PREVENTION OF CERVICAL CANCER IN ETHIOPIA, a model clinic in Addis Ababa.
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Among female cancer, cervical cancer is the most common cause of cancer death in Ethiopia with an overall mortality of 70%. The Senamoksh Women’s Health Center in Addis Ababa established in 2005 by the Swedish-Ethiopian gynecologist Meseret Mengistu is a model clinic focusing on prevention of cervical cancer and treating preinvasive lesions. The Senamoksh Centre’s model aims to encourage collaboration between medical researchers, vaccine sellers, policy makers, other clinics, and medical associations. Patients who visit Senamoksh are informed that cervical cancer can be prevented if pre-cancerous lesions are identified and treated. The center aims to test all women who visit the center, performs PAP-test, colposcopy, histology and treatment with conisation and offers long-term follow-up. Patients with invasive cancer are referred to hospital. Postgraduate courses in cervical cancer prevention with Ethiopian and Scandinavian experts has been organized in Addis Ababa by Senamoksh since 2006 and been supported by NFOG and ESOG. Our vision is to provide professional knowhow, expertise and awareness in gynaecological oncology with focus on cervical cancer. We seek support to continue this work that establishes a modern relationship between an advanced knowledge society and developing countries.