



Reality Check:

Challenges and Innovations in Addressing PPH

Presented by Pathfinder International and the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars' Global Health Initiative

Seminar Presenters

Deborah Armbruster, CNM, MPH, FACNM

Senior Maternal and Newborn Health Advisor, USAID

Deborah Armbruster is a nurse-midwife with a Master's in Public Health and a fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. In April 2010, she joined USAID and is currently a Senior Maternal and Newborn Health Advisor. She came to USAID from PATH where she was the director of the research project the Oxytocin Initiative. From 2004 to 2009, she was Director of the Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage Initiative (POPPHI) project. She has over 25 years of experience in safe motherhood and reproductive health programs in over 15 countries. She has been actively involved in the Safe Motherhood Initiative for over 15 years and is a founding member of the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood. She has been involved in the development of Home-Based Life Saving Skills program. She also serves as a peer reviewer for the Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health.

Jennifer Blum, MPH

Senior Program Associate, Gynuity Health Projects

Ms. Blum received a BA in French Literature and Political Science from the University of California, San Diego and is a graduate of the School of Public Health of the University of California, Los Angeles. As a Senior Program Associate at Gynuity Health Projects, Ms. Blum conducts research on misoprostol for a range of reproductive health indications, including induced abortion, incomplete abortion and miscarriage, and management of PPH. Before joining Gynuity, she was a Staff Program Associate at the Population Council, where she was involved with clinical studies of mifepristone medical abortion and misoprostol for a range of reproductive health indications. Ms. Blum was a Peace Corps volunteer in the Republic of Guinea, West Africa and worked on adolescent reproductive health issues at the Pacific Institute for Women's Health.

Blami Dao, MD, FWACS***Director, Maternal and Newborn Health, JHPIEGO***

Blami Dao is an obstetrician gynecologist trained at the University of Dakar in Senegal with 15 years of field experience.

Before joining JHPIEGO in December 2010, he was Vice Dean of the School of Medicine at the Polytechnic University of Bobo Dioulasso and Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Sourou Sanou University Teaching Hospital in Burkina Faso. His hospital was the first to introduce AMSTL in francophone Africa, ten years ago. He collaborated extensively with Gynuity Health Projects on research for various indications of misoprostol: incomplete abortion and PPH. He has been leading training on EmONC in francophone Africa.

Ellen Israel, MPH***Senior Technical Advisor for Reproductive Health, Pathfinder International***

Ms. Ellen Israel has 20 years of experience as a clinical nurse-midwife working in private practice as well as with inner-city populations of adolescents and immigrant women in the U.S, overlapping with 20 years of international reproductive health experience. She has worked extensively in all areas of reproductive health, with an emphasis on HIV, abortion and post-abortion care, and safe motherhood. She has experience and interest in quality improvement in both facility and community based services and programs, and community change and empowerment. Ms. Israel's Safe motherhood experience includes technical backstopping of the India portion of the MacArthur funded Continuum of Care for Prevention of PPH project in India and Nigeria, as well as training and support of safe motherhood and RH trainers in Vietnam. She has also worked in women's empowerment and gender equity components of integrated programs.

Farouk Jega, MD***Program Manager, CC-PPH Project, Pathfinder International, Nigeria***

Dr. Farouk Jega is the Program Manager of the MacArthur Foundation-funded Clinical and Community Actions to Address Postpartum Hemorrhage project at Pathfinder International's Country Office in Abuja, Nigeria, where he oversees technical and managerial aspects of the project. Before joining Pathfinder, Dr. Jega was a senior specialist registrar in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the National Hospital Abuja, Nigeria and a consultant for the UNFAP Field Office in Nigeria and Gujarat Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India. Dr. Farouk Jega has 15 years of experience in sexual and reproductive health programming and evaluation.

Paul LaBarre, BS, MME***Technical Officer/Portfolio Leader, PATH***

Paul LaBarre is a technical officer and project manager with PATH's Technology Solutions Global Program. He leads several multidisciplinary teams within PATH's Health Innovation Portfolio and his primary focus is integration of novel technologies into the areas of vaccine delivery, maternal health, and diagnostics for low-resource settings. In addition, Mr. LaBarre is a senior advisor, providing technical and regulatory advice to multiple product development activities. He is experienced in new product development, field and laboratory evaluations, private- and public-sector collaboration, technology transfer, and standards development. Mr. LaBarre is Project Leader for an International Standards Organization (ISO) committee for medical device standard development. Mr. LaBarre was awarded a Regulatory Affairs Certificate from the Regulatory Affairs Professional Society. He received a Master's degree in medical engineering from the University of Washington and a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Northwestern University.

Sudhir Maknikar, MD***Project Leader, Maternal and Newborn Health, Pathfinder International, India***

Dr. Sudhir Maknikar is a senior public health professional who is a trained physician with a specialization in community medicine. He has more than ten years of public health experience in India in the provision of technical assistance for family planning (FP) and maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) care at the district, state, and national levels. Dr. Maknikar has successfully designed and implemented capacity building programs for improving service delivery for FP/MNCH and has conducted trainings for senior and mid-level managers, as well as grass root workers. He is proficient in designing innovative training techniques and developing training program methodologies with respect to adult learning principles. Dr. Maknikar joined the Pathfinder India country office as Project Leader with the Raksha PPH project, where he provides strategic leadership and managerial oversight of the administrative, programmatic, technical, financial, and operational aspects of the project. He has additional responsibilities for leading the MIES unit at the country office. Dr. Maknikar also serves as the point of contact with the Government of India and supports fundraising and program performance.

