I am applying for this grant for the study entitled “**Burden of Surgical Disease on Interfacility Ambulance Transfers in Low- and Middle-Income Countries.”**We evaluated the extent of surgical diseases represented among all interfacility hospital transfers, 31.659 total, within the third largest city in Colombia and discovered that nearly 35% of interfacility transfers, were for surgical disease with a tremendous cost burden.

            The authors include Rutgers University researchers Gregory Peck, Paul Truche and Rachel Nemoyer who have worked in collaboration Colombian hospitals for the past five years as well as researchers from Cali, Colombia including Myerlandi Torres and Luis Pino who is a physician. I am currently a medical student from University of Antioquia who assisted considerably in the project. Our objective is to understand, analyze and offer solutions to improve prehospital care in Latin America. My authorship on this represents considerable work where I helped with design, data cleaning and database review. I worked on this because I been interested on global health and global surgery, and I believe the earlier I was involved the more time I have to understand the problem and think in solutions.

            This would be my first time in an international congress and I can’t afford the travel and my own university also cannot support me. I have dedicated significant time and effort to this, so being able to take part at the congress would be amazing and will allow me to gain a broader appreciation for research methods.

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