



## 3<sup>rd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL HEALTHCARE AND NUTRITION

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### TITLE: The Effect of COVID19

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**Background:** The shortage of medical doctors in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has resulted in increased enrolment in medical schools, which has not been matched with increased faculty size or physical infrastructure. This process has led to overcrowding and possibly reduced the quality of training. To reduce overcrowding at its teaching hospital, the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College introduced eight-week peripheral clerkship rotations in 2012. We explore students' perceptions and attitudes towards peripheral hospital placements.

**Method:** The clerkship rotations were conducted in 8 hospitals operating in the northern Tanzania, after evaluating each hospital's capabilities and establishing the optimum number of students per hospital. Paper-based surveys were conducted after student rotations from 2014 to 2016.

**Results:** Overall student satisfaction was moderate (strength of consensus measure (sCns), 77%). The three cohorts exhibited improving trends over 3 years with respect to satisfaction with clinical skills and attitude towards placements. Student-preceptor interaction was rated highly (sCns 81-84%). The first cohort students expressed concerns about limited laboratory support, and poor access to Internet and learning resources. Specific interventions were undertaken to address these concerns.

**Conclusions:** Student experiences in peripheral rotations were positive with adequate satisfaction levels. Opportunities exist for medical schools in SSA to enhance clinical training and relieve overcrowding through peripheral clerkship rotations.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chrispina Narcis Tarimo is a Monitoring and evaluation officer at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical university College (KCMUCo). Currently pursuing a Master's degree in Health system Management. She is interested with Healthcare workforce and retention especially in medical doctors.

**Mode of Presentation:** Oral/Poster.

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