

# SPECIALISTS SURGICAL HOSPITAL



FOUNDATION  
FOR SPECIAL  
SURGERY

**“EVERYONE , EVERYWHERE DESERVES A CHANCE FOR  
LIFE-SAVING SURGERY WHEN THEY NEED ONE”**



# AFRICA HAS A MASSIVE BURDEN OF UNMET SURGICAL NEEDS

- Surgical diseases have been overlooked in Africa
- The expertise for complex surgical care is lacking
- There are few established programs for training sub-specialist surgeons
- The few surgeons trained in the West are less likely to return home
- Training African surgeons locally in Africa is more effective in increasing capacity for complex surgery.

Every minute of every day, an African child dies of malaria, a scourge that billions of dollars of international aid have been dedicated to fighting for the past decade with great success, cutting the death rate by half.

However, the emphasis on infectious diseases has obscured an underlying problem—the developing world has a massive burden of unmet surgical needs. This is partly due to the lack of enough skilled surgeons who can treat injuries and conditions that would be considered routine procedures in more developed nations.

***Pills and injections cannot diagnose a surgical disease, set a broken bone, mend a lip or remove a tumor.***

Surgery is a fundamental aspect of health-care systems. Pills and injections cannot diagnose a surgical disease, set a broken bone, mend a lip or remove a tumor. In many parts of Africa, a person who suffers a serious leg injury may well end up with amputation as the first response because there aren't the microsurgeons available who know how to repair blood vessels and nerves to save a limb.

As a Mayo clinic trained surgeon and a Facial Reconstructive and Head and Neck surgeon at the Johns Hopkins hospital, I have been blessed in my work to have access to the best facilities and equipment to provide advanced surgical solutions to those who

travel from far and near to seek my expertise for their complex surgical problems.

But everyone, everywhere deserves world-class surgical care. Working with various humanitarian organizations and with volunteer doctors and nurses from the U.S., Europe and Latin America, I have been traveling to underserved communities around the world providing complex surgical care for children and adults with cancer and deformities from birth, trauma, war, and conflict. Our work has taken us to communities in Mexico, Vietnam, Liberia, Peru, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Ghana, Rwanda and Cameroon. The needs for surgeries are great and diverse, from basic to advance.

For decades, many humanitarian groups have been offering life-saving surgeries in Africa but the unmet surgical burden remains high. The truth is, Africa needs to nurture its specialist surgeons. I am convinced that training African surgeons locally in the region by world experts in a well-equipped facility is the most effective way to sustainably improve complex surgical care in Africa.

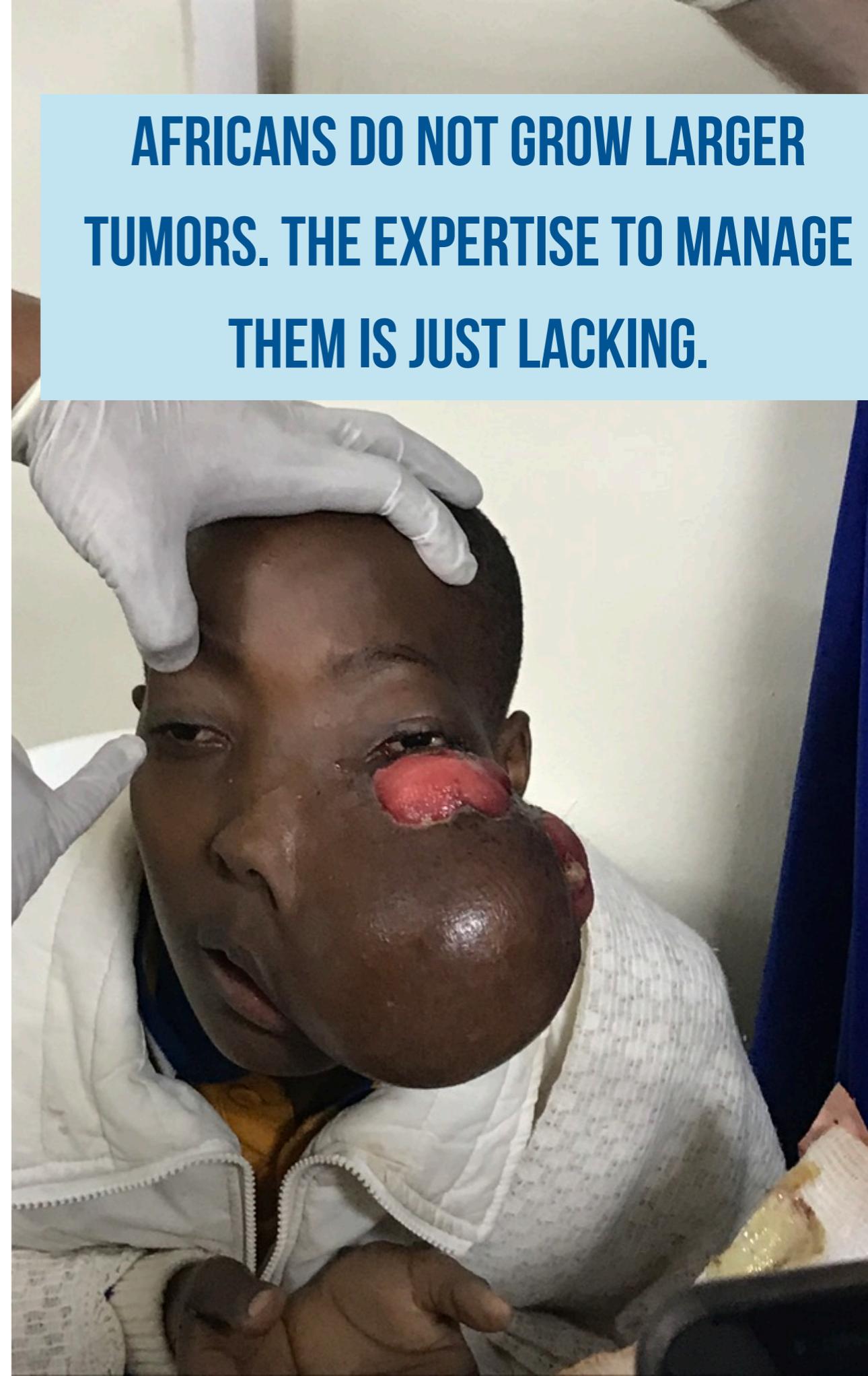
**Dr. Kofi Boahene, M.D.**  
**Professor**  
**Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery**  
**Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery**  
**The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine**  
**Baltimore, Maryland**  
**U.S.A.**



