



## **NHS SCOTLAND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP – HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS**

**TITLE:** Management of Childbirth Injuries in Uganda

### **Overall Goal(s) and Objective(s) of Partnership/Project/Initiative:**

To provide care for women who have suffered permanent childbirth injuries including fistulas and perineal tears.

### **Key UK Colleagues and Partners working with:**

Is a member and trustee of the Uganda Childbirth Injury Fund run by Clinical Director for Colorectal surgery Edinburgh. Other members include ANP in Linlithgow and Senior Midwife in Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

### **International Partners and when Project/Partnership/Initiative was established:**

Working closely with colleagues in Uganda – staff in the Kamuli Mission Hospital as well as in Hoima and Mubende Hospitals respectively. Also work with the Ugandan Village Project. This is an NGO which trains ex fistula patients to provide education and care for women in the rural communities. They raise awareness and bring women with fistulas to our surgical camps.

### **Country where activity will take/has taken place:**

Uganda

### **Which of the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) to transform our world does work contribute to:**



### **Funding Source(s):**

Are a charity and raise money through donations both individually and through grants. Largest donor is the Tolkien Foundation.

### **Description of Partnership/Project/Initiative:**

A. How did the partnership/ project come about? What was the evidence of need?

This partnership came about through work done in Kamuli Hospital over the last 50 years.

B. In which areas were/are you working?

Providing medical/surgical care to women with permanent injuries following delivery and also complications of gynaecological surgery. Also provide training to local staff.

C. What activities have happened so far/are planned?

Run surgical camps 2-3 times per year where 30 to 50 women are operated on and have a cure rate of over 80%  
Have trained local fistula surgeons and nurses.  
Have improved the running of the ward.

D. What are the changes you hope to achieve?

Hope to continue to cure these women and train local staff.

**Any challenges faced?**

The challenges are endless and require flexibility to overcome.

**In developing this work, which principles of THET partnership working<sup>1</sup> were met?**

Projects aim to meet all of the THET aims.

**What have you gained from doing this work?**

- x Leadership and management skills
- x Communication and teamwork
- x Clinical skills
- ☐ Policy awareness and experience
- ☐ Academic skills
- x Patient experience and dignity
- x Personal resilience, satisfaction and interest

Other:

**What did the Partnership/Project or Initiative Achieve**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.thet.org/principles-of-partnership/>

Continue to provide surgical camps 2-3 times per year.  
Aim to operate on 30-50 women per camp to cure their urinary or faecal incontinence.  
Aim is to allow these women to reintegrate back into their communities and to be valued once again.  
Continue to train local doctors in the surgical techniques as well as nursing staff in the after care. We also support the financial running of other camps throughout the year.  
Have funded nurses to travel to other hospitals for training.

### **Next Steps**

While there is still a need plan is to continue to run our camps and train local staff.

### **Where can more information be found?**

[www.ugandachildbrithinjuryfund.org.uk](http://www.ugandachildbrithinjuryfund.org.uk)

### **Key Contact Details:**

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### **Consent**

Consent has been given to share in the Directory of Health Partnerships available on the Scottish Global Health Co-ordination Unit website and at events and networking opportunities.

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