



COMMENT

Global Pediatric Research Investigator: Dr. Felicity Gumbo

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I am 43 years old. I grew up in Harare, Zimbabwe. I attended primary, secondary, and High School in Harare. This was followed by medical school in the University of Zimbabwe where the MB. ChB. degree was awarded in 2000. My internship for 2 years was mainly at Harare Central Hospital, one of the tertiary hospitals in Harare, Zimbabwe. I enrolled in the Master of Medicine Pediatrics Program, an equivalent of a fellowship for 4 years, with the same University. During the Senior Registrar year I started research on HIV vertical transmission, leading to an award of a Ph.D. from the University of Oslo, Norway. Naturally from Zimbabwe I have been

interested in infectious diseases, and my research focus was on HIV exposure and outcomes in children ranging from morbidity and mortality. Recently, I have added congenital tuberculosis, cytomegalovirus, and other maternal infections associated with poor infant outcomes to my research interests, and I am currently following a birth cohort. The infant mortality rate in Zimbabwe is quite high. I am also interested in Pediatric Critical Care and work in an intensive care Unit at Harare Hospital. I run a course in Pediatric Cardiopulmonary resuscitation for medical students with the University of Zimbabwe. I am an Associate Professor with the Department of Pediatrics and love teaching students. I became interested in Pediatrics because children are so vulnerable and innocent. It does not take too much to put all your heart in the job at hand. My two mentors are both late, namely Dr. Isidore Pazvakavambwa, a Pediatric Cardiologist/Intensivist who trained me to care for all children, and Professor Babill Stray-Pedersen an Obstetrician/Gynecologist, who influenced my research interests and taught me how to ask the right questions and publish. My advice to those young is that there is a lot of work that still need to be done for child health globally; working together in collaborating is the best way to tackle difficult problems. You will never resuscitate anyone successfully single handedly, just call the team.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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