

Madagascar, through innovative partnerships that include the Madagascar Ministry of Health, Centre ValBio, Partners In Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and academic institutions. PIVOT aims to create a model health district in Madagascar by advancing an adaptive, bottom-up approach that recognizes that human health is the product of systems of healthcare delivery and systems of disease, including socioeconomic and environmental determinants. In a biodiversity hotspot that ranks among the world's poorest countries, this effort offers a unique opportunity to evaluate the next phase of development targets, as the MDGs shift to the more expansive Sustainable Development Goals.

**Structure/Method/Design:** The effort aims to create a novel platform for integrating healthcare delivery with research at all levels of the health system within a government district. Based on a logical framework, a large set of performance indicators were derived from program objectives, and structured according to the WHO building blocks of health system strengthening (HSS). The programs are developed on a foundation of data including: 1) a baseline survey of 1520 households (modified Demographic and Health Survey), and 2) a dashboard of real-time M&E performance indicators.

**Outcome & Evaluation:** PIVOT has been strengthening the HSS building blocks through the implementation of key programs at four government health centers and the district hospital. These programs include implementation of maternal/child health protocols (IMCI, SONU), elimination of point-of-service payments, infection control, and emergency care. Baseline data found particularly high rates of under-five mortality (140/1000) and a lifetime maternal mortality rate of 1/14. Time-series analysis of health center utilization data indicates that the pharmacy reimbursement system, which eliminated most point-of-service payments, has quadrupled health center utilization.

**Going Forward:** A longitudinal cohort study will begin in 2016 to revisit households from the baseline, and measure changes in many health indicators, such as under-five mortality rate, by 2021. These data will allow for mathematical models to be constructed that estimate the effectiveness of the healthcare system in breaking cycles of poverty and disease.

**Funding:** MHB was funded by NIH Grant #K01TW008773 from the Fogarty International Center and a Scholar Award in Complex Systems Science from the James McDonnell Foundation. PIVOT is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit with seed funding from the Herrstein Family Foundation.

**Abstract #:** 1.009\_MDG

### Fostering an understanding of global nursing through international exchange

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**Program Project/Purpose:** With over 13 million nurses worldwide in all aspects of health services, they make up the largest

part of the healthcare workers around the world. Furthermore, nurses tend to be the routine provider of primary care in rural and urban settings within low-income countries as well as filling in primary care gaps where there are shortages in more developed nations (DeCola et al., 2012). As their scope within the global healthcare system is prolific, they have the potential to lead the world towards the Sustainable Development Goals and health and wellness for all. Global connections must be made within nursing in order to foster understanding, development, and increase the nursing standard of practice worldwide.

**Structure/Method/Design:** Student exchange programs are one way to develop connections and understanding in global nursing. The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing offers several opportunities throughout the year for visiting students as well as its own students working abroad. These programs strive to expand the perspective of nursing students in order for them to view nursing within a global context as well as foster innovative ideas for problem solving.

**Outcome/ Evaluation:** This project serves as a way to analyze such exchanges for common themes, such as leadership, cultural competency, and application to practice among the nursing students who were able to participate in the exchange experience.

**Going Forward:** Analyzing these interactions helps us understand the benefits of global nursing experiences, how the experience changes the students' practice, as well as sheds light on how to structure future exchanges to maximize the understanding of nursing within a global context.

**Funding:** None.

**Abstract #:** 1.010\_MDG

### The most powerful tool can be the simplest technology: ten years later, utilizing the physical exam in the Indian Himalayan Mountains

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**Program/Project Purpose:** Spiti Valley, located in the rural, high-altitude mountains of northern India, is inaccessible for approximately seven months of the year. Medically underserved, in 2006, the project commenced through an exciting partnership with Munsel-ling Boarding School. Starting in 2007, annual physical exams and permanent health records were initiated, and ultimately aided in: identifying important health concerns, planning future interventions, and providing a baseline from which the success of these interventions could be assessed.

**Structure/Method/Design:** Amid advancements in medical technology, the power of the physical exam can easily be overlooked. Time spent with each student not only enabled identification of common health concerns, but provided a unique opportunity to foster a warm and trusting relationship, fundamental to the success of any global health project. Over subsequent years, numerous interventions were executed, guided by the results of the exams and focused on the social determinants of health. High prevalence of infectious diseases prompted projects directed towards improving