# Challenges to Pediatric Radiology in Developing Countries: a focus on Africa

Savvas Andronikou
University of the Witwatersrand
South Africa

# Geography: Many Kinds of Africa









Some parts of Africa are productive

Some parts of Africa are primitive

Some parts of Africa are geographically inaccessible

Some parts of Africa are politically inaccessible

# Children in Africa

### Warriors







### Just children







# Population

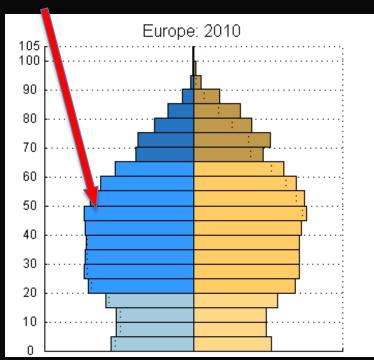


- 1/3 of all children live in developing countries
- 44% of the population of Mozambique <14 years</li>

African broad based (Angola) - many children

European population chart - adults





### Poverty





Kano, Nigeria 2009

Addis Ababa Ethiopia 2013

- 1/3 of African children have poor access to shelter
- 1/5 of African children have no access to safe water

Khayelitsha, Cape Town 2013



# Disease burden



- Top 30 infant mortality rates in the world are African
- 2/3 of HIV infections are in sub-Saharan Africa
- 91% of newly HIV infected children are born in Africa

- More than 90% of children with TB live in the developing world
- Incidence TB in sub-Saharan Africa is nearly twice South-East Asia (350/100,000)
- Cape Town South Africa has the highest rate of TB in the world at 948/100,000

# Clinics and hospitals







Adis Ababa Black Lion Hospital Ethiopia 2013

- 1/7 of African children have no access to health services
- Electricity frequent power outages
- Roads access for patients, equipment, maintenance

Swaziland hospitals 2009 - doctor walking to work

### **Human Resources**







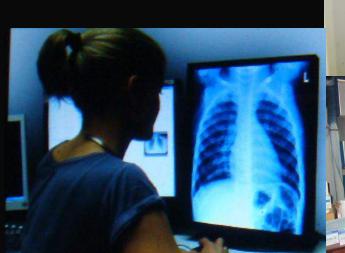
- South Africa best-staffed in sub-Saharan Africa (497 radiologists; 685 radiographers);
   Kenya had 248 radiologist
- 14 African countries no radiologist
- Workload cases per radiologist (Uganda 19 600 vs. USA 12 000 /yr)
- Handful of pediatric radiologists most pediatric imaging interpreted by clinicians







Equipment: two worlds



Digital / CT / US / Fluoro / MRI





# KG CHAM OZ 10 12

Cambodia [Kampong] - digital high quality

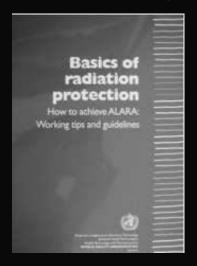
Malawi [Thyolo] - analogue

# Quality



Tajikistan - poor quality and poor referral Sent as a photograph with the fingers and all against the curtain as a backdrop!

# Safety







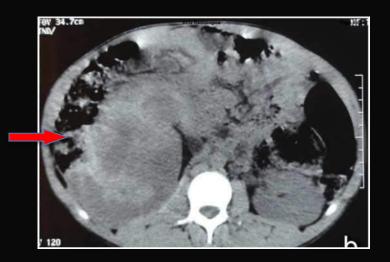






# Radiation: CT multiphase

This submission for publication from an African institution with CT raised an alarm bell because there was a non-contrast phase.



So I looked at the Exam description DLP and did the calculation below

xam D	escription	: ABDOMINALE			
		Rapport d	e dose		
Series	Туре	Scan Range (mm)	(mGy)	DLP (mGy-cm)	Phantom cm
1	Scout	90200	(2) <u>(4.5)</u> (3)	8000	23
2	Helical	\$197.250-1152.750	8.24	307.60	Body 32
3	Helical	\$195.750-154.250	8.20	223.99	Body 32
3	Helical	S195.250-I194.750	8.65	357.52	Body 32
4	Helical	S195.250-I194.750	8.65	357.52	Body 32
		Total Exam DLP:		1246.63	

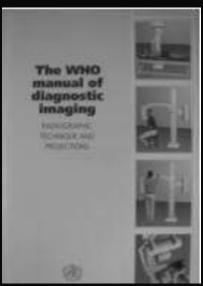
Dose = (DLP) 1246 X (abdo conversion F) 0.015 = **18.7 mSv** = at least 934 CXR's

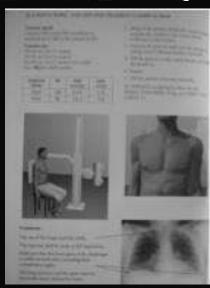
# Solutions

# X-ray equipment for 'dummies': WHIS Rad



- Self shielding
- Works on batteries and wall power
- Fixed FFD
- Digital versions available
- Matching WHO manual
- Safe for children



