

Presentation of Dr Maya Fehling, Thursday, September 08, 2011, at 17:00 hours  
Library, Department of Surgery, Nussbaumstrasse 20 - Bibliothek der Chirurgie  
Innenstadt:

“Maternal, Newborn and Child Survival in South Sudan”

The presentation and the discussion will be in English language. Please, forward  
this notice to all persons who might be interested.

Abstract. Improving maternal, newborn, and child health is a leading priority worldwide. It is a particularly urgent issue in South Sudan, which suffers from the world's worst maternal mortality and among the worst newborn and child mortalities. A leading barrier to improving these health indices in South Sudan is limited frontline health worker capacity. In partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Division of Global Health and Human Rights (Department of Emergency Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA) has developed and is currently implementing its novel Maternal, Newborn, and Child Survival (MNCS) Initiative throughout much of South Sudan. The purpose of MNCS is to build frontline health worker capacity through a training package that includes 1) participatory training course, 2) pictorial checklists to guide appropriate care and referral, and 3) re-useable medical equipment and commodities. Program implementation began in November 2010 utilizing a training-of-trainers model. To date, 72 local trainers and 648 frontline health workers have completed the training and received their MNCS checklists and commodities. Initial monitoring and evaluation results are encouraging as further evaluation continues. This innovative training package may also serve as a model for building capacity for maternal, newborn, and child health in other resource-limited settings beyond South Sudan.

CV. After medical school at LMU Munich and 2.5 years of pediatrics training in Switzerland and France, Maya worked in Africa responding to health crises such as Dengue and Meningitis outbreaks with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). Prior to formally joining GHHR as a fellow, Maya worked in Southwestern Uganda with the Initiative to End Child Malnutrition and helped training nurses to become Emergency practitioners. Since June 2010 she has been a Global Health Leadership Fellow and country director of Maternal, Newborn and Child Survival in South Sudan. Part of the training as a Fellow was also the HELP (Health Emergencies in Large Populations) course in Geneva and the Gorgas diploma course in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in Peru. For her second year of fellowship she moved back to Europe and will do the European Master of International Health 2011-2012.