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## INVITED EDITORIAL

### Jhpiego: Model supporter of implementation science



As Editor of the *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* (IJGO) it was my pleasure to shepherd this Supplement and, as Editor Emeritus, it is my pleasure to thank the authors and guest editors for their contributions. Jhpiego, an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University, was founded in 1974 by Doctor Theodore M. King, Director of the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics at Hopkins, realizing the need to introduce reproductive health breakthroughs to low-income countries to save the lives of women and improve the health of families worldwide. Since its inception, Jhpiego has been providing education and capacity building for physicians, nurses, administrators, and other pre-service providers, and supporting programs to make these lifesaving skills and services available and accessible. In this Supplement, the experience of Jhpiego in implementing maternal and newborn health is described in order to provide a way forward to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and achieve and attain the maternal and newborn development goals of the post-Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) era.

Implementation science promotes the uptake of research findings into routine health care in both clinical and policy contexts [1,2]. It is a new concept and discipline that is the natural extension of translational research, clinical research, outcomes research, and health services research, and melds translational research and health technologies development with health services science, public health, and policy. It is an interdisciplinary science that is of the times and whose time has come. This is complex interdisciplinary work and Jhpiego has consistently evidenced, through its educational programs and demonstration projects, an understanding of the clinical, public health, and policy actions required for the transformation of health care in low-income areas around the world through scientific innovation.

Jhpiego has partnered with FIGO, the International Confederation of Midwives, and national professional societies in projects on emergency obstetrics and newborn care, postpartum hemorrhage, sexually transmitted infections and HIV, family planning (especially endoscopic and postpartum family planning), malaria, and preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, to implement science for the public good and

show that policy and national and local factors must be considered in the transfer of scientific information to practice.

Jhpiego has long focused on “training the trainers” and, as an early adopter of pre-service education at the medical and nursing school levels, is developing lifelong learners engaged in important work that remains in maternal and neonatal health. The readers of IJGO will find much to learn from the examples and lessons in this Supplement: the “how,” the “who,” and the “what.” I thank Jhpiego not only for its many contributions to our shared vision and goals, but for the partnership that it, as a nongovernmental organization, has shown to FIGO and other professional organizations in achieving our mutual goals of a better world through improved women’s health worldwide.

I also thank the guest editors, Harshad Sanghvi, Jeffrey M. Smith, Koki Agarwal, and Blami Dao, and especially the managing editors of the Supplement, Rehana Gubin and Judith Fullerton, for their efforts and contributions in making it possible.

#### Conflict of interest

Dr Johnson is the Editor Emeritus of IJGO.

#### References

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