



CAMBRIDGE GLOBAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

2024 RETROSPECTIVE

Thank you for your generous support and interest in our work.

We're delighted to share this round up of 2024's partnership activity, visits and events and look forward to your continued involvement and support during 2025.

A year in numbers

12 Global health projects in nine countries covering 15 clinical areas.

14 East of England Global Health Fellows including a nurse, a midwife and an Allied Health Professional.

40 Healthcare staff trained in infection prevention control in Kampala, Uganda.

11 Ethical elective bursaries awarded to students, including one student from Malawi.

1 Global Health Fellowship pre-deployment training workshop delivered to more than 40 delegates.

150 Ugandan nurses with enhanced critical care skills, and development opportunities for 8 UK critical care nurses.

2 CGHP members nominated for CUH annual staff awards.

3 Raising the Bar for Global Health events held around Cambridge.

800 Children and adults assessed for ear health and hearing loss as part of the Malawi Hearing Project.

1 East of England Global Health Conference delivered and the presentation of 6 winning posters.

2 New members of staff joined the CGHP team, growing our skills, capacity and knowledge.

8000 Teleconsultations to new patients across more than 20 specialities as part of the Myanmar telehealth programme.



Highlights

2024 was a full and fulfilling year packed with two-way partnership visits and longer-term placements. This was complemented by a raft of remote teaching and learning opportunities, with virtual grand rounds, online training, hybrid conferences and regular project management meetings.

The number and range of [Global Health Fellows](#) continued to grow, with the largest-ever cohort joining in 2024, including an Allied Health Professional, a nurse and a midwife for the first time. We awarded the highest number of [ethical elective bursaries](#) to date and increased the number of places at the [Global Health Volunteer Programme: Essential Pre-Deployment Training](#).

We welcomed many key partnership staff to Cambridge, including:

- Nurse in Charge of the Intensive Care Unit at Kawempe National Referral Hospital, who observed antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention control practices.
- Kenyan partners and colleagues including Dean of the Medical School at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology to [meet with senior CUH staff](#).
- A paediatric oncology pharmacist from the Uganda Cancer Institute, who was able to shadow her Cambridge counterparts at tumour board meetings and ward rounds.
- Ugandan maternal and neonatal healthcare staff, who attended World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week events and worked on maternity guidelines for Kampala hospitals.

We marked [Overseas NHS Workers Day](#) by profiling diaspora staff and CGHP members to showcase the unique expertise and experience they bring to the NHS and to health partnerships. We were delighted that CGHP members Mercy Adera and Lisa Enoch were shortlisted from nearly 2,000 nominations for a CUH Annual Award. Mercy works exceptionally hard to connect fellow diaspora staff with opportunities to [get involved in global health](#), while Lisa has been instrumental in creating and growing the [SCALE critical care nursing project](#).

Earlier in the year, Lisa and her team were also the recipients of a [CGHP-sponsored award](#) in recognition of International Day of the Nurse 2024, acknowledging their work to develop and share best practice in critical care in both the UK and Uganda.

In 2024 we demonstrated the relevance and importance of global health to local health through three 'Raising the Bar for Global Health' events held throughout Cambridge. We ended the year with a very successful hybrid Global Health Conference attended by more than 150 people and with 14 speakers from across the NHS, UK and international universities, and international development NGOs.

Health Partnerships

The health partnerships we support continue to address some of the biggest health challenges of our time and involve healthcare staff from a wide range of backgrounds and specialities. Alongside health partnership activity, we continue to deliver advice and support services and a grant scheme to East of England NHS staff, as well as students and academics interested in global health.

Cancer and palliative care

The Paediatric Cancer Health Partnership in Uganda focused on improving the diagnostic process for children with cancer so they start the correct treatment plan earlier. A team of four including 2024 East of England Global Health Fellow Phillip Adedokun and a CUH Consultant Paediatric Pathologist visited the Uganda Cancer Institute (UCI) in February to audit the laboratory and identify achievable ways to [improve the sample turnaround time](#).

Two ethical elective students built on this during the summer with a pathology audit to identify weak spots in the processing pathways and review Tumour Board meetings to help make them more efficient and ensure more cases are discussed. Paediatric oncology pharmacist Shauna Arao from the UCI then visited Cambridge in September to spend time with fellow oncology and pharmacy colleagues and [build knowledge in what is still a niche field in Uganda](#).

