“Ethical Considerations for Global Health Education, training and Practice, a view from the South”

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Outline

1. My own career
2. Definitions and more definitions
3. Research models
4. GH Research capacity building and partnerships
5. Principles of Good Research Partnerships
6. GH Training and practice of GH
7. Reflexions and Conclusions…
1. My Career

• Currently:
  – Professor of School of Public Health

• Formerly:
  – Medical school in Peru, Internal Med-ID UW
  – MPH UW PhD
  – Governmental experience
    • National STD Program
    • Head of the National Institute of Health
    • Minister of Health of Peru
2. Definitions

**Global health**: all those health issues that affect the rich and the poor countries.

* We share vulnerability
  
  To epidemics: e.g. H1N1
  
  Effects in economy and international relationships

* We are interdependent
  
  Regulations
  
  Key health resources
    
    Pharmaceutical
    
    Same pool of trained health worker
We are now beginning to understand fully that the health of one nation affects its neighbors (and those far away too), and that we need to share knowledge and build defenses together. Collaboration and partnerships become important issues.
More definitions...

Ethics: values undergirding decisions and actions e.g. health ethics refer to values guiding decisions in health care, health research, health policy.

VALUES and Global Health

Autonomy, fairness, equity, compassion, honesty, solidarity, trust and respect
Other important definitions...

- Collaboration: the act of working “jointly”, together
- Partnership: a cooperative relationship between people or groups who agree to share responsibility for achieving some specific goal.
- International Research Relationship Models (RM): styles of research interaction seen between developed and developing countries’ researchers. Several times called collaborations, partnerships.
3. Research models

Two main types: Semi-colonial and Real Partnership models

1. Semi colonial models: Quite common, unfortunately...
   - Postal research
     - Researcher requests a colleague from developing country to send biological samples
   - Parachute research
     - Researcher travels to developing country for short periods of time and take back biological samples (or other e.g. data)
   - Annexed sites research:
     - Research site established at a developing country by a developing country researcher/institution, led and managed by expatriate staff. Independent from national institutions, attractive for promising national academics...

2. Partnership models: the ideal (at least for us in the south), challenging but possible...
4. Research Capacity Building for development in the global community requires:

- **Investment in Training Institutions**
- **Trained Individuals**
- **++Trained Individuals**
- **Critical Mass**

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### Capacity Building Pyramid

- **Staff and Infrastructure**
  - enable effective
  - require...
- **Structures, Systems and Roles**
  - enable effective
  - require...
- **Skills**
  - enable effective
  - require...
- **Tools**
  - enable effective
  - require...

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**Potter, 2004, modified**
5. Principles of Good Research Partnerships

- Mutual trust and shared decision making
- Transparency
- Fairness: resources, authorship etc.
- National ownership/ within the national research agenda
- Emphasis on getting research findings into policy and practice
- Training, mentoring, exchange
6. Global Health Education & training

• Bidirectionality of the relation-Equity
• Both sides can collaborate and can benefit from the interactions
• Not all the knowledge comes from the North!
• “Kuskaya” working together: opportunity to create global citizens
• Good and bad experiences
  – Incredible students! But few with no cultural sensitivity, humility...
  – Need better preparation? Tourism vs adventure vs training vs service
• Short term rotations: a lot of work, but when there are good students is a pleasure. However how to make it more equal?

• More senior students, for longer periods and pairing them with a local student, beneficial for both (even bringing funding!)
  – Irish IM resident teaching interns in Peru US!
  – Neurosurgeon Resident to work on National Dx of neurosurgical capacities in Peru
Conclusions

- In an interdependent world, where we share vulnerabilities, we need to share knowledge
- Ethics in GH: values guiding decisions in GH
- Partnerships are key in GH
- Opportunities for both develop and developing countries
- Principles of good partnerships
- GH training (and rotations) should benefit both N&S (equity)
- Challenges are real, but can be overcome
Thanks!