

2nd HOPE MATERNAL HEALTH & FISTULA CONFERENCE



February 10-11, 2018
Cox's Bazar Beach, Bangladesh



www.hopeforbangladesh.org

HOPE Maternal Health and Fistula Conference 2018

Collaboration by HOPE Foundation & Fistula Foundation

Summary

- **Conference Convener:** Iftikher Mahmood, MD, HOPE Foundation
- **Conference Chair:** Steven Arrowsmith, MD, Fistula Foundation, USA

HOPE Foundation organized the 2nd HOPE Maternal Health and Fistula Conference in Long Beach Hotel, Cox's Bazar. This was a significant two-day International Conference with instructions for taking effective steps to solve health problems related to maternal care of vulnerable women worldwide.

Bangladesh in particular has a high maternal mortality rate, and over 26.000 cases of women living with Obstetric Fistula.

The topics discussed were;

- Global context to Obstetric Fistula
- Obstetric Fistula – Public private partnership
- Quality SRH for preventing Obstetric Fistula – opportunities and challenges
- Obstetric emergencies & C-sections
- Responding to Obstetric Fistula
- Evidence based maternity care and promising practices
- Maternal and newborn health for the marginalized and refugee population

The conference was delighted with many special guests such as ;

Sadar MP Alhaj Saimum Sarwar Kamal, Member of Parliament

Dr. Md. Abdus Salam , Civil Surgeon - Cox's Bazar

Bhupi Singh, VP, Direct Relief

Professor Engr, Ali Ashraf, Southern University

Background

HOPE Foundation for Women and Bangladesh in partnership with Fistula Foundation jointly organized the 2nd HOPE Maternal Health and Fistula Conference 2018 on February 10-11, 2018 at Long Beach Hotel and Resort, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Conference Aims and Objectives

The conference offered an opportunity to share our experience and knowledge, discuss common obstetric and maternal health problems, modern advancement and finally to renew the bondage of friendship among those working to improve maternal health.

The conference provided the venue to give expert advice to the Government or other development agencies, NGO and social welfare organizations involved in the care of the women of this country.

The conference welcomed many national and international practitioners, researchers, technical experts and policy-makers both in attendance and on the speaker's panel. Of particular importance to this conference is the presence of multiple world-renowned obstetric fistula surgeons.

The Program

The 2nd HOPE Maternal Health and Fistula Conference 2018 started on February 10th at 8:00 am with the Convener welcome speech of the conference, followed by welcome addresses by special guests and inaugural address by the chief guest. Subsequently a Keynote speech delivered by a distinguished speaker. There were four scientific sessions following the opening of the ceremony, ending the first day with a reception dinner and cultural show at 7:00 pm.

Day 2 of the conference opened with remarks from a special guest and a keynote speech, followed by two scientific sessions, a break for lunch, another scientific session and the closing sessions.

The Conference objectives are as follows:

- To assess current challenges in maternal health
- To look back on lessons learned that are applicable to today's challenges
- To discuss innovation and technology and its role in maternal health
- To determine the best practices of local health workers and their role in improving maternal health
- To comprehensively analyze the global fistula challenge and discuss how to work towards its eradication through prevention, reintegration and clinical care.
- To discuss next steps in capacity building efforts in the fight against fistula and improving maternal health

Conference Achievements

- Bring together all maternal health actors working in Bangladesh and abroad that are invested in the progress of the field to share ideas, knowledge and lessons learned.

-Awareness of the current fistula and maternal health programs ongoing in Bangladesh and internationally that are of great value.

-Work with across all sectors, from NGO to academia to Government and discuss a comprehensive strategy for moving forward.

Organizational Capacity of HOPE Foundation for Women and Children of Bangladesh:

HOPE has been working on the ground in Cox's Bazar for over 18 years. Through concerted programming and outreach, HOPE has established itself as a strong organization with extensive reach in remote areas. HOPE's long list of international and national partners have secured its place as a serious NGO in transforming maternal health and fistula. HOPE's list of partners includes: Fistula Foundation, Every Mother Counts, UNFPA, Smile Train, Kulczyk Foundation, Medglobal, CPI, DFID, IDB, The Japanese Embassy, Brac University, and more.

