

Malawi Surgical Residency Update

winter/spring 2022

BEFORE 2019

Only 1 surgeon for every 500,000 people in Malawi

2019

Surgical residency program established in Malawi

2021

Dr. Beth Stuebing-Adams moves to Malawi and becomes certified to instruct surgical residents

2022

The surgical residency accepts its first two residents.

2019 The Dream Becomes Reality

At the onset of the surgical residency, in 2019, Dr. Jenns Vaylann moved from Tenwek Hospital in Kenya to start a new residency program overseen by the Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) in Malawi. Additional faculty were recruited. And with one more teaching surgeon, coming from the U.S., the stage was set for the residency program to admit its first residents.

2021 Dr. Beth Stuebing Joins the Team

Fortunately, it was a perfect match for both the Surgical Residency and Dr. Beth Stuebing. "Dr. Beth" left her trauma surgery/ICU job in the United States and was in the process of seeking out where God could use her when she heard about the residency opportunity. Once all parties met it was obvious that she was called to Africa. Transitioning everyone in her family, including three young children, amid the pandemic had its challenges, but she kept her family moving forward through God's providence. With the container of their possessions still far away from Malawi after many months, Christmas looked a little different for the family this year: gourds were painted beautifully and used as ornaments to adorn a large branch of a fallen tree. Still, the meaning of the holiday was very real in all their hearts.

To be better equipped for her work as a faculty member, Dr. Stuebing was required to participate in a six-week orientation at a government referral hospital to understand the clinical approach in Malawi. This training allowed her to be registered by the Medical Council of Malawi, enabling her to instruct the residents.

As 2022 begins, the Christian Medical Network has taken another big step forward. The surgical residency has accepted its first two residents.



Meet Drs. Caleb and Vitu



Dr. Caleb Mzati Kapengule joined the residency from CCAP Ekwendeni Hospital as the Medical Director. He believes that when you use medicine in the right way, “it is a great blessing to wounded hearts longing for healing.” As a doctor, helping patients brings him joy and satisfaction, and he feels humbled to have the honor of being a co-worker with God in restoring patients’ health and giving hope to those afflicted with different problems.

Dr. Vitumbiko Erwin Mwafulirwa also joined the residency from CCAP Ekwendeni. His passion is to help the sick, especially those who require surgical intervention, while showing the love of God. After he finishes his PAACS training, he plans to reach areas within Malawi to give guidance, teach, and improve surgical services needed in each community. As a surgeon he longs to help others and limit the extent and experience of a child’s loss.



Upon completion of their residency training, Dr. Caleb and Dr. Vitu will join one of the Christian Medical Network hospitals in Malawi and begin treating patients independently. Surgical referrals will come from rural and regional clinics directly to the nearest hospital in the network. Patients who need surgeries will have their lives transformed by access to the care they need.

Will you join us in prayer for the Christian Medical Network in Malawi? Pray that another step will be taken toward sustainable medical ministries that provide the best possible care for patients every day. Pray for the doctors who will teach the residents, and pray for the first two residents, Dr. Caleb and Dr. Vitu. To God be the glory for the work He is doing for the people of Malawi.