## FOUNDATION FOR SPECIAL SURGERY WAS CREATED TO MEET A SPECIFIC SURGICAL NEED IN AFRICA

Since 2004, our Foundation has provided free specialized surgical care during annual mission trips. These trips require many resources including time, money, and labor. Each trip requires months of extensive planning in order to reserve a two week block in the volunteer physicians' busy schedules. Like many other groups we first focused on the repair of cleft lip and palate defects. Cleft lip defects are overt and their repair are transformative. Fortunately, cleft lip repair requires little resources and takes about 1 hour to complete. We however observed that patients in the countries we visited who had more complex surgical diseases that were life threatening and required more sophisticated surgical skills were being ignored. In addition, there were no surgeons being trained to address these types of cases. Our foundation pivoted from cleft lip surgery to specifically address these complex surgical cases. We now focus on the treatment of cancers, face-deforming tumors, extensive birth defects, traumatic facial injuries and complex microsurgical reconstruction.

**AFRICANS DO NOT GROW LARGER TUMORS. THE EXPERTISE TO MANAGE THEM IS JUST LACKING.**



# FSS HAS BUILT A STRONG TRACK RECORD IN OFFERING HIGHLY COMPLEX SURGICAL CARE IN LOW RESOURCED COUNTRIES

- We performed the first microvascular tissue transfer for facial reconstruction at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Ghana, in 2009.
- We routinely perform complex head and neck cancer Surgery in Ghana and Rwanda
- We now routinely perform complex tissue transplantation for facial reconstruction in Rwanda
- We introduced minimally invasive skull base surgery in Rwanda
- We performed the first microsurgical reconstruction in a private hospital setting in Ghana and Liberia

Every year the need, patient volume and complexity of cases increases. The demand for these highly specialized surgeries have outgrown the limitations of an annual mission trips.

## SPECIALISTS SURGICAL HOSPITAL

Our current model of performing surgeries in borrowed spaces has been effective but not efficient. Working in borrowed facilities often disrupts care routinely provided at these facilities. Additionally, political influence over these facilities can disrupt the teams we work with which adversely interrupts continuity and capacity building.

**“To reach more patients and to make our impact timely and sustainable, we are building a specialty surgical training hospital in Accra, Ghana, where African surgeons will train to provide complex surgical care. The surgeons we train will return to their various countries and provide complex surgical care while training the next generation of surgeons”.**

A Foundation hospital dedicated to complex surgical care, staffed by world experts will facilitate the training of local surgeons and the care of complex surgical needs in a more efficient manner.

Given the extreme shortage of trained surgeons and the high level of need in Ghana and surrounding countries, a specialized surgical facility staffed by world renowned surgeons would be widely successful in the West African region. The mission of Specialists Surgical Hospital is to deliver premier surgical care in head and neck surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery, neurosurgery (pituitary), maxillofacial surgery, and urology to Ghanaian nationals and other Africans.

