



# PSRH Newsletter June 2025



***PSRH NEEDS TO  
HEAR FROM YOU!***

**Planning is underway for the 2026  
PSRH Conference in Tonga, and we  
want to hear from you! —our valued  
members.**

What workshops, themes, or topics  
would you like to see featured?

Your input helps shape a meaningful  
and relevant programme for the  
Pacific reproductive health workforce.



**Click here** to contribute your  
suggestions  
by **June 30, 2025.**

# PROFILE: DR. SAIASI CAGINIDAVETA



Dr Saiasi Caginidaveta, originally from Muaivuso village in Rewa with maternal ties to Nabaka village also in Rewa. I currently serve as the Chief Medical Officer position and O&G Specialist for the Northern Division of Fiji Islands, based at the Labasa Hospital. Prior to this role, I worked as an O&G Specialist across several Pacific Island countries, gaining extensive experience in reproductive health.

As the PSRH Country Coordinator, my focus is on empowering Fijian midwives and emerging specialists through capacity building initiatives. I also strive to cultivate robust professional networks and facilitate enhanced knowledge exchange among them.

In Fiji the key reproductive health challenges I see are:

## Obstetrics

- Late presentation for antenatal women
- Increasing rates of non-communicable diseases such as gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) and hypertensive disorders in pregnancy
- A rising number of HIV cases among pregnant women.

## Gynecology

- Late Detection and diagnosis of Cervical Cancer.
- Infertility issues.

To further our local efforts, we recognize the vital role of PSRH in providing continuous professional development, such as training sessions and webinars. We would also appreciate PSRH's collaboration in facilitating overseas attachments for our postgraduate trainees and in streamlining the coordination of visiting international teams delivering in-house clinical, surgical, and research training at our major specialist hospitals. These avenues represent crucial support in overcoming our challenges.



The Prevention of Parent-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PPTCT) program has been a central part of my recent work. The program's success in ensuring HIV-negative births for children of positive mothers through early testing and prompt antiretroviral (ARV) treatment is notable. However, the alarming surge in HIV cases nationwide demands urgent attention. Our critical challenge now is to contain and, in the coming years, eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV.



To all PSRH members: Let's ensure our practice is rooted in respect for every woman, embracing diversity in race, age, and religion. Our collective aim is to provide the highest standard of care, leading to a better quality of life for all. For women living with HIV, maintaining their dignity and confidentiality, regardless of pregnancy status, is crucial to the care we provide as healthcare professionals. I am open to collaborating on the management of HIV-positive cases and welcome opportunities to share insights and offer mutual support.

I can be contacted at: [fjccordinator1@psrh.org.nz](mailto:fjccordinator1@psrh.org.nz)

# Join PSRH for the Midwifery Update: Vanuatu

Speakers:

RM Susan Wokeke &

RM Harriet Obed.

Host: PSRH VP-Midwifery

RM Litiana Tatukivei

*Click on the  
picture or the link  
below to register*



## 12th June 2025

4pm Solomon Islands

5pm AU (AEST)

5pm Port Moresby

6pm Vanuatu

7pm Auckland & Fiji

8pm Tonga & Samoa

*Webinar is free but registration is essential*

*Certificates are allocated once the evaluation is completed*

***Click here to register***



## Your PSRH membership NOW DUE!

Just go to the website and complete your membership form.

[Click here to go to the website page](#)

*Membership is to the 30 March 2026.*

*As a member, you'll receive valuable privileges like early access, special event/information invites, and access to opportunities such as the [scholarship below](#).*



Australian Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology Inc.  
ABN 25 773 381 323

# ASCCP 2025 TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

NOW OPEN

The ASCCP travel scholarship award is to support healthcare professionals with an interest in the field of colposcopy or cervical pathology who reside\* in a Pacific Island country to travel and participate in the **ASCCP Colposcopy Course**. The travel scholarship awards are to provide the opportunity to enhance professional competence or extend the healthcare professionals range of skills.

The next course is being held at the **InterContinental Sydney Double Bay**, on **Friday 8 and Saturday 9 August, 2025**.

## The travel scholarship includes:

- Free registration to attend the ASCCP 2025 August course
- Economy flight reimbursement
- 3-nights' accommodation including breakfast for one at the InterContinental Sydney Double Bay
- Complimentary ASCCP membership 2025

ASCCP Membership is not a requirement to apply.

*\*Must be living and working in a Pacific Island Country.  
Not available to Australia or New Zealand residents*

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



# PSRH: DENGUE WEBINAR MAY 15, 2025

Over 60 participants joined our clinical webinar on dengue in pregnancy, led by experts from Lautoka Aspen Hospital. The session provided case-based insights into ICU and O&G care during dengue outbreaks – a powerful example of PSRH’s members responding quickly to emerging regional health challenges.



Dengue fever continues to pose significant health challenges in the Pacific region. According to the World Health Organization (2025), the Western Pacific is experiencing sustained dengue transmission, underscoring the urgent need for strengthened public health responses.

In recognition of this regional concern, PSRH hosted a well-attended webinar on May 15, 2025, bringing together clinicians to share frontline experiences and clinical insights. This member-led initiative reflected PSRH’s commitment to fostering knowledge exchange on emerging health threats. The session featured intensive care and obstetric case discussions, with active engagement from participants across the Pacific.

Pregnant women remain particularly vulnerable to dengue complications, including haemorrhage, preterm birth, and fetal loss. Clinical care in such cases requires judicious fluid management and vigilant monitoring (World Health Organization, 2025).

In support of regional coordination, the Pacific Vector Network (PVN) was launched in 2023 to enhance surveillance and vector control capacity among Pacific Island countries (Knox et al., 2025). Public health measures—including source reduction and community education—remain essential tools in curbing outbreaks (The Pacific Community, 2024).

The PSRH webinar served as a timely reminder of the importance of clinical collaboration, continuous education, and regionally coordinated responses to shared challenges.



#### References

1. Knox, N. M., Raadsma, T. L., Tompkins, D. M., Waqatakirewa, L., & Russell, T. L. (2025). The launch of the Pacific vector network: Connecting Pacific Island vector surveillance and control. *Parasites & Vectors*, 18(114). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13071-025-06760-9>
2. The Pacific Community. (2024, February). Addressing the mosquito menace in the Pacific. <https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/dynamic-story/2024/02/addressing-the-mosquito-menace-in-the-pacific>
3. World Health Organization. (2025, May 1). Dengue situation update—721. <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/publications/m/item/dengue->

# Thank You!

*to Dr Meresiana Vugawai and  
Dr William Pau'u from Fiji for  
sharing their knowledge and  
expertise at the Dengue fever  
webinar*



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