Goals

• Learn how to deliver Primary Care to vulnerable populations, with limited resources.
• Provide health education in a culturally responsive way.
• Learn about the most pressing health issues facing children in the developed world.
The Current Political Situation

- War has ravaged Uganda for more than 20 years
- It has created 1.6 million Internally Displaced People (IDP), of whom 1 million are children
- IDP camps have difficult food relief, no access to water or sanitation, and lack medical care
- IDPs experience
  - Sex exploitation
  - Gender based violence
  - Denial of basic services
  - Intimidation and Abduction by the Rebel Army (LRA)
An Atrocity

• According to Reuter’s poll in 2005, “northern Uganda emerged as the world’s second-worst forgotten humanitarian hotspot.”

• Without the opportunity for safe housing, medical care, and education, there is little chance that any individual will ever exit the refugee cycle.
The Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA)

- Although the situation has improved, previously 28,000 children were abducted by the LRA.
- 80% of the LRA’s soldiers were children, who were often used as sex slaves.
- Children in Northern Uganda lived in fear of being abducted and used as soldiers and sex slaves.
- Up to 45,000 children commuted nightly from homes to find safer public areas for temporary shelter but that has improved.
Current Medical Situation

- High prevalence of HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, malnutrition, acute lower respiratory tract infections, diarrheal illnesses and preventable diseases like rheumatic fever, tetanus, measles.
- Resource poor country.
• Uganda is one of the few African countries where rates of HIV infection have declined
• HIV prevalence (the proportion of adults living with HIV):
  – 15% in the early 1990s
  – 6.7% in 2005 (UNAIDS)
• Rates are as high as 11-16 per cent reported in the Gulu district in the north
Malaria

- Malaria is a major killer of refugees, internally displaced people and children under 5 (23% deaths in high transmission areas, avg. 6 episodes/year/child)
- 25-40% of all outpatients’ visits at health facilities
- 20% of hospital admissions
- 9-14% of in-patients deaths
- A case-fatality rate of 3-5% (which is an under-estimate)
- 23.4% of total discounted life years lost
Tuberculosis

- Uganda ranks 16th among the world’s 22 countries with a high tuberculosis burden.
- WHO data 2004:
  - 179,843 people living with TB.
  - Prevalence rate 646 per 100,000 people.
- According to the WHO the incidence of TB is increasing and case detection rate is declining.
Malnutrition

- 31 percent of children (<5yrs) are suffering from acute malnutrition in Anaka camp in northern Uganda (WFP).
- In one study on early childhood malnutrition in central Uganda, 21.5% of the children surveyed were in poor health: kwashiorkor (3.8%), marasmus (5.7%), stunted growth (23.8%) and underweight (24.1%).
- Malnutrition is underlying factor in more than half of all under five deaths annually.
Global Health Elective

- Site: Mulago Hospital
- Inpatient Experience
- Outpatient Experience
- Community Work
Mulago Hospital
Kampala, Uganda
Professor James Tumwine
Dr. Israel Kalyesubula
Consultant-Senior Faculty
Dr. Margaret Nakakeeto
Consultant/Neonatology
Senior Faculty
Global Health at Columbia

• Global Health Faculty
• Two Global Health Electives offered by Community Pediatrics:
  – Kampala, Uganda: Mulago Hospital - Jan/July Block
  – Dominican Republic: International family AIDS Program, La Romana - All Blocks
• Goals: Clinical Work, Community Work, Global Health Project
• Global Health Lecture Series