TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES IN MALAWI

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WHERE IS MALAWI?

• The Warm Heart of Africa
• Tropical Medicine Elective
• Queens Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre, Malawi – OB/GYN
• 4th year medical student from MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine
• NOT Mali
OBJECTIVES

- Lack of technical advancements in dealing with medical care
- Patient resilience
- Searching for a connection amidst a different culture and language
- Meeting locals and making friends
- Take home message: Becoming a better physician
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY #1

- Fetal ultrasounds
- Lack of fetal monitoring
- Don’t know when baby is in distress
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY #2

• Neonatal resuscitation
• Lack of proper oxygen
• Lack of intubation supplies
• It's all preventable!!
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY #3

• Cervical cancer
• Lack of proper female preventative health measures
• Low on blood donations
• 2 patient stories
• Finding that human connection
CONNECTING WITH OTHER LOCALS
LESSONS LEARNED

• Be grateful
• Don’t take anything for granted
• Form connections with patients
• Be confident
• Rely on patient presentations

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