

### *Eastern Cape Foundation PTC Course*

*12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March 2007, Health Resource Centre  
Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital, Mthatha. South Africa*

At the invitation of Dr. David Oloruntoba, PTC regional co-coordinator for Africa, and with the support of the Dean and academic staff of the Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital, the first PTC foundation courses were held in Mthatha, Eastern Cape, in March 2007. Eastern Cape contains the former Transkei, which under the former regime was a disadvantaged ("homeland") area. Its population is largely rural, served by a number of district hospitals, with the main referral hospitals (Umtata General Hospital & Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital) situated on adjacent sites in Mthatha.



The aims of our foundation course were to introduce PTC to Eastern Cape, and to train a group of local instructors who would be able to teach PTC in their region and beyond.

In 2006, discussions about trauma management in peripheral hospitals with Prof. O. Adekunle, the Director of Postgraduate Training and Education, Faculty of Health Sciences, Walter Sisulu University in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa led to the submission of a proposal for the introduction of PTC courses in the Eastern Cape. This was followed by a business and an operational plan.

The Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, WSU, Prof M.L. Mazwai approved the proposal and funding & invitations were sent out to the 3 hospital complexes in the Eastern Cape.

The members of the local planning committee were;

- Prof. O. Adekunle.
- Prof. Nelivigi
- Dr. Dhaffala.
- Dr. Joseph.
- Dr. H. Kingu
- Dr. Oloruntoba.

The foundation package for Primary Trauma Care Course consisted of:

- 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March: 1<sup>st</sup> 2 day course.
- 14<sup>th</sup> March: 1-day Instructors course & formation of PTC Committee for the Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March: 2<sup>nd</sup> 2 day course.

### **Sponsors and Motivators;**

- Faculty of Health Sciences, Walter Sisulu University, Mthatha, RSA.
- PTC Foundation, Oxford, UK.
- Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital Complex, Mthatha, RSA.

### ***1<sup>st</sup> PTC course; 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007***

The first PTC course was opened by Prof. Mazwai on 12<sup>th</sup> March at the Health Resource Centre, Mthatha. The 12 participants were senior physicians from Mthatha, East London and Port Elizabeth Hospital complexes and St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lusikisiki. Dr. Dobson introduced the course and a pre-test MCQ was administered.

The Instructors for this course were;

*Dr. Mike Dobson, Anaesthetist, Oxford, UK.*  
*Dr. D.O. Oloruntoba, Orthopaedics, NMAH*  
*Dr. H.J. Kingu, Plastic Surgery, NMAH*

Time keeping was very good and all instructors kept within their allotted time. Skills stations ran smoothly and the workshops were adequately interactive.

Tea breaks & lunch were served on time & the food & facilities were good.

The final MCQ showed a substantial improvement in knowledge and practical abilities among participants (63-91%). Since all participants had attained an adequate standard, volunteer instructors were asked to sign up for the 1-day trainers course the next day.

A sample of evaluation comments from participants:

*"PTC courses should be given to all staff at NMAH & peripheral hospitals."*  
*"The course was simple and is adaptable."*  
*"Suggestion to teach some material in different ways."*  
*"Health science students should be given the course."*

Dr Oloruntoba closed the course after Dr. Kingu handed out attendance certificates.

### ***One day Instructors Course; 14<sup>th</sup> March 2007***

The 1 day instructors course was run mainly by Mrs. Shirley Dobson who is an educator. It was designed to teach instructors methods of passing knowledge & skills to adults & organising PTC courses. Instructors were:

*Mrs. S.M Dobson.*  
*Dr. M. B Dobson.*  
*Dr. D.O. Oloruntoba.*

The day consisted of a mixture of lectures on teaching techniques plus practical micro-teaching sessions, learning how to teach a practical skill, and interactive group sessions.

The day was concluded by the establishment of a PTC committee for the Eastern Cape Province.

The Committee members are as follows;

*Prof. M.L. Mazwai – Patron & Adviser.*

*Dr. Dhaffala – Chairperson.*

*Dr. Joseph – Surgeon NMAH*

*Dr. Kingu – Surgeon NMAH.*

*Dr. Shrivastava – Anaesthetist, NMAH.*

*Dr. Pandey – surgeon, E/London complex.*

*Dr. Pradhan – family physician, UGH.*

*Dr. Mulunda – medical officer, St. Elizabeth Hosp. Lusikisiki.*

Thereafter lectures and roles were allocated for those trainers who were able to stay on and administer the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-day course under supervision of the training team from the 1<sup>st</sup> course.

