

2022

TMGH Special Lecture

# Targeting Vulnerability: Reducing Pediatric Mortality and Morbidity in High-Risk Populations

## Judd Walson, MD, MPH

Vice Chair, University of Washington Department of Global Health

Professor, Departments of Global Health, Medicine (Infectious Disease), Pediatrics and Epidemiology

Executive Director

Strategic Analysis, Research and Training Center (START Center)

Co-Director

Global Center for Integrated Health of Women, Adolescents and Children (Global WACH)



**Date: Friday, May 20, 2022 18:00 – 19:30**

**Venue: TMGH Room 404** (Please note that you may be relocated to another room if the number of participants exceeds the capacity)

Despite dramatic reductions in child mortality globally over the past decades, millions of children continue to die each year, particularly in low and middle-income settings. Current guidelines focus on acute syndromic identification and management of illness in children. This is despite the fact that about half of all child deaths following acute illness happen after discharge. Emerging data suggest that many children presenting with acute illness in these settings have underlying social and biological vulnerabilities that are independent of disease syndrome and persist long after hospital discharge. In this talk, Dr. Walson will present data supporting a fundamental shift in the identification and management of children presenting with acute illness in low and middle-income countries.



Judd Walson has an extensive history of conducting large observational studies and clinical trials in Africa and Asia, including ongoing studies in Benin, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India. Dr. Walson's research focuses on studies of neglected tropical diseases, enteric and diarrheal disease, HIV and endemic co-infections, and their relationship to child survival and early childhood development. Dr. Walson is the Principal Investigator of the DeWorm3 Project, a large multi-country cluster randomized trial designed to demonstrate the feasibility of interrupting the transmission of soil-transmitted helminths and is the co-Principal Investigator of the Childhood Acute Illness and Nutrition Network (CHAIN). He has extensive experience in the design and implementation of observational research and clinical trials, and works closely with numerous government and non-governmental organizations.