



# NEWSLETTER

**January 2025**

*Year in Review & Year Ahead Month*



## **A Note from Elizabeth Ashbourne, Our Executive Director**

Happy New Year! As we kick off 2025, I am excited to share some of the incredible things on the horizon for PQMD.

First, let's welcome our new Board of Directors! This dynamic group of leaders will guide us through a year of collaboration, innovation, and impact. A heartfelt thank-you to the 2023/2024 Board for laying the foundation for our continued success.

Under the leadership of our new Board, we are kicking off our refreshed strategic plan featuring a new working model to streamline our efforts and amplify our impact. Our first Member Interest and Working Groups are forming now, and we're excited to share more with members about how to get involved at our launch party on March 17.

Our Guidelines Committee is gearing up for **Guidelines Month** in February! PQMD's Guidelines are the cornerstone of our mission, ensuring best practices and accountability in medical donations. Stay tuned for activities and resources highlighting their importance and how you can engage.

We're also thrilled to launch **PQMD Connect**, a members-only interactive database designed to enhance networking and collaboration. Details on open house events in February are coming soon!

If you haven't yet, mark your calendars for **PQMD's Global Health Policy Forum**, April 29-May 1, at Goodenough House in London. Our signature event will bring together global health leaders to tackle critical global health challenges, and registration opens soon!

Great things are ahead for PQMD in 2025, and I look forward to an incredible year of collaboration, impact, and growth!



### PQMD 2024 Year in Review

In 2024, PQMD continued to fortify its position as a global leader in advancing access to healthcare and well-being. From addressing devastating natural disasters to hosting transformative forums, championing best practices, and driving collaboration and innovation, our collective efforts have touched countless lives and reaffirmed the power of partnership.

[Read PQMD's 2024 Year in Review Report.](#)



### Welcome 2025 PQMD Board of Directors!

We are thrilled to introduce our 2025 PQMD Board of Directors!

This diverse and dynamic group of global health professionals will guide us as we implement our newly refreshed strategic plan. Together, we'll continue advancing impactful partnerships and

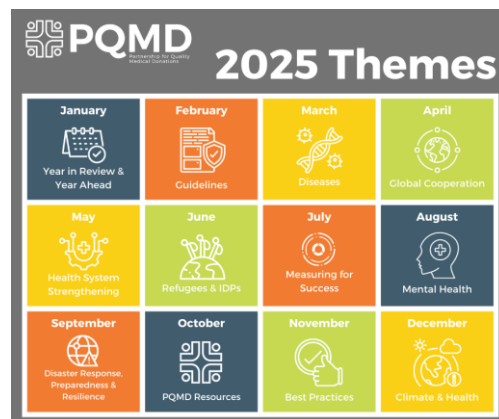
promoting sustainable access to quality health care in underserved communities around the world.

We look forward to the year ahead under their leadership!



### **Sean Carroll, CEO of Anera, Joins PQMD's Advisory Council**

PQMD is excited to welcome Sean Carroll as the newest member of our Advisory Council. This group of esteemed individuals provides valuable advice and counsel to help guide our work, and Sean's intimate knowledge of PQMD's network along with his passion, expertise and insights will be tremendous assets to the Council.



PQMD's 2025 monthly themes serve as a foundation for our programming and communication efforts throughout the year. These themes offer opportunities for members to highlight programs and initiatives that align with the topics of focus. If you'd like to submit an article to be featured in any of our upcoming newsletters, please reach out to [Sam MacDonald](#). We look forward to helping share your work!



## Registration Now Open for Our Spring 2025 Session!

PQMD is excited to announce that registration is now open for the upcoming [Global Health & Development Essentials course](#), an 8-week executive survey course running from **April 16-June 11, 2025** (skipping April 30th). This course is designed for professionals and students in the global health space, offering a comprehensive introduction to international development policies and practices. Don't miss out on this opportunity to deepen your understanding of global health and development. [Learn more and register today](#) to secure your spot in the Spring 2025 course!

*Complimentary for PQMD member representatives!*

**[LEARN MORE & REGISTER NOW!](#)**



**SAVE THE  
DATES!**

**April 29-May 1, 2025  
London, England**



**Stay Informed!**

Be sure to follow us on [LinkedIn](#) or one of our other social channels to get the latest, most up-to-date information on our Pillar Talks, courses, events, and resources.



## COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



### January Pillar Talk Recording Now Available!

AI is poised to be a game-changer, especially in low- and middle-income countries. From leapfrogging existing medical infrastructures to accelerating vaccine development, the opportunities are immense. But with great power comes great responsibility: privacy, ethics, and data security concerns are just the tip of the iceberg.

On January 30th PQMD hosted a Pillar Talk with Hannah Cooper Klein, Co-founder and CEO of Cooper/Smith, who walked us through the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence in global health – and the ethical challenges that come with it.

This session provides an **"AI in Global Health 101"**, showcases practical examples, and dives into the considerations that need to be top of mind when deploying AI in the global health space.

If you missed the Pillar Talk or would like to share the webinar with colleagues, you can [watch the recording here](#).

*Whether you attended live or watch the recording, we would greatly appreciate hearing your thoughts on the Pillar Talk. Please take less than one minute to share your feedback on this [very brief, 3-question survey](#).*

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### **January Coffee Chat** ***Crisis on the Move: SITREP Updates on Global Emergencies***

On January 23rd, PQMD held a Coffee Chat providing a timely and insightful PQMD Coffee Chat, where member organizations shared in-depth situation reports (sitreps) on rapidly changing humanitarian crises around the world. Presenting members, including CMMB, International Medical Corps, International Rescue Committee, Medical Teams International and World Vision shared first-hand insights and updates on critical emergencies in Syria, Sudan, Haiti, and Nigeria. This session was a crucial opportunity to hear how the field is responding and what challenges remain. .

*PQMD members can learn more about upcoming Coffee Chats on the members-only [CoP](#).*

## **MEMBER NEWS**



### **Operation Smile Collaborates as Ghana Launches National Surgical, Obstetric and Anesthesia Plan**

On 3rd September 2024, the Ministry of Health of Ghana launched the country's first-ever National Surgical, Obstetric, and Anesthesia Plan (NSOAP). This NSOAP serves as a roadmap for improving access to quality and safe emergency and essential surgical, obstetric, trauma and anesthesia (SOTA) care across the nation. As a collaborator, Operation Smile's Policy and Advocacy team provided financial and technical support to the NSOAP Technical Working Group in Ghana to help bring this document to fruition.

This significant advancement in health care policy reflects the commitment of Ghana's health leaders to improve the lives of communities nationwide. Operation Smile is honored to have collaborated with the Ministry's experts, the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons, and the exceptional members of the Ghana NSOAP Technical Working Group and consultants. This initiative holds national significance and represents a monumental step forward, paving the way for a future where its implementation will positively impact millions of lives.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEB

### [How Women in UP Confront A Neglected Disease- And Stigma](#)

IndiaSpend

### [UK cut health aid to vulnerable nations while hiring their nurses, research finds](#)

The Guardian

### [Climate 'whiplash' linked to raging LA fires](#)

BBC

### [The Most Neglected NTD: Cryptosporidiosis](#)

Global Health Now

### [After Helene's floods, North Carolina tries to tame trauma's lasting damage](#)

NPR

### [Climate Change's Psychological Impact](#)

Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health

### [The psychological toll of California's catastrophic fires](#)

Axios

### [UN regrets US exit from global cooperation on health, climate change agreement](#)

UN News

### [Exclusive: Global health funds push for more private money, fearing government retreat](#)

Reuters

### [State department freezes new funding for nearly all US aid programs worldwide](#)

AP News

### **Upcoming Events**

#### [CUGH 2025](#)

February 20-23, 2025; Atlanta, Georgia

#### [World Sustainable Development Summit 2025](#)

March 5-7, 2025; New Dehli, India

#### [PQMD Global Health Policy Forum](#)

April 29- May 1, 2025; London, England

#### [World Health Assembly 78th Session](#)

May 19-27, 2025; Geneva, Switzerland

#### [Social Innovation Summit](#)

June 3-4, 2025; San Francisco, California

#### [ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment](#)

June 18-20, 2025; Geneva, Switzerland

#### [AI for Good Global Summit](#)

June 8-11, 2025; Geneva, Switzerland

#### [UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#)

June 14-23, 2025; NYC, New York

#### [UNGA 80](#)

September 9-23, 2025; NYC, New York



**2025 Concordia Annual  
Summit**

September 22-24, 2025; NYC,  
New York

**World Health Summit**

October 12-14, 2025; Berlin,  
Germany & Digital

**COP 30**

November 10-21, 2025; Belem,  
Brazil



Does your organization have news to share?  
[Contact us](#) for placement in future newsletters.  
*Next Month's Theme: Guidelines*

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