

WHAT'S
HAPPENING
IN

Without Borders



From the Editor

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It is estimated that the leading cause-group of disability-adjusted life-years are neurologic disorders. These disorders are the second leading cause-group of mortality globally. Low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are disproportionately affected, and neurologic disease is expected to further increase in LMICs as life expectancies rise. Despite the burden of neurologic disease, the majority of LMICs lack enough trained neurologists to address the need. As noted in this article and in an earlier Without Borders interview with Dr. Benjamin Warf, physicians who leave LMICs to seek training in another country often fail to return to their home country to practice for a variety of reasons.

The Global Stuff You Should Know section recently discussed articles on a program in Zambia that was developed to address the need for neurologists in that country.^{1,2} “On October 1, the future of neurology in Zambia was dramatically altered as the first post-graduate adult and pediatric neurology training programs were launched at the University of Zambia School of Medicine and the Ministry of Health-supported University Teaching Hospital.” The author shares, “On the first day of our program, I took our trainees out to a celebratory lunch as many of them had waited years for this program to come to fruition. I asked them to look around at each other, reminding them that they were truly the future of Zambian neurology. After all, it will be the 5 of them who build systems of care, work to bring innovative neurologic treatment modalities to Zambia, and ensure the training program we are building is sustainable under their leadership.”

References

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2. GBD 2015 Neurological Disorders Collaborator Group. Global, regional, and national burden of neurological disorders during 1990–2015: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015. *Lancet Neurol* 2017;16:877–897.



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