

## Case 6: Formation of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons

### *Case Overview*

Historically, there were very few formal training opportunities for surgeons and even fewer options for credentialing in Ghana. As a result, individuals wishing to pursue surgery left the country for training, oftentimes not returning when their training was complete. The West African College of Surgeons was subsequently developed and provided a credentialing option for Ghanaian surgeons, but the process was challenging and limited the numbers of surgeons from Ghana who received credentials. Evaluation required that the individual travel outside of Ghana for credentialing which was both expensive and logistically challenging. In 2003, the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons was founded. It has become a vibrant, viable institution for local credentialing. As a result, the number of surgeons, as well as obstetrician/gynecologists has increased, helping to address the human resources gap locally.