Training and Education to Build Expert capacity in the early Detection and Surgical Management of Cervical Cancer.

Barry Rosen MD
Professor Oakland University School of Medicine
Section Head, Gynecologic oncology Beaumont Health
Formerly from Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto
Why is cervical cancer so prevalent in Kenya?

- No screening
- HIV
- Access to health care
- Poor understanding of cervical cancer in the community, relationship to HIV
State of cervical cancer diagnosis and treatment in 2009

• Women presented to hospital emergency rooms with bleeding, discharge and or pain
  – Morning hospital rounds

• Patients would be transfused and sent home where they would die, a painful death, often alone

• No screening, no radiation treatment and no chemotherapy
Setting: Eldoret Western Kenya: MTRH/AMPATH

• MTRH
  – Level 6 hospital in Kenya
  – All gynecologists involved with cervix cancer patients

• AMPATH
  – Academic Model to Provide Access To Healthcare
  – HIV treatment program
  – Multiple health facilities in western Kenya
    • Infrastructure in place that would provide access to women at risk for cervix cancer
AMPATH sites

AMPATH Now Serves in 23 Locations
Strategy/ where to start? 2009

• Focus care to 2 gynecologist
• Start a gynecology oncology clinic

• Initiate cervical screening of HIV affected women attending AMPATH’s clinics

• What to do about identified pre-invasive cervical dysplasia and early stage cancers
Surgical Training

• Cryotherapy
• LEEP

• Pelvic Surgery
• Radical Hysterectomy
  – Pre-op assessment
  – Post op care
Comprehensive Oncology Care

• Expansion of Gynecologic Oncology to include all gynecologic cancers
  – Ovarian Cancer
    • Germ cell cancers in young girls
  – Gestational Trophoblastic disease
  – Vulvar cancer
Gyn Oncology Fellowship

• **Concept:** to develop a gynecologic oncology fellowship in Kenya so they would have the expertise and also be recognized within RH to:

  • manage all gyn oncology patients,
  • administer a program in gyn oncology
  • continue to train others
  • participate actively in research
Gyn Oncology Fellowship

- Subspecialty training: initially not accepted in a country where there is a significant shortage of doctors and general specialists
- Dept of RH at Moi University and MTRH supported the concept after a great deal of discussion
- Support to proceed was obtained from KOGS, Kenyan Medical and Dental Board, Stakeholders, AMPATH Oncology, Dept of Ob Gyn at both U of T and Indiana University
- **First subspecialty training program at Moi University**
Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship Program

• 2 years
• Comprehensive clinical training
• Includes
  – Medical oncology
  – Radiation oncology
  – Palliative care
  – Clinical gynecologic oncology
Overview

• Vision
  To help Kenyan physicians develop a comprehensive high quality program to prevent, treat and palliate gynaecologic cancers in their setting, Western Kenya.

• Goal
  To develop a program that will become sustainable and completely managed by Kenyan physicians
  To develop a strong research program which aligns with the clinical problems of women at risk of and diagnosed with gynaecologic cancers
  To integrate into AMPATH Oncology Institute