The exchange gave me the chance to immerse myself in a critical but underrepresented field, allowing me to expand my understanding of pharmacy practices that could significantly benefit our healthcare system.

Shauna Arao, paediatric oncology pharmacist, UCI

East of England Global Health Fellow Charly Gilchrist has been working with the RAMA Foundation to develop plans to grow the Allied Health Professional (AHP) workforce with their partner trusts in India. The focus is on increasing awareness of what AHPs have to offer and establish greater autonomy for these professions, which aims to decrease the pressure on the Indian medical and nursing teams, improve clinical outcomes for patients, and support the design and delivery of an AHP function that's appropriate for the Indian healthcare system.

Two students also visited India for their ethical electives to work with RAMA Foundation partners, supporting the delivery of healthcare and education to disadvantaged communities. They helped raise awareness of and share information about women's health issues, as well as assessing the [bereavement support needs of hospice staff](#).



Telehealth

The [Myanmar telehealth programme](#) started in June 2021 as a pilot to provide alternative healthcare solutions to crisis-affected people following the military coup. To date it has delivered nearly 200,000 tele-consultations to around 72,600 registered patients thanks to 312 providers who are experienced volunteer doctors and healthcare staff. The programme runs in collaboration with ethnic health organisations (EHOs) who are also piloting telehealth services. CGHP plays a key role in project coordination and management, networking with other international agencies, and providing technical and financial assistance. With financial support from two donor agencies, in 2025 the programme will expand to offer more mental health services.

2024 saw the implementation of 'Saving mothers at delivery', a project focused on improving the skills and confidence of healthcare professionals providing obstetric emergency care. Run by Global Health Partnerships (formally THET), CGHP supported an obstetrics and gynaecology team from across the East of England to deliver virtual training in emergency obstetrics and newborn care to non-state, charitable and ethnic health facilities in Myanmar, with hands-on support provided by local mentors afterwards.

Antimicrobial stewardship (AMS)

Four CGHP members completed longer-term placements focused on AMS in Kenya and Uganda. Microbiologist Stuart Drazich-Taylor and pharmacist Bobby Shum [spent three months in Kampala](#) working alongside Ugandan colleagues at Kawempe National Referral Hospital (KNRH). They audited how drug administration is recorded, delivered staff training and helped establish AMS committees, and supported the reduction of antibiotic prescribing post-Caesarean section.

“Empowering local pharmacists to actively engage in antimicrobial stewardship is crucial. Spending time with pharmacy interns and pharmacists in Kampala, I was impressed by their enthusiasm for clinical pharmacy and their dedication to embracing a broader role in patient care.”

Bobby Shum, pharmacist, CUH

Later in the year, global health fellows Eleanor Turnbull-Jones and Amelia Benjamin [conducted a pilot study](#) to assess the levels of resistant bacteria in antenatal patients at KNRH, which will help ensure that antibiotic guidelines in the hospital are appropriate for the community.

In Kenya, clinical scientist Wanaemi Allison spent a month at Kakamega County Teaching and Referral Hospital, [reviewing and auditing laboratory processes](#) and recommending ways to speed up sample processing times and accuracy to help more patients get the appropriate antimicrobial treatment quickly.



Wanaemi was joined by Tinotenda Manyere, a CUH nurse who spent the month [supporting fellow nurses, midwives and mothers](#) to embed infection prevention control practices to help reduce maternal and neonatal deaths.

Bi-directional learning is a vital component of all CGHP supported partnerships, and in September [six Kenyan partners visited Cambridge](#) to discuss the strategic management of AMS, join multidisciplinary team meetings and attend ward rounds to see AMS practices at CUH and Royal Papworth Hospital.

Nurse in Charge of the Intensive Care Unit Edrisa Ssemwanga and Medical Officer Dr Mary Nyanzi from KNRH in Kampala also visited Cambridge to learn more about antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention control. They spent time with infectious diseases, midwifery, pharmacy colleagues, as well as attending ward rounds and hospital tours.



Ear and Hearing Care

A visit to Malawi in November saw the signing of an MoU between CGHP, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences and CUH, to extend the work already done and develop the partnership further. During the week-long visit, eight CGHP members including CUH staff and two global health fellows worked alongside Malawi colleagues to co-deliver 'ear camps' in rural communities. They assessed, treated or referred over 800 people with hearing loss and ear problems, providing many with bone conduction headsets developed by Cambridgeshire paediatrician Tamsin Holland Brown.

