Dear Madam/Sir,

Our abstract (#ASC20191460) “Perioperative Management and Outcomes Following C-section in Rural Rwanda” accepted for oral presentation at ASC. The study described patient population delivering by C-sections, their clinical characteristics and maternal and neonatal outcomes during a period of 6 months at a rural district hospital in Rwanda. We found that previous c-section was the primary indication for c-section. This finding predict high future demand for C-sections, highlighting the need for further studies to explore appropriateness of Vaginal Birth After Cesarean (VBAC) in rural district hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa.

Authors of this study are from Rwanda and USA. The study was developed through the initiative between Harvard Medical School in USA and Partners In Health in Rwanda to build capacity and increase research leadership by LMIC nationals. Principal investigators and the senior author are local staff from Rwanda and they have worked with both local and international field experts on this study.

I’m one of the principal investigator of this study and I’d like to build on this to expand my research capacity and ambitions. I want to share our study findings and learn from other researchers in the field. However, I have financial limitations to attend the ASC conference. The budget required to cover the total budget of attending the ASC conference is about USD $4,500 which is a total of my 6 months’ income. My attendance to this conference rely very much on this travel award.

I thank you for considering my application.

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