

## COURSE REPORT

LIRA REGIONAL REFERRAL HOSPITAL, UGANDA

May 2014

Report Presented by: Richard Harker

### **COSECSA Oxford Orthopaedic Link (COOL)**

This Primary Trauma Care course is part of a project funded through the Health Partnership Scheme, which is funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) for the benefit of the UK and partner country health sectors and managed by the Tropical Health Education Trust (THET). The project is called the COSECSA Oxford Orthopaedic Link (COOL). More information is available at [www.ndorms.ox.ac.uk/cool.php](http://www.ndorms.ox.ac.uk/cool.php).



PTC





# PTC Course Report

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This report details a UK team visit to Lira in North Uganda to run a Primary Trauma Course Foundation Programme (PTCF) in May 2014. This was the fourth of a new wave of THET funded PTC courses in Uganda as part of the COOL project via Oxford and COSECSA.

With the high incidence of trauma and its poor management well documented throughout Africa, the need for improved trauma management is of paramount importance in order to save life and promote both a rapid and quality recovery. The PTCF aims to address this issue through a properly structured and consistent programme that takes into account the poor resource environments the medical teams work in.

This report summarises each stage of the courses together and concludes with discussion points and issues raised.

### **KEY STAFF INVOLVED IN PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING**

#### **Uganda:**

<b>Alex Bangirana</b>	Consultant Surgeon, PTC Coordinator Uganda
<b>Professor Emmanuel Moro</b>	PTC Representative for Uganda COSECSA
<b>Peter Awio</b>	Consultant Surgeon, Lira General Hospital

#### **UK:**

<b>Nigel Rossiter</b>	UK Country Coordinator for Uganda
<b>Annette Clack</b>	UK PTCF Administrator

### **UK PTC INSTRUCTORS**

<b>Richard Harker</b>	Orthopaedic Consultant, Basingstoke <a href="mailto:richard.harker@btinternet.com">richard.harker@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Richard McGregor</b>	General Surgical Specialist Registrar, Edinburgh <a href="mailto:Richard.McGregor@ed.ac.uk">Richard.McGregor@ed.ac.uk</a>

### **Ugandan PTC INSTRUCTORS**

<b>Ian Asiimwe</b>	General Surgeon, Hoima Hospital <a href="mailto:ianshaneasiimwe@yahoo.com">ianshaneasiimwe@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Samuel Magada</b>	Orthopaedic Surgeon, Gulu University Hospital <a href="mailto:drmagada@yahoo.co.uk">drmagada@yahoo.co.uk</a>

### **Overview of week**

40 People attended over the course of the week. All seemed very enthusiastic about the PTC system and involved themselves completely in the role-play scenarios and discussion groups. The course had been arranged in Lira at very short notice and we are very grateful that Dr Peter Awio could host the course.



Local organisation was excellent. We held the course in the Showa Trade Lira Hotel in the centre of town, which also provided accommodation for the faculty. The course was held in its conference facility with a large, cool conference room with excellent catering provided by the hotel. The large space allowed us to run six stations for the second course, allowing all our Instructors the chance to run a role-play scenario at the same time. Despite numerous thunderstorms there were no power outages and the course ran smoothly.

The box of training aids contained all that was required to run the training stations and help with the scenarios. Most paperwork had been prepared in advance (much by Tim Beacon from the Arua course and this was topped up by Alex Bangirana) and the few remaining items were obtained locally. I performed a paperwork audit at the end of our time in Lira, which is attached and also can be circulated separately

The UK instructors (Richard Harker and Richard McGregor) were ably assisted by Ian Asiimwe and Samuel Magada who came at very short notice and travelled very long distances to teach on this course. Their local knowledge and insight was greatly appreciated.



We were joined by a series of guests during the week. Professor Moro joined us on the Wednesday and Thursday, lecturing in the 'Tips for Trainers' course on Wednesday and opening the Thursday course.

Charles Clayton joined us on the Friday to oversee the Final day and was our guest of honour who presented the certificates to our delegates in our awards ceremony

We also had the pleasure of being joined for dinner on Wednesday by the Hon. Prof. Tarsis Kabwegyere, Minister in Charge of General Duties, Office of the Prime Minister. He was staying in the hotel, joined us for dinner and was very interested in the whole PTC project. We had a fascinating evenings discussion!

After the Wednesday course we (Richard Harker, Richard McGregor and Prof. Moro) went on a tour visiting Lira University College (an offshoot of Gulu University) and then Lira Regional Referral Hospital,

hosted by Peter Awio, which gave us a good insight into the nature of healthcare in the region and the challenges that trauma provides them



## Summary of course

### Day 1-2

16 Doctors attended, 11 men and 5 women. All excellent and suitable as instructors but unfortunately due to work commitments only half were able to return on the Wednesday for the instructor course. Universally enthusiastic, well informed and very keen. Course ran smoothly and the overall results were good, mean knowledge rising of 63.9% to 82%, mean confidence from 63.8% to 81.3%. Full results are attached separately.

### PTC Instructor Course

8 (4 women) attended the PTC instructor-training course of which 5 could return as faculty for the next course. All showed excellent enthusiasm and we had very good feedback about the day. They organised themselves well and assigned their own roles for the following days requiring little input from the more experienced faculty.



Feedback was excellent, candidates enjoyed all the sessions and almost all hoped that the course was longer! Their confidence rose after the course and all expressed a desire to teach.

## Day 4-5

24 Nurses and Clinical Officers attended for the last two days (12 women, of which 2 were clinical officers and 10 nurses) Unfortunately only 22 completed the course; 2 candidates had to leave at lunch on the last day.

Results: mean knowledge rising from 42.6% to 63.1%, mean confidence from 63.8% to 82.1%. These lower knowledge scores reflected the fact that the course was for nurses and clinical officers and this disparity has been noticed on previous courses. Again, full results are attached.



The standard of teaching was excellent, with lectures running to time. Each presenter covered the PTC syllabus and adding in extra information and local knowledge.

They had also arranged that the other instructors would ask questions at the end of each lecture, which stimulated excellent discussion. They also answered questions from the back, helping the lecturer if this was useful. Having a large room and 5 extra instructors we were able to run six scenario stations at once allowing two experienced instructors to float around in a supervisory capacity. It also gave the new instructors at least two lectures each, providing adequate experience but not overburdening them.



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