“ It was rewarding working in a team of other healthcare professionals and everyone pulling together, particularly in some challenging environments and with limited resources. ”

Charlotte Skipper, Specialist Audiologist, CUH



Maternal and neonatal health

Over the past year, bi-directional visits between Kampala and Cambridge have focused on developing and implementing [local maternity guidelines](#), including an in-depth audit of the most common causes of maternal mortality, and interviews with healthcare staff to find out how the current, national guidelines are working.

The project team put together a staff training package for the guidelines, including a governance structure so the hospitals can monitor and evaluate their impact. Three research associates from Makerere University's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology have been recruited to support the monitoring and evaluation of guideline impacts.

We achieved much more than we anticipated in our partnership visit and I look forward to continued and sustainable improvement in the maternal mortality rate through this partnership. It's a continuous learning process. The enthusiasm of local doctors and the desire to improve patient care, despite lack of resources, is really inspiring.

Dr Jane MacDougall, Consultant in Reproductive Medicine, CUH

Meanwhile in Kenya, Rosie Hospital consultant obstetrician Charlotte Patient and staff nurse Mercy Adera, as well as East of England Global Health Fellow Kati Lestak [co-delivered a refresher course](#) on infection control, management of sepsis and major obstetric emergencies at Kakamega County Teaching and Referral Hospital (KCTRH).

We're delighted to extend our congratulations to Professor Ashley Moffett for her award in the New Year Honours 2025 list for services to Women's Reproductive Health and to Clinical Research and Practice in Africa. Professor Moffett, who was instrumental in establishing the maternal and neonatal health partnership between Kampala and Cambridge, has been appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) as part of the Overseas and International List.



Global Health Workforce Programme (GHWP)

The Kakamega Cambridge GHWP project aims to [strengthen continuous quality improvement](#) across maternity and newborn care teams in Kenya. In 2024, Quality Improvement training was co-delivered online and in-person to 90 healthcare professionals; two partners visited Cambridge along with the Kakamega County Health Minister, and an education team from Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology began promoting the integration of medical education and clinical practice.





Critical care

Improving nursing skills has been a strong focus over the last year, with two in-person visits and longer-term placements in Kampala, as well as remote teaching to grow knowledge, skills and confidence in managing deteriorating patients.

“My Uganda visit was easily the most memorable and proud moment of my career to date. I learnt so many soft skills that I can now implement into my own nursing path. Global health isn't just about improving the patient care in other countries, it's also about improving the patient care in our local communities. Working in global health allows you to develop those skills, gain new perspectives and meet likeminded people from around the globe.”

Elizabeth Walsh, Critical Care Nurse, CUH

CUH Lead Midwife Catherine Barlow joined the visits to provide [maternal and neonatal-specific critical care training](#) to maternity staff at Mulago Specialised Women and Neonatal Hospital and Kawempe National Referral Hospital.

Hybrid work continues to play an important role, with Critical Care Grand Rounds throughout the year. These shared learning events are chaired by the Ugandan or UK teams, alternating each time, with speakers from Uganda and the UK taking turns to present cases.

In October, the CGHP team and members of the Cambridge-based project team also joined the 5th Uganda UK Health Alliance symposium remotely, with [recent MTI clinical fellow Clare Baaka](#) and CUH critical care nurse Gayle Brunskill presenting in person at the event. The first of the MTI critical care fellows, Clare has now returned home to Uganda.

Anastomosis training

Early in the year, we were pleased to support a team of surgeons, including three UK consultants, a Zimbabwean consultant and a senior trainee from Ghana, to travel to Malawi and Ghana to [teach the vital surgical skill of anastomosis](#).



Global Health Fellowship and bursary schemes

In partnership with NHS England East of England, the [East of England Global Health Fellowship scheme](#) has grown year on year. We appointed 11 senior trainees from a range of specialities including Public Health, Respiratory and Urology, as well as a nurse, a midwife and an Allied Health Professional as part of the new cohort of Nursing, Midwifery, and Allied Health Professionals (NMWAHPs). In September we welcomed back last year's fellows to join the 2025 cohort for a sharing and learning event.

