



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MEDICINE



Medical Alumni Association
University of Toronto



Comprehensive Research
Experience for Medical Students

Medical Alumni Association & CREMS Programs
Dr. Elva May Rowe Fund

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF THE ON-SITE SUPERVISOR'S CV. THIS IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO PROCESS YOUR APPLICATION

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED FORM TO CREMS.PROGRAMS@UTORONTO.CA BY **FEBRUARY 25, 2019**

PART A: SUPERVISOR AND ON-SITE SUPERVISOR CONTACT INFORMATION

U OF T RESEARCHER	
NAME:	Dr. Rachel Spitzer
EMAIL:	Rachel.spitzer@sinaihealthsystem.ca
DEPARTMENT:	Ob/Gyn
SGS (please indicate where)	
Selected Publications (3 most recent and relevant to the project)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Silverberg, S.L.; Harding, L.; Spitzer, R.F.; Rashid, M. The Who, What, Why and When of Gynaecological Referrals for Refugee Women. Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health. 2018 Apr 2. Doi 10.1007/s10903-018-0733-6 (epub ahead of print). Senior Responsible Co-Author. 2. Spitzer, Rachel F.; Steele, Sarah J.; Caloia, David; Thorne, Julie; Bocking, Alan D.; Christoffersen-Deb, Astrid; Yarmoshuk, Aaron; Maina, Loise; Sitters, Johanna; Chemwolo, Benjamin; Omonge, Elkanah. One Year Evaluation of the Impact of an Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) Training Program at a Tertiary Care Facility in Western Kenya. International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics. 2014 Nov;127(2):189-193. Principal Author.



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	1. Hawkins, L.; Spitzer, R. F. ; Leah, J.; Christoffersen-Deb, A.; Mabeya, H. Characteristics and surgical success of patients presenting for repair of obstetric fistula in Western Kenya. International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics (IJGO). 2013 Feb 1;120(2):178-82. Coauthor or Collaborator.
ON SITE SUPERVISOR	
NAME:	Dr. Julie Thorne
LOCATION OF PLACEMENT:	Eldoret, Kenya
EMAIL:	jgthorne@gmail.com
AREA OF RESEARCH:	Reproductive health and outcomes, program evaluation at Moi University/Moi teaching and referral hospital in Eldoret, Kenya

PART B: PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE: Reproductive Health Outcomes at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital

PROJECT/PROGRAM/INSTITUTION BACKGROUND INFORMATION (MAX 500 WORDS):

U of T's Department of ObGyn has been a partner in the Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare (AMPATH) in Eldoret, Kenya since 2007 and serves as the lead North American Institution for Reproductive Health in partnership with our Kenyan colleagues. AMPATH promotes equity and excellence in the care of women worldwide, and seeks to build capacity in care, education and research in sub-Saharan Africa. 'Leading with Care,' with philanthropic support, and through other granting agencies, including USAID, Saving Lives at Birth and Grand Challenges Canada, we have co-led and



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implemented novel, as well as proven MNCH activities in 7 innovative sites, covering a population of 750,000. Since 2013, this work has been scaled-up to partnerships with 8 counties, 22 sub-counties, and a catchment population of 3.5 million. In Kenya, Dr. Julie Thorne has worked locally as Team Leader in this academic year. As in previous years, in 2017/18 we enjoyed the rich exchange of trainees and faculty including 2 medical students and 2 residents traveling to North America for clinical rotations and medical student and resident exchanges to Kenya for clinical and research experiences. There were numerous presentations at the SOGC ACSM and other international, national and local meetings related to our research program in Eldoret.

In 2018 we were thrilled to have our Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship program, led locally by MFM Division Head Nan Okun, become the second clinical fellowship (in any discipline) to be approved at Moi University, second to the ongoing strong Gynecologic Oncology program, and we anticipate enrolment of the first clinical fellows in the coming academic year for a 2 year training program in Eldoret. This program will develop expertise in ultrasound and care of high risk pregnancies in western Kenya. Our videoconference rounds, made possible through CISEPO's donation of the videoconference facility, and featuring an MFM topic monthly and alternating presenters between our sites, continued through the academic year.

STUDENT ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES (PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE):

The student(s) will have a full research experience of reproductive health related work at the Moi Teaching and referral hospital including ethics application, data collection and analysis and writing of manuscripts. The student(s) will be placed on relevant ongoing projects at the time of the placement likely relating to contraception provision at the facility for medically complex patients, outcomes from the neonatal unit and/or assessment of a care program designed for adolescent pregnancy.



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- What, if any, second language is required for the student to successfully complete this project?

None

- Is this project for 1 or 2 students to complete?

Either

- How long have you worked with the on-site supervisor and briefly describe your working partnership:

See above – local supervisor from U of T, we have collaborated locally for 12 years

- Have you visited the city/town where the student will be placed? If yes, when was your last visit?

Regularly since 2007, most recently Jan 2019

- If human subjects are involved, has Ethics been obtained (note: written proof or an email indicating protocol approval may be requested prior to the student's arrival at the on-site location)?

Ethics approval has/will be obtained both in Kenya and at U of T for any and all relevant projects



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