

Practicum Overview

Summer 2013

Division of Women and Child Health



آغا خان یونیورسٹی ہسپتال، کراچی
The Aga Khan University Hospital



آغا خان یونیورسٹی
THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Background

- **LOCATION**
 - ♦ Karachi (cultural norms, politics, climate, safety)
- **PROJECT**
 - ♦ PRE-EMPT
 - ♦ Multi-country RCT to manage hypertension complications in pregnant women (1 of 3 leading causes of maternal mortality globally)
 - ♦ My project: Creating a sustainable model to finance EMOC care in rural, resource strained settings.



Logistics

- Finding the position:
 - ♦ Applying for practicums online versus networking
 - ♦ Use your resources in the IH Department, academic advisor, faculty members
- Defining the scope of work for the position:
 - ♦ Regular communication with AKU and supervisors
 - ♦ Explaining the purpose and goal of the practicum BEFORE you start, and during the project
 - ♦ Accept that the scope of work may change at anytime

Challenges and Costs

- Challenges:

- ♦ Scope of work
- ♦ Security and terrorism
- ♦ Cultural-norms
- ♦ Weather

- Costs:

- ♦ Flight (\$1,500)
- ♦ Visa application (\$200)
- ♦ Transportation (4 months, ~\$800)
- ♦ Security personnel (~\$800)
- ♦ Medical and health (prophylaxis, vaccinations) ~ \$200
- ♦ **TOTAL: \$3,500**

Completing the Practicum

- Work of scope changed on arrival
- Working in conflict areas
- Communication with supervisors who travel regularly
- Paying for the practicum
- Cost-benefit?
- Networking on-site

**“Foreign Policy magazine recently ranked Karachi the world's most dangerous megacity, topping Bogota, Colombia; Lagos, Nigeria; and Mexico City” -
LA Times, November 2013**