### ***2<sup>nd</sup> 2-day PTC course; 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2007***

A new group of 7 trainees registered for the second course. The training team was led by Dr. Joseph/ Dr. Agyekum. Lectures, skills stations & workshops followed the pattern of the 1<sup>st</sup> course. Most instructors kept to time & breaks were well served. The new trainers displayed very good teamwork.

Average MCQ scores improved from 58% to 86% on the second course showing an improvement of 28% - a result fully comparable with the first course. The course was closed by Dr. Oloruntooba & attendance certificates were handed out by Dr. Kingu.

### ***Comments & the way forward:***

- The airway skills station with the intubation mannequin provided the biggest challenge. More time is needed at this station especially for non-physician trainees in future courses.
- The committee & all trainers agreed that courses within the Eastern Cape must be commenced very soon.
- Requests have been tentatively put forward for PTC courses for; NMAH Accident and Emergency staff, UGH Accident & emergency staff & St. Elizabeth Hosp Lusikisiki.
- For future courses, trainees should be of similar training & experience levels.
- A decision was taken by the PTC committee to start The 1<sup>st</sup> courses with St. Elizabeth Hosp. Lusikisiki & UGH Mthatha if possible in the month of April 2007.

### ***Acknowledgements:***

1. We are grateful to the Dean Prof. M.L. Mazwai for his staunch support & for making this intervention in the health of all South Africans possible.
2. Prof. O. Adekunle, Director of Postgraduate Training & Education for his organization & support of the course.
3. Prof. Nelivigi, Head of Anaesthesia for support with equipment.
4. Mrs. Dabata, the Directors secretary for running the administrative aspects of the course very efficiently.
5. Management and Staff of the Health Resource Centre.

We are very optimistic that this is the start of a positive development in improving the quality of health service delivery in this province.

***Dr. D.O. Oloruntoba,***  
*Course coordinator.*

**Attendance List, 1<sup>st</sup> 2 day Course - 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> March**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Centre</b>
Prof. Bustamante	Surgeon	NMAH
Dr. Dhaffala	Surgeon	NMAH
Dr. T. Alexander	Intern	Pietermaritzburg
Dr. Jayakrishnam	Surgical officer	NMAH
Dr. Joseph	Surgeon	NMAH
Dr. Kwame Agyekum	Surgical Officer	NMAH, Bedford Ortho Hosp
Dr. Kaswa	Medical Officer	NMAH.
Dr. James	Medical Officer ENT	NMAH
Dr. Lonwabo Gqoli	Surgical Officer	Port Elizabeth Hosp Complex
Dr. Makhafula	Surgical officer	NMAH
Dr. Mulunda	Medical Officer	St. Elizabeth Hosp, Lusikisiki.
Dr. Osigwe	CMO	NMAH
Dr. Luis Perez	Medical Officer	UGH
Dr. Pradhan	Medical Officer	UGH
Dr. Pandey	Surgeon	East London Hosp Complex.
Dr. Shrivastava	CMO Anaesthesia	NMAH

**Attendance List, Instructor course - 14<sup>th</sup> March**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Centre</b>
Dr Luis Perez	Medical Officer	UGH
Dr. C.P. Shrivastava	Anaesthesia	NMAH
Dr. Dhaffala	Surgery	NMAH
Dr. Joseph	Surgery	NMAH
Dr. Jayakrishnam	Surgery	NMAH
Dr. S.R. Pandey	Surgery	East London Complex
Dr. R. Osigwe	Accident & Emergency	NMAH
Dr. K. Agyekum	Orthopaedics	Bedford Hosp, NMAH
Dr. F. Mulunda	Medical Officer	St. Elizabeth Hosp, Lusikisiki
Dr. R.P. Kaswa	Forensics	WSU
Dr. S.P. Pradhan	Medical Officer	UGH
Dr. T. Alexander	Medical Officer	Pietermaritzburg

**Attendance List, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2 day Course, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Centre</b>
Dr. G. Cusati	Medical Officer, Orthopaedics	Bedford Hosp, NMAH
Dr. R. Becerra	Medical Officer	UGH
Dr. C. Hobson	Cosmo	NMAH
Dr. B. Hobson	Cosmo	NMAH
Dr. L. Kwaza	Med. Officer, Ortho	Bedford Hosp, NMAH
Dr. M. Thanga	Med Officer, A/E	NMAH
SR Nompandana	Nurse, A/E	NMAH
SR N. Golimpi	Nurse, A/E	NMAH
Dr. Iqbal	Med officer, surgery	NMAH
Dr. JB Mkwanzani	Medical Officer	UGH

*Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital, Mthatha*



*Health Resource Centre*



*Course participants*



*David Oloruntoba teaching*



*Howard Kingu teaching*



*Skill station*



*Scenario*



*Lunch*





*Micro-teaching on the instructor course*

