

ICS/Pfizer Fellowship Report

Samson Jemal Ismael

Background & current work:

Obstetrician-Gynecologist and Assistant Professor of Ob-Gyn, Hawassa University College of Medicine, Ethiopia.

Location and site:

University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Division of Gynecology and Gynecologic Subspecialties. This site was chosen based on an existing partnership between UW Ob-Gyn and Hawassa University Ob-Gyn departments.

Expectations and Learning Objectives:

To develop: 1) An understanding of pelvic floor dysfunction, including experience in related surgical procedures, including the means to diagnose and treat, both medically and/or surgically, the various causes of urinary incontinence and urinary retention; 2) An understanding of the diagnosis and management of other female pelvic floor disorders, including pelvic organ prolapse and defecatory dysfunction.

Specific details of learning and activities whilst on placement:

Throughout the fellowship, routine meetings took place with Dr. Christine Heisler, the fellowship director, to discuss learning experiences. Worked closely with several members of the urogynecology faculty and clinical team. Participated in weekly "Thursday University" activities in the Department of Ob-Gyn, which included morbidity and mortality conferences, grand rounds, faculty development sessions, and other didactic sessions

During the fellowship connections with clinicians, researchers, and other members of the UW-Madison community were made. Had access to UW-Madison online resources, which included digital library collections, databases, and subscriptions.

Shadowed UW clinicians and gained exposure to and understanding of:

1. Anatomy
2. Physiology
3. Urinary Tract Dysfunction
4. Urinary Incontinence
5. Stress Incontinence (SUI)
6. Urge Incontinence (UUI)
7. Pelvic Organ Prolapse (POP)
8. Intraoperative Management
9. Fecal Incontinence (FI) & Constipation
10. Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)
11. Urodynamic Study (UDS)
12. Abdominal & Pelvic Pain (Acute and Chronic)
13. Abnormal Uterine Bleeding
14. Pelvic Mass
15. Family Planning
16. Ambulatory Gynecology
17. Health Maintenance & Disease Prevention
18. Research

Conclusion:

Dr. Samson indicated that he will initiate selected non-surgical services immediately upon his return to his clinical practice. A plan for Dr. Dobie Giles, Chief of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery at UW-Madison, to visit Hawassa for hands-on follow-up training and mentoring in Dr. Samson's own clinical setting was delayed due to U.S. State Department travel warnings. However, the trip has been rescheduled for late May, 2017.