**OUR STRENGTH IS IN THE NUMBER OF NURSES AND SURGEONS FROM LEADING INSTITUTIONS AROUND THE WORLD WHO VOLUNTEER WITH OUR FOUNDATION AND ARE COMMITTED TO OUR MISSION AND THE SUCCESS OF THE SURGICAL HOSPITAL**

## **FSS TEAM INCLUDES A VARIETY OF SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONALS AND WORLD EXPERTS**

For the past 15 years Dr. Boahene has trained many surgeons at the Johns Hopkins Hospital where he is a professor and the director of the Facial reconstructive surgery training program. The surgeons he has mentored are now leading surgeons in major institutions in South America, Europe and the USA. and are committed to volunteering at the foundation hospital.

In addition, several colleagues of Dr. Boahene from the Mayo Clinic, Cleveland clinic, Harvard hospitals and other major institutions who share a passion for global surgery are dedicated to bringing their much needed healthcare expertise to underserved areas.

Several African surgeons and healthcare experts currently working in western hospitals have also committed to supporting the surgical hospital.

FSS will partner with local African surgeons working in their home countries to foster a collaborative team responsive to local needs.

Besides healthcare experts, FSS volunteers include professionals with non-medical expertise who have made our work efficient and impactful.





## OUR TEAM

- Intensivists / internists /Pediatricians
- Nurse practitioners
- Anesthesiologists
- Radiation Oncologist
- Plastic/Head and Neck Cancer surgeons
- Neurosurgeons
- Urologists
- Otolaryngologists
- Social workers
- Child education specialists
- Operating room nurses
- Recovery room nurses
- Biomedical engineers
- Student volunteers
- Cinematography
- Administrators / Accountants
- Statistician

# VALUE AND IMPACT FACTOR: 2020

## RWANDA MISSION

In collaboration with the Face the Future Foundation, Canada we successfully completed a typical mission trip to Kigali, Rwanda in February 2020. Face the Future Foundation (FTF) was founded by Dr Peter Adamson, a Facial Plastics surgeon from Toronto. FTF shares overlapping goals with the Foundation for Special Surgery.

The one-week mission began with a screening day where 68 patients were seen and 36 were selected for life-saving and face saving surgery. A further 21 patients were assessed for oncologic irradiation treatment for head and neck cancer, for a total of 89 patient consultations. The non-surgical patients were referred for local care, radiation oncology or other disposition as deemed appropriate. The 36 patients operated upon had a total of 137 surgical procedures which included resection of head and neck tumors, and complex facial reconstruction. Below is the value of care donated :

Professional services	= \$791,000 USD.
Equipment and supplies	= \$91,000 USD
Travel and fees	= \$37,000 USD.
Grand total.	= \$919,000 USD

**The value of similar care, if provided in the USA, would be approximately \$2,650,000 USD.**

# THE HOSPITAL BUILDING PROJECT

The Specialists Surgical Hospital will offer a fresh approach to delivering health care in Africa in a way that puts patients and their families first while reinforcing our commitment to providing exceptional care and training.

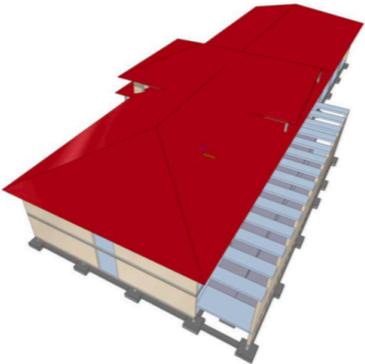
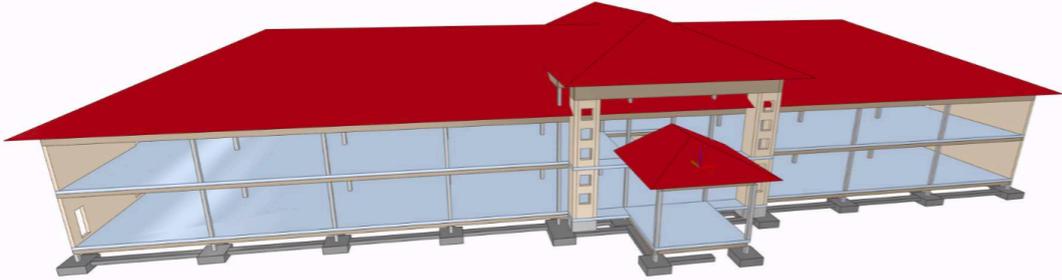
The hospital is being constructed in Accra, Ghana and will serve as a center where surgeons and nurses from across Africa can be trained while providing highly specialized surgical care. The need for this facility is tremendous.

