

Thousands of men, women and newborn children die each year in developing countries from largely preventable causes, particularly as a direct result of inadequate resources and education/training in antenatal care, postpartum care, neonatology and newborn imaging, as well as general abdominal and pelvic imaging. In Uganda alone, in 2008, there was only one MD per 10,000 persons, and yet over 50% of all patients seen in OB/GYN, pediatrics, surgery and internal medicine required imaging services.

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** recognizes that diagnostic imaging is a critical component of healthcare, particularly in poor countries. **Medical Imaging Partnership (MIP)** came into existence for precisely this reason, to help bring sustainable medical diagnostic resources – equipment, education and training – to the world's poorest countries.

Medical Imaging Partnership (MIP) is a **public charity 501(c) (3)** whose mission is to support relief efforts of the world's poor with special emphasis on access to and proper use of medical imaging technology and training. This international medical charity represents eighteen of the world's most well respected radiologists in Chile, China, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Singapore, South Korea, Tunisia, United Kingdom, Uganda, Turkey and the United States of America.

While lecturing at a conference in Africa three years ago, **Dr. Vikram Dogra**, a radiologist and professor at the **University of Rochester Medical Center** learned that medical professionals there had just started using **Ultrasound** machines for medical imaging. Many were still using the equivalent of machines used in the US in the 1970's. Today, finding a trained radiologist is an even more severe problem. In fact, in Uganda the ratio of radiologists to patients is 1: 3,000,000. Similar ratios exist throughout the developing world including Peru, Bangladesh and Haiti. **Medical Imaging Partnership (MIP)** provides training, counsel and assistance to the staff and volunteers of local medical organizations at their invitation, in their hospital or clinic.

In the immediate aftermath of the tragic earthquake in Haiti in January 2010, **MIP** joined hands with **Hope Haiti** to provide ultrasound imaging assistance in antenatal care, postpartum care, and newborn imaging, as well as pelvic and abdominal imaging, to a hospital in the **Borgne** region of **Haiti**.

MIP also delivered a highly advanced GE Logic-I-ultrasound machine to the **Ernest Cook Ultrasound Research & Education Institute (ECUREI)** in **Kampala, Uganda**. As a direct result, over 10,000 patients in Uganda had access to quality imaging and diagnostic services in 2010. In 2011, **MIP** delivered imaging equipment to the Clinical Center University in Sarajevo (Bosnia/Herzegovina) and Kabanga Hospital in Tanzania.

In 2012, a formal Memorandum of Understanding was signed between **Medical Imaging Partnership (MIP)** and the University of Rochester Medical Center. This Memorandum of Understanding provides a general framework for sustainable collaboration between the two entities for medical imaging training and education of physicians in the most underserved regions of the world, especially in African and Latin American populations.