

West Coast Health Missions and Ministry Conference 2011
Long-Term Health Missions
Healthcare Missionary 2015: What Will That Look Like?

MODERATOR

Chris Bajkiewicz MSN RN CNS-BC (Bajmission.com, community development/health educator, Mexico/Central America)

INTRODUCTION OF PANELISTS

Doug Briggs MD (ChirstStar, China)

Bruce Steffes MD (Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons, Africa, Asia, Central & South America.)

Michael Parsa, MD (Emergency physician, Texas Tech University, Papua New Guinea/Haiti)

OVERVIEW

The world-wide healthcare mission workforce has seen drastic changes in the last two decades. The demographical, generational, technological, religious-theological, geopolitical, cultural-ethnic and socio-economic portrait of the healthcare mission worker 2011 is unprecedented in the history of the Church. Previous structures that facilitated and supported the ‘going’ of healthcare missionaries are rapidly disappearing, being replaced with an entirely new paradigm of service. The numbers of long-term workers coming from ‘old sending nations’ are slipping, while previous mission ‘fields’ are now increasing their sending of missionaries.

The goal of this panel discussion is to ‘snap-shot’ the current state of healthcare mission workers from all disciplines across the globe, and to ‘peek over the hill’ while trying to answer the question, “What will the healthcare missionary look like in 2015?”

LEARNING OBJECTIVES Upon completion of this panel discussion and panel presentation, the participant will be able to:

- ◆ List 3 ‘most likely’ features of the healthcare mission worker/missionary from North American/Western countries in 2015.
- ◆ List 3 ‘most likely’ features of the healthcare mission worker/missionary from Central/South American, African or Asian regions in 2015.
- ◆ Compare and contrast the characteristics of the future healthcare missionary workforce from Western nations with those from Central/South America, Africa and Asia in 2015.
- ◆ Discuss the impact on global healthcare missions from North America with a declining long-term workforce and increasing move towards short-term service.
- ◆ Identify 3 major factors impacting healthcare missionary workforce attrition.
- ◆ Explain the current ‘shifting’ of the world-wide Christian healthcare mission workforce.
- ◆ Identify one practical element for developing and preparing future healthcare workers in your particular discipline (medicine, nursing, psych/mental health, pharm, therapist, community development/lay workers, etc).

PANELIST QUESTIONS: 2-3 minute response/panelist/question

[1] What emerging trends do you see in the future of healthcare missionaries in your current field of service? What is your 'top issue' for the healthcare missionary 2015?

[2] What are the healthcare missionary disciplines, countries of origin, ages and durations of service you are working with? Are they being effective in the field?

[3] What do you see as the most positive aspect in the future of the healthcare missionary 2015? How can this be strengthened and affect missions globally?

[4] What do you see and the most negative aspect for the future of the healthcare missionary 2015? How can this be minimized from affecting missions globally?

[5] What about 2025?

PARTICIPATORY AUDIENCE

Feel free to ask a panelist a question during the discussion. Please craft your question to be specific. Please raise your hand to indicate that you do have a question.

CLOSING REMARKS (5 minutes)

A brief presentation of research data and trend analysis from the literature to 'capstone' the discussion by the Moderator

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Papers/Proceedings from the speakers available on the conference website
<http://healthcaremissions.org>

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