Suellen Miller, PhD, CNM***Director, Safe Motherhood Programs******Associate Professor, UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health and Policy******Associate Professor, Maternal Child Health Program, University of California, Berkeley***

Dr. Suellen Miller is the Director of Safe Motherhood Programs at the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences and Associate Professor at the University of California San Francisco. The Safe Motherhood Program, founded by Dr. Miller in 2003, comprises intervention projects and research on critical maternal health issues. Dr. Miller is Associate Professor of the Maternal and Child Health Program at UC Berkeley's School of Public Health and adjunct faculty of the Joint Medical Program, UCB/UCSF. Dr. Miller is an experienced maternal health clinician, having practiced as a certified nurse-midwife for over thirty years. She received her PhD from the University of California, San Francisco in 1994. Her research interests are international safe motherhood, applying rigorous qualitative and quantitative methodologies to reproductive health questions, and advocating for maternal health as a human right. Dr. Miller has extensive experience in international reproductive health in a variety of countries and cultures. Besides her work as Principal Investigator of the Randomized Cluster Trial of NASG Efficacy in Zambia and Zimbabwe, Dr. Miller consults with Pathfinder International's Continuum of Care for PPH project in Nigeria and India. Other reproductive health projects she is directing or participating in include Millennium Development Villages in Ghana, and projects on the intersection of HIV and maternal mortality epidemics in Kenya.

May Post, MD, DP&TM***Senior Advisor, Reproductive Health and Family Planning, Extending Service Delivery Project***

Dr. May Post is a Burmese-born, US-licensed public health physician. She has a background in public health and tropical medicine. She is currently employed by Pathfinder International as Senior Advisor for Family Planning and Reproductive Health, at the USAID-funded Extending Service Delivery (ESD) project. At ESD, Dr. Post is known for successfully leading the mainstreaming of healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy, a USAID technical priority, from research to the field. She has extensive experience in developing countries and has lived and worked in Africa (the Gambia, DR Congo, Rwanda, and Liberia) and in Asia (the Philippines, Myanmar, and Nepal). Dr. Post has worked in international development as a public health practitioner for over 30 years in the areas of family planning and reproductive health, maternal and child health, and primary health care.

Ndola Prata, MD, MSc***Associate Professor in Residence, University of California, Berkeley******Scientific Director, UCSF Bixby Center for Population Health and Sustainability***

Dr. Ndola Prata is a physician and medical demographer from Angola. An Associate Professor in Residence in the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley (UCB), Dr. Prata also serves as the Scientific Director at the Bixby Center for Population, Health and Sustainability at UCB and the Medical Director for Venture Strategies Innovations (VSI). She obtained her MD in Angola and received an MSc in medical demography from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Much of her research focuses on the design, implementation, and evaluation of maternal health interventions that maximize existing human capacity and health care infrastructure. Dr. Prata has conducted research in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and her current research focuses primarily on sub-Saharan Africa. Much of her recent work has focused on the expansion of the use of misoprostol to control PPH, the leading cause of maternal mortality worldwide. Dr. Prata has published extensively in the areas of family planning, financing and ability to pay for reproductive health programs, the role of the private sector in health care in developing countries, adolescent sexual behavior in developing countries, priorities for maternal health, and the use of misoprostol to manage PPH.

Shabnam Shahnaz, MD, MPH***Senior Program Advisor, Pathfinder International***

Dr. Shabnam Shahnaz is a Senior Program Advisor for Pathfinder International. She has over 20 years of experience in the development and management of health, population, and nutrition programs. Her experience includes conceptualizing, designing, implementing, and evaluating complex national, regional, and global programs in more than ten countries. She was previously the Country Representative for the Pathfinder International Bangladesh program. She continues to provide technical support to the PPH program that she initiated and implemented at Pathfinder Bangladesh. Dr. Shahnaz holds an MD from the Lady Hardinge Medical College, University of Delhi, India and an MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Shahnaz is also a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health, United Kingdom, and chairs the National Executive Committee of the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood in Bangladesh.

Catherine Solter, SCM, MPH***Senior Fellow, Pathfinder International***

Ms. Catherine Solter has more than 30 years of international clinical training and management experience in family planning, reproductive health, and maternal and child health. Ms. Solter is a nurse-midwife and holds an MPH from the Boston University School of Public Health. She has established training centers and conducted numerous trainings of health care staff including physicians, nurses, midwives, and traditional birth attendants both in-service and pre-service on family planning and maternal health. Ms. Solter has directed reproductive and maternal health programs and conducted extensive trainings in Afghanistan, Brazil, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Pakistan, and the Philippines. Prior to joining Pathfinder, she managed a UNFPA-funded program to work with the Department of Health in the Philippines to strengthen capacity for the management and implementation of the national family planning program. Until recently, Ms. Solter was the Director of Technical Services for Pathfinder International, where she provided overall technical guidance in the development, implementation, and monitoring of Pathfinder programs worldwide. In June 2010, Ms. Solter was named a Senior Fellow, and in this capacity she continues to provide direct technical support to ensure the quality of Pathfinder programs worldwide, while also providing help with the cross-fertilization of ideas, models, and programs.