

12. Global child advocacy

Individuals and organizations whose goal is to promote the optimal health and development of children

Goals:

- To provide an understanding of the challenges facing child health and knowledge of important global child health advocacy efforts

Objectives:

- Understand the eight UN Millennium Development Goals and specifically understand what strategies have worked towards the goal of reducing child mortality
- Distinguish between Multinational Organizations (UN, WHO, Global Fund, GAVI), Bilateral Organizations (USAID, PEPFAR, DFID), and Non-Governmental Organizations (Gates Foundation, Ford Foundation, Doctors Without Borders, Partners in Health) and understand the strengths and limitations of each of these organizations
- More than 10 million children die each year, most from preventable causes and most in poorly resourced settings. Your previous readings have discussed sanitation, breastfeeding, neonatal death, vaccine preventable disease, malnutrition, and AIDS as major causes of child mortality. Understand what strategies are currently being used by humanitarian organizations (governmental and non-governmental) to address each of these causes

Response Question:

If you had to identify a single strategy to best improve health of children globally what strategy would you chose (i.e. vaccination programs, maternal education, child education, clean water, nutrition, safety and security, poverty, access to health care, etc.) and why? How, as a pediatrician, can you use your knowledge and training to best advocate for children globally?

Required:

Readings

Claeson M., Gillespie D, Mshinda H, Troedsson H, Victora CG, The Bellagio Study Group on Child Survival. Knowledge into action for child survival. The Lancet, 2003; 362:323-327.

UN Millennium Development Goals Report 2010 found at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG%20Report%202012.pdf>

Global Health Program by Gates Foundation found at <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/global-health/Documents/global-health-program-overview.pdf>

Southall DP, et al. The Child-Friendly Healthcare Initiative (CFHI): Healthcare Provision in Accordance With the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Pediatrics 2000; 106:1054 –1064.



Online lecture

Global Health 'Actors' and Their Programs by Dr Thomas Hall, Elisabeth Gundersen, and Trever Jensen found at

http://globalhealtheducation.org/Modules/Pages/22_Global_Health_Actors_And_Their_Programs.aspx

Recommended:

Oberg, CN. Embracing international children's rights: from principles to practice. *Clin Pediatr*. 2012 Jul;51(7):619-24.

World Health Organization: Commission on Social Determinants of Health. 2008 Report. Closing the gap in a generation: Health equity through action on the social determinants of health. http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2008/9789241563703_eng.pdf

Southall, D. Armed conflict women and girls who are pregnant, infants and children; a neglected public health challenge. What can health professionals do? *Ealy Hum Dev*. 2011 Nov; 87(11):735-42.