

Harvard Orthopaedics Faculty Lead Open Fracture Workshop in Rwanda

In June 2025, Dr. Kiran Agarwal-Harding and Dr. Edward Rodriguez traveled to Kigali, Rwanda, to lead the Open Fracture Management Workshop at the CHUK Simulation Center. The course was co-hosted by the Harvard Global Orthopaedics Collaborative (HGOC), SONA Global, and the Rwandan Orthopaedic Association, with participation from the University of Global Health Equity.

The workshop brought together over 60 surgical trainees, early-career surgeons, residents, and medical students from across Rwanda and neighboring countries. Participants engaged in a full day of hands-on training focused on open fracture management, including external fixation techniques, soft tissue coverage, and case-based discussions.

This collaborative educational initiative aimed to strengthen trauma care capacity in low-resource settings and foster long-term partnerships for surgical education and training. A hybrid curriculum offered pre-recorded lectures and readings in advance, and workshop recordings will serve as a lasting resource for future training.

“Our Orthopedic Global Health program, led by Dr. Agarwal-Harding, continues to grow and gain interest worldwide. It is invitations such as these that offer us the opportunity to engage local trainees and faculty at their sites of practice, which allow us to learn more about what is required to develop high-quality and sustainable education systems in orthopedic trauma. It was inspiring to work alongside such motivated trainees and committed local faculty,” said Dr. Rodriguez, Chief of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

In addition to its robust academic content, the course featured hands-on training using innovative medical devices specifically for low-resource environments like Rwanda. These devices not only helped train the next generation of Rwandan surgeons in best-practice care but, through the academic partnerships strengthened by this visit, are poised to enter clinical use and improve patient outcomes on a wider scale.

“It is a privilege to support our Rwandan partners in training the next generation of trauma surgeons,” said Dr. Agarwal-Harding, director of HGOC. “With the right tools and shared knowledge, we can build a future where essential trauma care is available to all, regardless of country, context, or finances.”

The workshop reflects HGOC’s ongoing mission to improve musculoskeletal care worldwide through education, collaboration, and innovation.



Department of Orthopaedics News



Tamara Rozental, MD, BIDMC, Chief, Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery was a recipient of the Harvard Medical School Excellence in Mentoring Awards. In his recorded remarks, HMS Dean George Daley welcomed attendees and thanked the awardees for building a legacy through mentoring, which he noted benefits mentees, mentors, and the institution by preparing individuals for greater responsibility and community service. Over 100 members of the HMS community and awardee family members were on hand and on-screen to celebrate the honorees.



Dang-Khoa Vo, MD, MS, arrived at Đồng Tháp General Hospital in Cao Lãnh, Đồng Tháp, Vietnam on July 21 as part of a surgical mission trip organized by Operation Walk Florida. The team will perform an anticipated 60 total hip replacements over 4 days.