

EL SALVADOR 2014 REPORT

Purpose Of The Visit:

A 2+1 PTC course for physicians and nurses in San Salvador.

Executive Summary:

This was a 2+1 PTC course organized by Eric Cioe, MD (MPH Candidate, Columbia University International Emergency Medicine Fellow), together with the local Surgical Association (Asociación Salvadoreña de Cirugía General), and the active support of Glasswing International (a NGO operating in Central America, mainly in El Salvador) held at the Auditorium of **Hospital Nacional San Rafael**, San Salvador. Both, the basic and the instructor course were extremely successful; therefore, expectations are high for the near future of PTC El Salvador.

Key Staff in Planning and Co-ordinating Professional Aspects

1. Eric Cioe, MD. Columbia University International Emergency Medicine Fellow
2. Juan José Cálix, MD. President of Asociación Salvadoreña de Cirugía General
3. Johanna Manzano, MD. Training Director, Glasswing International El Salvador

Course Participants

There were a total of 34 people registered for the first day, out of which 27 attended 100% of activities and got the certification at the end of day 2.

26 General Surgeons

2 General practitioners

2 Nurses

2 Emergency Physicians (Columbia University Medical Center & Downstate - NYSU in Brooklyn)

2 Residents of Emergency Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center.

It is important to highlight that we had General Surgeons from three of the most important hospitals in San Salvador, Hospital Nacional San Rafael (HNSR), Hospital Militar Central (HMC) and Instituto Salvadoreño del Seguro Social (ISSS), as well as 3 representatives of the recently created Sistema de Emergencias Médicas (SEM), one of them being the National Training Director.

Course Instructors

Víctor Pineda, Anaesthesiologist. Chairperson PTC Guatemala

Roberto Albo, Emergency Physician, PTC México

Aníbal Farías, General Surgeon, PTC Venezuela

Juan Carlos Duarte, Anaesthesiologist, PTC Venezuela

Note: Aníbal Farías was not able to board at Caracas airport because of an unexpected visa issue.

Details of Activities

Course activities on all three days started on time. Because of the large number of participants, activities during the three days ended later than expected. The typical schedule was used, with a light difference (see contents of the PTC course, below). Hospital Nacional San Rafael was just right for PTC. The course was held at the Auditorium which accommodated all participants. Two of the three work stations were in the same room; the third was just outside in a wide, outdoor hall. There is an obvious financial advantage having this venue rather than renting a hotel conference room

Subsidiary Activities

All of the instructors arrived the day before PTC course started: Roberto Albo and Juan Carlos Duarte flew from their respective countries (México and Venezuela). Víctor Pineda drove his own car from neighbor Guatemala City. Aníbal Farías was not able to board the flight to El Salvador because his USA visa was not stamped in his passport (El Salvador doesn't request a formal visa for Venezuelan citizens, but visitors must have a USA visa in good standing, which is not advertised at the El Salvador Migration's webpage).

Instructors were staying in two shared rooms at Hilton hotel, in the "Zona Rosa" of San Salvador. We were invited to have dinner every night, so we were able to enjoy some of the Salvadorian typical foods, and enjoy very pleasant moments, sharing friendship and fellowship with some of the local organizers and new instructors.

Media Coverage

Only Glasswing International was covering the courses with its own press people.

Contents of Primary Trauma Care Course

The course was held as per the usual schedule. The lecture on secondary survey was delivered after the first scenarios, which seems more sensible to our way of thinking.

We decided to introduce a skill station on eFAST instead of pleural drainages, because almost all participants were surgeons with variable degrees of experience on it, and people from Columbia University and NYSU brought two US machines to train emergency physicians & surgeons in some hospitals around the city. They offered the machines and their expertise to run this skill station, and at the end of the day we agreed that we were right in making the change. All of the participants had the chance to handle the US probe as a healthy volunteer and explore the normal view when doing an eFAST

Schedule

Primer Día:

08:00-08:20	Bienvenida e Introducción al PTC. <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>	
08:20-08:40	Prueba de escogencia múltiple	
08:40-09:10	ABCDE del Trauma, Evaluación Primaria. <i>Dr. Roberto Albo</i>	
09:10-09:30	Vías Aéreas & Ventilación. <i>Dr. Víctor Pineda</i>	
09:30-10:00	Circulación y Shock. <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>	
10:00-10:20	<i>Café</i>	
10:20-13:00	Estaciones de trabajo	Movilización en bloque y anexos <i>Dr. Roberto Albo</i> Vía Aérea-CCC <i>Dr. Víctor Pineda</i> Drenajes torácicos /eFAST <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>
13:00-14:00	Almuerzo	
14:00-14:20	Demostración de caso clínico (video)	
14:20-15:40	Escenarios Prácticos: Evaluación inicial <i>Todos los instructores</i>	
15:40-16:00	Evaluación Secundaria <i>Dr. Víctor Pineda</i>	
16:00-16:20	<i>Café</i>	
16:20-16:40	Trauma Torácico. <i>Dr. Roberto Albo</i>	
16:40-17:00	Trauma Abdominal. <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>	
17:00-17:20	Trauma de extremidades. <i>Dr. Roberto Albo</i>	
17:20-17:40	Resumen del día <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>	

Segundo Día:

08:00-08:40	Trauma Craneoencefálico & Raquimedular. <i>Dr. Víctor Pineda</i>	
08:40-09:10	Trauma Pediátrico & Obstétrico <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>	
09:10-09:30	Quemaduras <i>Dr. Roberto Albo</i>	
09:30-09:45	<i>Café</i>	
09:45-12:00	Estaciones de trabajo.	Inmovilización & analgesia <i>Dr. Roberto Albo</i> Trauma Pediátrico <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i> Evaluación Neurológica <i>Dr. Víctor Pineda</i>
12:00-12:45	Almuerzo	
12:45-13:20	Manejo de Desastres <i>Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte</i>	
13:20-13:40	Demostración de casos por instructores (video)	
13:40-14:00	Prueba de escogencia múltiple	
14:00-16:00	Escenarios prácticos: Evaluación final <i>Todos los instructores</i>	
16:00-16:30	Resumen, Certificados y conclusiones	

PTC Course Evaluation forms

When filling out the forms, nearly all participants gave top marks to every activity, including lectures, skill stations and moulage. As usual, most participants wanted more time for the work stations and moulages.

Summary of MCQ Scores before and after the course

For the MCQ test taken before the course, the top mark was 93,3% of right answers and the lowest one, 53,33%. 13 participants (38%) ranked between 80% - 100%, 16 people (47%) ranked between 60% - 76,7%.

For the after course MCQ test, the improvement was the expected: All of the participants were above 70%, with 81% of them above 80% mark and 3 achieving 100%.

Evaluation of the Success and Relevance of the Visit

We might say the visit was absolutely successful, considering the number of people attending the call, the degree of participation of each one of them, and the satisfaction reflected in the PTC course evaluation forms.

After giving a closer look at participants, we noticed that they came from most of the main hospitals in the city. They are the people in charge of providing primary care to trauma patients, and were looking for trauma management training for a long while; then, we would expect the impact of PTC to be effective immediately at their workplaces.

Even more, we had people from Servicio Nacional de Emergencias Médicas, which is the institution developed for being the first responders in trauma cases and to take patients to the right hospital. So, we gave all of them the possibility to discover that they need to speak the same language at all stages of trauma care, if they want to guarantee that their continuous actions improve the final outcomes for patients.

Contents of the Primary Trauma Care Instructors Course

➤ **SABADO 26 de Julio 2014** 08:00 a 18:00 Hs.

Bienvenida Introducción – 10 min *Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte*

Como aprenden los adultos – 20 min *Dr. Roberto Albo*

Haciendo Preguntas - 15 min *Dr. Víctor Pineda*

Retroalimentación - 15 minutos *Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte*

Café – 15 min

Presentación 1. – 90 minutos - Todos los instructores

Como ejecutar las presentaciones:

Introducción General – 20 min *Dr. Roberto Albo*

Conferencias – 20 min *Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte*
Grupo de discusión – 20 min *Dr. Roberto Albo*
Enseñando una destreza – 20 minutos *Dr. Víctor Pineda*
Escenarios – 20 minutos *Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte*
Almuerzo – 60 min
TALLERES - 90 minutos 3 GRUPOS
Grupo de Discusión – 30 min *Dr. Juan Carlos Duarte*
Enseñando una destreza – 30 min *Dr. Víctor Pineda*
Escenarios – 30 min *Dr. Roberto Albo*
Café – 15 min
Presentación 2. - 80 minutos – Todos los instructores
Dificultades con el idioma – 15 min *Dr. Víctor Pineda*
Evaluación del curso de Instructores – Hoja de evaluación, tormenta de ideas, conclusiones – 20 min
Resumen - Usted y el futuro del PTC – 10 min *Dr. Roberto Albo*
Cierre del curso & Certificados

PTC Instructors Course Participants

- 1 José Mauricio Delgado Ramírez /GP - HNSR
- 2 Ernesto Alberto Molina Ramos /GP - SEM
- 3 Daniel Armando Zelaya López /Surgeon - SEM
- 4 Norma Beatriz Monrroy Portillo / GP – SEM National training chairperson
- 5 Cristóbal Fuentes / Surgeon - HNSR
- 6 Karla Patricia Guillen Flores /Surgeon - HNSR
- 7 Juan Francisco Franco Díaz / Surgeon – ISS
- 8 José Roberto Peña Hueso / Surgeon - ISS
- 9 María José Pérez / Surgeon - ISS
- 10 Eduardo Alfonso Chacón / Surgeon - HMC
- 11 Karla Jeannette Contreras / Surgeon - HMC
- 12 Douglas Juan Pablo Aviles Díaz / Surgeon - HMC
- 13 Tatiana Velarde / Surgeon - HMC
- 14 Ashika Jain / Emergency – Downstate (NYSU)
- 15 Eric Cioe / Emergency – Columbia University
- 16 Silvia Cristela Leiva Molina / Surgeon - ISS
- 17 Raul Eduardo Rodríguez Merino /Surgeon - ISS
- 18 Juan José Cáliz / Surgeon – HNSR

PTC Instructors Course instructors

Víctor Pineda. Guatemala's PTC Chairman
Roberto Albo. México PTC
Juan Carlos Duarte. PTC LA Representative

PTC Instructors Course Evaluation forms

When filling out the forms, nearly all participants gave top marks to every activity, even though they finished one hour late, because of the high number of participants.

PTC Instructor Information forms

All of the 18 PTC El Salvador new Instructors showed a high degree of commitment and did their best to learn the PTC method. They are a very strong group, with an interesting mix of trauma care experience and youth; some of them are very skilled teachers, and the other ones, very enthusiastic learners. We do believe that this new PTC Instructors team will perform well teaching PTC courses.

Observations and Recommendations for Future Visits

The only recommendation I would make for the near future is to invite and involve people from other medical specialties to the Instructors' team. It would look like a real life case of trauma: multidisciplinary.

The partnership with Glasswing International and Asociación Salvadoreña de Cirugía General should continue. Hopefully, they will develop a stronger relationship.

The possibility to get a university affiliation should be explored. Medical students are the great real target where PTC can find its best chances to make a change. Finally, they must start to work, as soon as possible, to take advantage of the enthusiasm these courses awakened.

Acknowledgments

First of all, to Eric Cioe. Many, many, many thanks!!! Only his endeavor made it possible. Hopefully, he will be for a long time with PTC El Salvador.

Thanks to Glasswing International for all the support given. Without its help, it would have been very difficult to succeed. To everybody in its team, many thanks, specially to Johanna Manzano, MD, for everything she did for us.

PTC is very thankful for the cooperation of Asociación Salvadoreña de Cirugía General. They accepted the challenge and worked very hard to take PTC as the trauma care training program to El Salvador. Thanks to Juan José Cálix, MD, for believing and supporting this PTC landing in El Salvador.

To Hospital Nacional San Rafael, thanks for allowing us to use its auditorium all those days. It meant a considerable cost reduction for the organizers.

Finally, many thanks to Ashika Jain (Downstate – NYSU) for taking PTC courses and for her help with eFAST station, as well as to Elaine Oliveira and Anisa Heravian (Columbia Medical Center Emergency Medicine) for taking PTC course and for their support.

PTC El Salvador new Instructors



eFAST skillstation