In its early beginning HOPE provided primary care in an outpatient center. It now stands as a 40-bed charitable hospital, several rural medical & birthing centers, a training center, a Field Hospital for Women (under construction) and 1 Fistula Center (under construction).

In the last few years HOPE's focus has strongly been improving maternal health. HOPE is training the midwives through funding from the British Department for International Development and in partnership with BRAC University, is providing antenatal care to thousands of women while also ensuring safe delivery. HOPE provides emergency obstetric care, normal delivery, postnatal care, village health worker training, community health communicator training, and maternal health education. As research is an integral part of creating solutions.

In 2010 HOPE started its obstetric fistula repair program, and is now one of the largest providers of obstetric fistula repair in southern Bangladesh, having provided 370 repair surgeries by the end of 2017. In addition to its clinical performance, HOPE has started a Fistula Ambassador Outreach program for repaired women, a Village Provider Network for Pharmacists, a Fistula-Dedicated Team and a comprehensive awareness program.

Due to its fast growth, HOPE has initiated construction of a 75-bed HOPE Maternal Health and Fistula Center (under construction). The goal of the center is to provide comprehensive maternal health care to the women of Cox's Bazar, train fistula surgeons and other maternal health workers.. HOPE is a member of the World Health Organization's International Partnership on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

Moderators:

Zahirul Alam, NTV Bangladesh

Ahana Gunderson, Fistula Foundation, USA

Speakers and Themes

Day 1: February 10th

Erin Anastasi- Keynote

Coordinator, Campaign to End Fistula
& Technical Specialist/Obstetric Fistula, UNFPA, USA HQ

"Health, HOPE, & Dignity for All: Why ending [preventable maternal/newborn deaths &] obstetric fistula is essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"

Dr. Steve Arrowsmith

Medical Director, Fistula Foundation, USA. Chair- conference
-Incontinence after Fistula Repair: The New: “Hidden Epidemic”

Bethany Cole

Global Project Manager, Fistula Care plus project, EngenderHealth USA
“Safe Surgery in Global Context”.-

Seth Cochran

Founder and CEO, Operation Fistula, a Global organization
“Operation Fistula- Business Intelligence: What it is, how it works and why it will
transform everything you do”

Dr. SK Nazmul Huda

Acting Global Field Manager and Country Project Manager, Bangladesh
Country Representative, Fistula Care Plus
“Opportunities and Challenges for a Fistula Free Bangladesh”

Professor. Sayeba Akther

Founder and CEO, MAMMS Institution of Fistula and Women’s Health. Former
Professor of Gynecology on Obstetrics, BSMMU
“My journey with fistula”

Dr. Shams El Arifeen

Senior Director, Maternal and Child Health Division and
CoP, RDM Activity of USAID
icddr, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dr. Quamrun Nahar

Acting Senior Director
Health Systems and Population Studies Division
icddr, Dhaka, Bangladesh

“Prevalence of Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Obstetric Fistula in Bangladesh: A National Estimation”

Dr. Nrinmoy Biswas

Consultant Gynecologist and Fistula Surgeon. HOPE Hospital. First FIGO trained fistula surgeon

“Background of Fistula care at Hope Hospital and Future plan to address this issue.”

Dr. Setara Rahman

Jhpiego/Save the Children in Bangladesh | Program Director-Maternal Health & Family Planning |
Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP)

“MaMoni HSS’ experience in improving Routine Obstetric Care of peripheral level health facilities in Bangladesh”

Dr. Halida Akther

Chief of Party-USAID-DFID NGO Health Service Delivery Project
Senior Country Director PATHFINDER INTERNATIONAL

“Unfinished agenda in reproductive health”

Dr. Bryan Sohl

Maternal -Fetal Medicine specialist, USA

“High risk pregnancy in low resource setting”

Dr. Abu Jamil Faisal

Former Country Director, EngenderHealth Bangladesh. Leading development specialist
“RH and FP issues in Bangladesh particularly in connection with the adolescents and youths”

Dr. Ubaidur Rob, Phd

Country Director, Population Council, Bangladesh
“Adolescent fertility and contraceptive use in Bangladesh “

Professor Sayeba Akther -

“Use of Condom Tamponade to control massive PPH”