The site for the hospital is strategically located adjacent to the FOCOS hospital. The FOCOS hospital is a not-for-profit hospital run by the FOCOS Foundation focused on complex spine surgery. Like FSS, FOCOS foundation is dedicated to training local orthopedic surgeons and has a mission, vision and operational strategy similar to our Foundation. We believe that the co-location of our hospital with that of the FOCOS hospital will allow for resource sharing and compound our impact.

The first module will have 32 beds, 4 operating rooms, 10 outpatient consultation rooms and a training conference room. Modular architectural design makes future expansion feasible.



VISUALIZATIONS  
(NOT TO SCALE)



PROJECT LOCATION	Accra, Ghana (Africa)	IB FEDERLEIN   architektur   büro kniesche																															
BUILDING CODE	Ghana Building Code (Draft 2012)	FOR FOUNDATION FOR SPECIAL SURGERY EUROPE geV Accra, Ghana																															
MATERIALS	acc. to GBC Par. 7, Cement and Concrete acc. to BS EN 206-1 Characteristic compressive cylinder strength: 25 MPa (Concrete) Steel Yield Strength: 500 N/mm <sup>2</sup> (Reinforcement) Concrete Cover (per table below)	DRAWING NO. 14125_C01																															
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Characteristic Element</th> <th>min</th> <th>max</th> <th>min</th> <th>max</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Structural</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bottom Slab</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Slab/Beam</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Column</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beam</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> <td>20</td> <td>50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Characteristic Element	min	max	min	max	Structural	20	50	20	50	Bottom Slab	20	50	20	50	Slab/Beam	20	50	20	50	Column	20	50	20	50	Beam	20	50	20	50	REVISION	
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DEAD LOADS	acc. to GBC Par. 5, Appendix A (Limb Weights) national concrete 25 kN/m <sup>2</sup> acc. to GBC Par. 5, Table 5.6 (Live and Load) ground floor qk = 1.50 kN/m <sup>2</sup> first floor qk = 1.50 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	DSQD	APPROVED																														
LIVE LOADS	acc. to GBC Par. 5, Table 5.6 (Live and Load) ground floor qk = 2.50 kN/m <sup>2</sup> first floor qk = 2.50 kN/m <sup>2</sup> operating rooms qk = 3.50 kN/m <sup>2</sup> ramps qk = 3.50 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	NAME	DATE																														
WIND LOADS	acc. to GBC Par. 5, Table 5.8 (Basic Wind Speed) Basic Wind Speed wk = 29 m/s	H.Hampf	Jun. 11.19																														
SEISMIC LOADS	acc. to GBC Par. 5, Figure 5.10.5.1 Seismic Zone 3 Peak Ground Acceleration 0.35g	H.Hampf	Jun. 11.19																														
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**THE SPECIALISTS SURGICAL HOSPITAL IS STRATEGICALLY LOCATED NEXT TO THE FOCOS HOSPITAL. THE COLLOCATION OF THESE TWO FOUNDATION HOSPITALS WILL ALLOW SHARING OF RESOURCES AND A COMPOUNDED EFFECT IS CAPACITY BUILDING.**

## PROJECT MANAGERS

**Architects:** Architektburo Kriesche, Germany  
Fabarchcon Architectural group, Ghana

**Civil Engineers :** IB Federlein Engineering, Germany  
Asona Construction, Ghana.

**Land :** Acquired

**Cost :** Phase 1 ( \$2 million ), Phase 2 (\$3 million )

**Timing :** Ground breaking September 2020  
Begin operations January 2022

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**We are shovel-ready to start building and invite you to support this project. Your gift will make a lasting impact in a region with more than 300 million people.**

### Consider making :

- Unspecified donation to support the building project.
- Specified donation adopting the building of a surgical ward, clinic center, or operating room suite.
- Help us identify additional supporters.

The Foundation for Special Surgery (FSS) is a 501 (C) 3 nonprofit humanitarian organization dedicated to providing highly complex surgical care in communities around the world where the need is great, but the expertise is lacking.

## LEADERSHIP

### Founder

Dr. Kofi Boahene, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

### Trustees and Advisors

Dr. Holger Gassner, Regensburg, Germany

Dr. Ife Sofola, Houston, Tx

Dr. Jospeh Akornor, Minneapolis, MN

Dr. Kerry Olsen, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Dr. Charles Cummings, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

Dr. Wayne Koch, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

Dr. Anthony Brissett, Methodist Hospital, Houston, MD

Dr. James Owusu, Virginia

Mr. Anthony Boateng, FCMA, CGMA, LL.M

### Development

Pamela Sofola, CPA, Director

Sandra Gricius

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