In 2024 we co-delivered with NHS England the second, sold-out essential pre-deployment training workshop for the NHSE Global Health Volunteer Programme that supports resident doctors to undertake work in low resource environments. [The three-day workshop will run again in March 2025.](#)

We awarded ethical elective bursaries to [eleven medical students](#), enabling them to gain experience working in very different healthcare settings across six different countries and partnerships. These placements offer valuable development opportunities as well as addressing a defined need within the partnerships. The recipients included a [final-year medical student from Malawi](#), who joined the CUH neurology department for six weeks. We aim to offer more opportunities for students from low- and middle-income countries to undertake their electives in Cambridge in the future.

As well as expanding my medical knowledge, the elective taught me the importance of multidisciplinary care. I had the opportunity to work closely with various specialists and to observe their collaborative and holistic approach to patient care.

Adham Tarek, final year medical student, Malawi

The [CGHP Grant Scheme](#) provides funding for NHS staff working in the East of England for global health projects with low-and middle-income countries. In the past year, funding has been accessed by a trainee clinical scientist (Audiology) and a specialist audiologist to visit Malawi to help deliver ear camps and gather data as part of the project that is improving access to education for children with hearing loss, and a nurse to deliver fertility nursing training in Zimbabwe to help activate affordable fertility services in government hospitals.



CGHP team

We were delighted to welcome two new members to the CGHP team this year – team coordinator Urja Malhotra and a new programme manager for the Myanmar health partnership, as well as benefiting from the enormous contribution of Debbie Morgan, CUH Visiting Fellow in Global Health. We wished a fond farewell to our previous programme manager who was instrumental in helping us continue providing support to healthcare professionals in Myanmar.

After more than three years as Chair of the CGHP Committee, Catherine Arnold OBE stepped down. We are grateful for her commitment and leadership and thank her for all her contributions over this period. We also extend our thanks to interim chair, Dr Mike Knapton, who has brought [a wealth of relevant understanding and experience](#) to the role over the last seven months.



Looking ahead

2025 promises to be another busy year for Cambridge Global Health Partnerships. Here are some of our highlights:

- CGHP's Annual Event and Awards returns mid-year and we'll be busy coordinating a packed and interesting programme.
- The third global health [essential pre deployment training workshop](#) will take place in Cambridge in March, with the annual Principles in Practice workshop following in April.
- There will be longer-term placements for the maternal and neonatal health guidelines project, and training to support the successful implementation of national guidelines at national referral maternity hospitals in Kampala.
- The Paediatric Cancer partnership will continue to develop, starting with an in-person visit by a team to Kampala in February.
- We'll support the growth of the ear and hearing care work with Malawi to build on the success of 2024.
- Visits, long-term placements and audits will continue as part of the SCALE Critical Care project, including nurses from Uganda coming to the UK for longer term training.
- We'll implement a new monitoring and evaluation framework, developed with Costello Medical, to better record and measure the impact of health partnership activity.
- We'll roll out our [Giving Circle](#), a new fundraising initiative providing individual donors with the opportunity to support CGHP's work more closely.
- We'll continue championing and raising awareness of the enormous value that diaspora staff bring to the NHS and promote opportunities with CGHP to contribute to health partnerships.
- Raising the Bar for Global Health will kick off with a bumper edition as part of the [Cambridge Festival 2025](#).
- We'll appoint a new Chair of the CGHP Committee to help advise and guide the growth and development of CGHP over the coming years.

THANK YOU

Cambridge Global Health Partnerships is a charitable programme funded entirely by donations and grants and we are hugely grateful to everyone who helps make our work possible.

We acknowledge the NHS staff who contribute their time and expertise through CGHP to health partnerships and projects, and the funders and donors who make the work possible. With particular thanks to the Alborada Trust, Costello Medical, Global Health Partnerships (formerly THET), the Headley Trust, the Masonic Charitable Foundation, the Beatrice Laing Trust, the Oakdale Trust, the Paragon Trust, the Thriplow Charitable Trust and all our generous donors who wish to remain anonymous.


Support us

If you would like to help us continue our vital work, please consider making a donation of £5 per month. Your support will enable us to deliver essential activities across all health partnerships and make a real difference in achieving the sustainable, long-term improvements you've just read about. [Set up a regular donation here.](#)

If you want a closer connection to CGHP's work and the future development of health partnerships, you can give at a higher level by joining our [Giving Circle](#). For more information, contact our Fundraising Lead, Hannah Wilson (hannah.wilson@cghp.org.uk).

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