

PTC EASTERN CAPE COURSE REPORT

By

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INTRODUCTION

Following a very successful foundation course held early in 2007, PTC Eastern Cape conducted the first course in South Africa. The course was run with ample support from the provincial department of health of Eastern Cape and Walter Sisulu University. The Departments of Surgery, Anaesthesia and Family Medicine of Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital participated by contributing their staff that was trained on the earlier occasion as trainers.

BACKGROUND

Trauma is one of the commonest pathologies encountered in South Africa and the Province of eastern cape is no exception. All medical persons are expected to have a sound understanding of managing trauma patients. It was noticed that the standard of care offered to trauma patients was not up to standards expected resulting in significant mortality and morbidity, which is to a large extent avoidable. Prof Adekunle from the Department of Surgery discussed with Dr KLN Mafanya, the Head of the Clinical Governance of Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital Complex about offering PTC course to professionals in the peripheral hospitals thereby empowering them with the knowledge to manage trauma patients. The department fully supported the idea and it was decided to conduct the first PTC course on the 5th and 6th of November to be followed by further courses in the future

PTC COURSE

The venue of the course was Walter Sisulu University in Mthatha. Prof. E L Mazwai, the Dean for the Faculty of Health Sciences opened the programme. Prof Nelvigi, Head of the Department of Anesthesia gave an introductory welcome speech.

The skills lab of the University was provided for practical sessions. Presentations were made with the help of a projector and laptop offered by the university. English was the medium of instruction.

The following were the instructors for the course

Dr.Dhaffala	Dept of Neurosurgery
Dr.Oloruntoba	Dept of Orthopaedics
Dr.Kingu	Dept of Plastic Surgery
Dr.Pradhan	Dept of Family Medicine
Dr.Louis	Dept of Family Medicine
Dr.Jayakrishnan	Dept of Surgery
Dr.Shrivastava	Dept of Anaesthesia
Dr.Joseph	Dept of Surgery

The following were the participants

- Dr.Navratnarajan, Superintendent , St. Barnabas Hospital
- Dr.Richard Cooke, Chief Medical Officer, Madwaleni Hospital
- SN Magdla, Umtata General Hospital
- SN Hlomendlin, Umtata General Hospital
- Dr Roopasingh, Chief Medical Officer, Gateway Clinic
- SN Vambani, Gateway Clinic, Umtata
- Dr Fodo, Medical Officer, St Elizabeth Hospital
- Dr Chukwuma, Principal Medical officer, St, Elizabeth Hospital
- SN Mbambo, Umtata General Hospital
- SN Ntuli, Professional Nurse, GBH
- Dr Ximbi, Community Service Medical Officer, Mt.Frere Hospital
- Dr Masenga Medical officer, All Saints Hospital
- Dr Nkomo, Senior Medical officer, St Barnabas Hospital
- Dr Ndlwana, Mc Lear Hospital, Medical officer
- Dr Noah, Senior Medical Officer, Umtata General hospital
- SN T.T Dlamini, Holy Cross Hospital
- Dr Ndlela , Senior Medical officer, St Barnabas Hospital
- SN Songo, Professional nurse, Holycross Hospital
- Dr Yose, Chief Medical officer, All Saints Hospital
- Dr Andezai, Principal Medical Officer, Madwaleni Hospital
- Sn Mvemve, Professional Nurse, Zitulele Hospital
- SN Mtshisilo, McLear Hospital
- SN Magula
- SN Khoza, Auxiliary Nurse, Zitulele
- Dr Lubiku, Principal Medical officer, Mt Frere Hospital
- Dr Sona, Senior Medical Officer, Holycross Hospital
- SN Tame, Mc Lear Hospital
- SN Beje, professional Nurse, Holycross Hospital

Initially the decision was to include only 25 candidates. They were chosen from the various peripheral hospitals in the province. There was an overwhelming response from these institutions trying to include their candidates. As a result the number of candidates had to be increased to 28. The candidates included nurses, junior doctors as well as senior doctors. During the selection of the candidates some of the faculty members raised concerns about blending doctors with nurses. All those concerns were proved to be wrong as the course progressed since all the participants grabbed the information with relative ease. All of them had received immense exposure to trauma patients in their working environment. The programme of the course was the one for the standard two-day course. The candidates were provided accommodation for the night as they traveled from far away places. The

participants and the faculty were provided with lunch and refreshments during the course. In accordance with PTC policy, no per diems were paid to participants nor did the faculty receive any fees for their contributions.

All participants were provided with PTC manuals at the start of the course. They were also given an MCQ at the beginning and at the end of the test. The pre- test average was 44.6% with the highest being 74marks while the posttest average was 77% with the highest being one hundred percent.

Prof.O O Adekunle, the Director of Post Graduate training for WSU, officially closed the course. The candidates were given certificates in recognition of the training received.



**FOTO OF PTC COURSE FACULTY WITH PARTICIPANTS
WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY , MTHATHA**

CONCLUSION

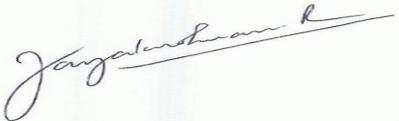
The response from the participants was very motivating and gratifying for the faculty members. The participants appreciated the content of the course and the nature of delivery of the same. They strongly felt that the course should be undertaken on a routine basis in the province. Some of the hospitals have already booked their candidates for the next course.

At the end of the course the faculty met and identified 3 candidates as potential candidates for trainers. It was based on the candidates communication skills, knowledge and inclination to teach. The faculty is planning to conduct three courses in 2008 and one of the courses is intended to train the trainers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Intermingling doctors and nurses in the same course should not be a cause of concern and showed the adaptability of the course.

Future courses should be held at the university whereby easy access to skills lab, presentation rooms are present.



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