Global Health Experience in Botswana

Jared Willard
Children's Mercy Hospital, jwillard@cmh.edu

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Global Health Experience in Botswana

Jared Willard, MD

Children’s Mercy Hospital Kansas City, Missouri

Objective

Gain experience treating patients with HIV/AIDS in limited resource setting

Preparation: BIPAI

- BIPAI organized living, clinic, driving arrangements
- Read about HIV treatment and infectious diseases in Botswana
- Official language English, unofficial language: Setswana
- Common phrases “Dumela!” “O tsogile jang”

Background: HIV/AIDS in Botswana

Botswana:
- 360,000 people living with HIV (3rd highest HIV prevalence)
- 10,000 new infections per year

Pediatric:
- 330 new HIV infections among children in 2015
**In 2009, about 900 new infections
- 3% rate of mother to child HIV transmission
**In 2009, rate 6%
- 95% children with HIV have access to antiretroviral therapy

Reflection

- Gained experience in care of children and adolescents with HIV
- Great example of the work that goes into creating a locally-run clinic for global health
- Focus on education and awareness for patients in Botswana is still needed
- Greater appreciation for our own resources

Experience

- Botswana Baylor Center of Excellence is located in Gaborone
- Treat 4000 HIV infected children and families
- Total budget = 1.9 million dollars
- Electronic medical records
- 46 total employees
- Other services provided
  - Clinical Psychology
  - Social Work
  - Cervical Cancer Screening
  - Teen Club
  - Support Groups
- Saw 5-15 patients with HIV daily for routine follow up/sick visits

Future Directions

Planning potential global health elective in Costa Rica next academic year

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