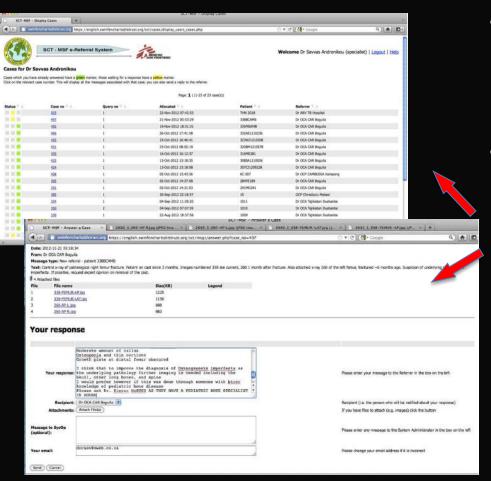


# Teleradiology





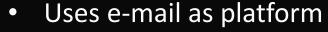
# Teleradiology example: \_\_\_ MSF reporting



- WFPI readers for CAR / Tajikistan / Malawi / Cambodia etc.
- Collegium Telemedicum referral platform organized and simple to use



# Teleradiology example: Khayelitsha Hospital Cape Town – South Africa



- Tele reading from July 2012
- Total of 555 referral cards and 1,106 radiographs for teleradiology
- 74.6% chest radiographs
- 14.2% of those were for tuberculosis.
- 40 volunteer teleradiologists from 17 countries
- Now University stewardship Stanford



# Other telereading projects

### Malawi:

- Exploratory/teaching mission, June 2014
- Set up tele-reading & X-ray interpretation training
- POC ultrasound for a rural clinic [ITW site]

Indira Ghandi Children's,

### Bangalore, India:

- 23 reports of CT
- Referrals: tuberculosis or fungal
- But QA: multiple scan phases (scanned preand post-contrast)
- 6 active tele-volunteers





# Point of Care US: for TB and Pneumonia



### **POC** innovations



- Point of Care Ultrasound Solution
- Research projects using volume sweep US
- Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa for mediastinal TB lymphadenopathy and pneumonia





Childs Nerv Syst, 2014 May 15. Epub ahead of printi

The value of transcranial Doppler imaging in children with tuberculous meningitis

van Toom R<sup>1</sup>, Schaaf H5, Selemona R, Laubscher JA, Schoeman JF

PURPOSE; Transcranial Doppler imaging (TCDI) is potentially a valuable investigational tool in children with tuberculous meningitis (TBM), a condition often complicated by pathology relevant to Doppler imaging such as raised intracranial pressure (ICP) and cerebral vasculopathies

RESULTS: We observed a poor correlation between ICP and PI in children with communicating hydrocephalus (p = 0.72). No decline in PI was note following 7 days of medical therapy for communicating hydrocephalus (p = 0.78) despite a concomitant decline in ICP. Conversely, a decline in PI as noted in all four children with non-communicating hydrocephalus who underwent cerebrospinal fluid diversion. High blood flow velocities (BFV) i all the basal cerebral arteries were observed in 14 children (70 %). The high BFV persisted for 7 days suggesting steriosis due to vasculitis rather than functional vascapeam. Complete middle cerebral artery (MCA) occlusion, subnormal mean MCA velocities (<40 cm/s) and Pis (<0.4) correlates with radiologically proven large cerebral infarcts.

CONCLUSIONS: TCDI-derived PI is not a reliable indicator of raised ICP in children with tuberculous hydrocephalus. This may be attributed to individual variation of tuberculous vascular disease, possibly compromising cerebral vascular compliance and resistance. Basel artery stenosis secondary to vasculitis is observed during the scute stage of TBM in the majority of children.

# Secrets of getting there: hitch a ride with NGO





# Teaching and training in Africa

# Teaching and Training: task-shifting non radiologists and general radiologists





# Teaching and training: Task shifting

WHO pattern recognition book







## Online Tools



BERNARD F. LAYA, MD, DO

Associate Professor of Radiology St. Luke's Medical Center-Global City, Philippines





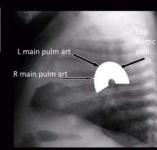
### Lymphadenopathy on Lateral







- · Normal structures (=horseshoe)
- · Diverging vessels (=tentacles)
- Lymphadenopathy (='doughnut')





# Teaching and training: radiologists – Ethiopia (CHOP / WFPI / AfSPI)



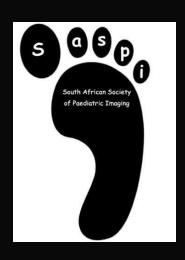








# National and Continental activity: SASPI and AfSPI









Future South African Pediatric radiologists at ESPR in Athens - preparing for long careers to match the forefathers (Caffey society)



# Oregon USA

