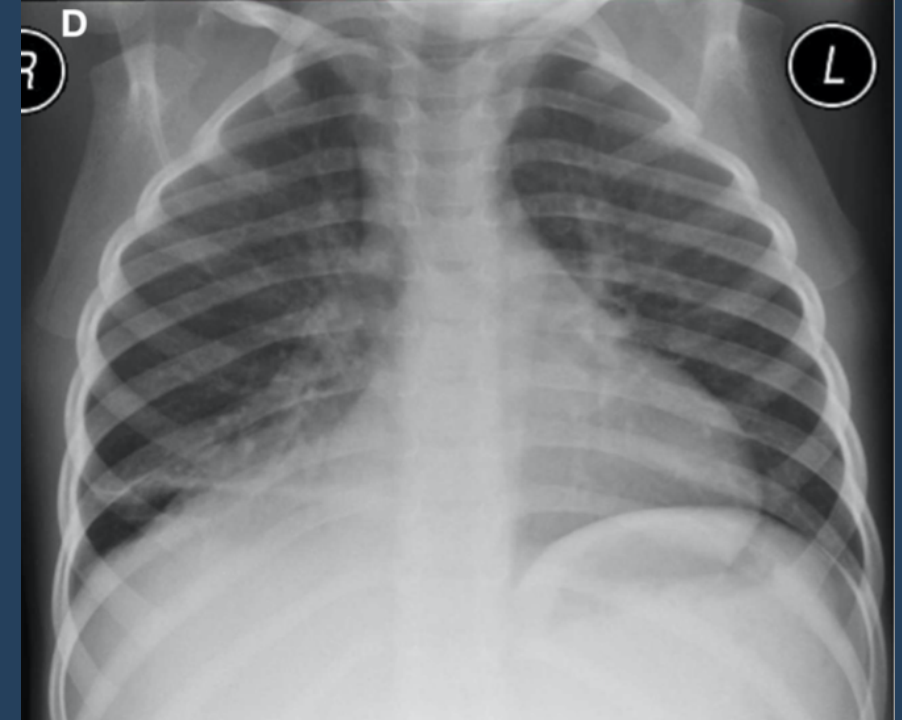
8 Spanish

5 Portuguese



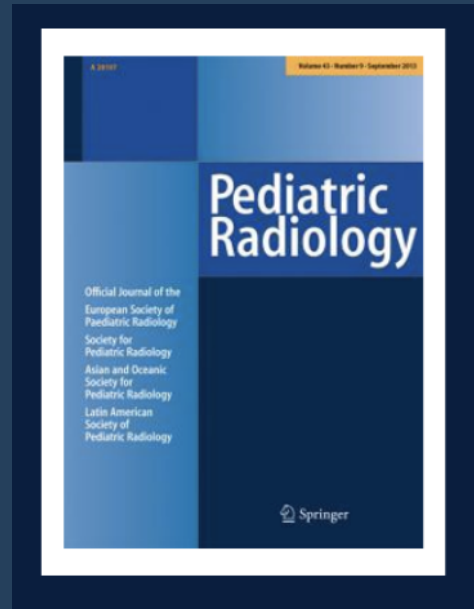
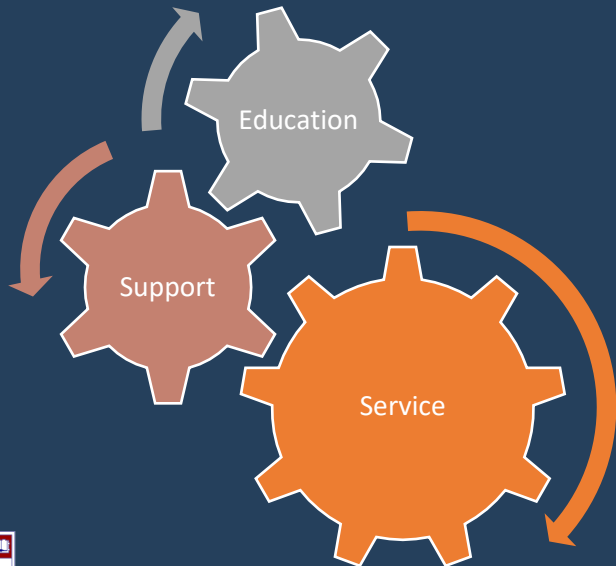
Results

	Number	Percentage of total
<hr/>		
Patient referrals ($n=555$)		
Referrals with no provided or illegible indications	12	2.2
Referrals with incomplete/illegible patient demographic information	66	11.9
Referrals mentioning tuberculosis (TB) in the indication (positive TB contact, known TB, or concern for TB)	79	14.2
Submitted radiographs ($n=1,106$)		
Chest radiographs	825	74.6
All other radiographs, including those of the abdomen and extremities	281	25.4



NEW Societal: Research support

- Research education
- Research support mentorship
- Service – papers not making the language grade from developing countries - volunteer editors



The WFPI and SLARP logo and title are at the top. Below, the text reads: 'Basics of clinical research' and 'Starting a project'. In the center, it says: 'March 3rd–19:30 hours EST (Session 1)' and '1.Basics of clinical research 2.Starting a project'. On the left, there is a photo of Prof. Andrea Doria MSc, PhD, MD, with her title: 'Hospital for Sick Children University of Toronto Toronto, Canada'. On the right, there is a photo of Maria Alejandra Bedoya, MD, with her title: 'Boston Children's Hospital Instructor of Radiology, Harvard Medical School'. At the bottom, it says: 'Register at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/705cegggTkrEtBuHRKIH4YJLNH0KIH1WR>'.

In Summary

- On-line engagement is essential and complimentary to personal connections
- Service and education are intertwined and must be adapted to local environment
- Participation in online outreach and education is good for children, colleagues, academic societies and the profession



¿PREGUNTAS?

Twitter: @oterocobo
email: oteroh@chop.edu