Stacy Saha

Lamb Hospital
“Population based data on Caesarean section”

Dr. Med Beatrice Ambuen -

Head of OB-GYN. Consultant, Fistula Project. Lamb Hospital

“22% Cesarean Rate in a CEmONC hospital – still possible today in Bangladesh? -
Experiences at LAMB-Hospital”

**Workshop / Long Beach Conference Room
South Asian Fistula Group 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

Day 2 : February 11th

BREAKFAST - Long Beach Conference Room
Sponsored by UNFPA 7:00 AM -8:20 AM

Professor Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury: Keynote

Vice Chairman, BRAC

“Leave no one behind: Moving the SDG agenda on maternal health”

Shati Aziz Khan

Physical Therapist at Center for Rehabilitation of Paralyzed, Mirpur Dhaka

"Prior and Post- operative Physiotherapy interventions aiming to prevent complications, maximizing function and improving quality of life in women's with fistula."

Dr. Aruna Karki

Head of the Department and Senior Consultant OB/Gynae Department
Kathmandu Model Hospital

“Overview of Fistula in Nepal”

Dr. Sharmina Rahman

Developing Midwifery Project, BRAC University

Strategic Advisor in James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University

“Role of Midwives in Prevention of Fistula”

Bushra Abbasi

Country Director, EngenderHealth Bangladesh

Addressing RH/FP needs of women at hard to reach areas in Bangladesh.

Dr Alice Armitage

Pediatric Physician, Ealing Hospital, NHS trust, UK

“Obstetric and Neonatal Outcome of Female Genital Mutilation in Gambia”

Dr. Tahera Begum

Associate Professor, OB/GYN, CMOSH

“Maternal health works being done by Chattagram Maa O Shishu Hospital Medical College”

Patricia Lee

Midwife Specialist, Philadelphia

“Educating Midwives on Trauma Informed Care: Refugee and IDP Maternity Care”

Kay Sandberg

Founder, Global Force for Healing, a US based non profit organization dedicated to promoting good maternal health

“Ensuring Quality, Respectful Care as a Human Right: Challenges and Opportunities”

Dr. Sathya Doraiswamy- Special Presentation of Refugee Health

Chief of Maternal Health, UNFPA Bangladesh

Dr. Jebun Nessa Rahman

Country Representative, Jhpiego

“SRH and FP needs among the refugee population”

Rondi Anderson

International Midwifery Specialist, UNFPA Bangladesh

“Midwives as first responders in humanitarian crises”

Patricia Lee

“Infant Feeding in Emergencies: Lactation and Re-lactation”

Kanata Akter

Recently graduated Midwife, HOPE Foundation

“Problem and Prospect of Maternity Healthcare in remote areas”

Commander Ferdous MS

CD HOPE Foundation

“HOPE Foundation activities”

List of participating organizations

1. HOPE Foundation for Women and Children of Bangladesh
2. Engender Health
3. Pop Council
4. Pathfinder
5. MAMM's Institute
6. UNFPA Bangladesh
7. Fistula Care Plus
8. MEASURE Evaluation, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
9. icdd,b
10. Save the Children
11. Kathmandu Model Hospital
12. Mirpur CRP
13. Chittagong Ma O Shishu Hospital and Medical College
14. OPHNE
15. LAMB Hospital

16. Operation Fistula
17. Chittagong Medical College
18. Fistula Foundation
19. Jhpiego
20. Direct Relief
21. Global Force for Healing
22. BRAC University
23. University Fistula Care - UFC
24. Chattagram Maa O Sishu Hospital
25. Midwives for Haiti
26. Global Force for Healing
27. EMC

Sponsors

The sponsors involvement in the conference is of great importance to HOPE and other participants. The mandate of ensuring each birth is safe runs alongside HOPE's goal to ensuring each birth is safe for the women living in and around Cox's Bazar. The expansive knowledge of all our sponsors work adds dimension and innovation to the discussions to be held during the conference. The comprehensive nature of the conference, of ensuring that family planning and reproductive health goals are met, that proper care is accessible for women during pregnancy and at the time of birth, and that maternal mortality and morbidities are prevented so that each woman can live a meaningful life is embedded in the work of HOPE and its partners.



OPERATION **FISTULA**



Working for a Healthier Life