

Primary Trauma Care Foundation: Course Report

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Your Details

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People

Course Director	Judith Mkwaila
Course Staff/Faculty	Nil
Course Instructors	John Gawanika (Anaesthetic Clinical Officer), Francis Masoo (Anaesthetic Clinical Officer), Mphatso Kumpumula (Medical Officer), Jessie Mbamba (family Medicine Registrar), Modai Mnenula(Family Medicine Registrar), Judith Mkwaila (General Surgeon) and Mulinda Nyirenda (Emergency Medicine),
Course Participants	14 Mangochi District Hospital staff (1 Family Medicine Registrar, 5 Clinical Officer, 4 medical assistants, and 4 nurses)

Course Details

Executive Summary (*achievements/problems/any additional background information*)

Mangochi District Hospital is a training site for family medicine specialty (undergraduate and postgraduate) training under College of Medicine, University of Malawi. The family medicine faculty decided to provide the Primary Trauma Care course to the hospital staff as part of their contribution to strengthening the hospital's trauma care capacity. There was a great motivation to equip clinicians and nurses in trauma care knowledge and skills as the emergency care section was undergoing some renovations under Beit Trust funding to create a more conducive resuscitation and stabilization area for patients attending Mangochi district hospital. The course was organised under sponsorship by the Family Medicine department. This was the second time we were offering the course to the hospital staff. There is a high turnover rate among clinical and nursing staff at this hospital. The course is also used as a team building activity for the family medicine registrars and hospital staff to network better outside the usual clinical care setting.

How did you prepare for the course(s) (*e.g. printing, venue, invitations*)

The training dates were organised with the family medicine faculty and PTC facilitators. All course materials were organised peripherally by PTC Malawi coordinator. Institutional

leadership informed participants about the course. The course venue was Fort Johnstone Hotel close to Mangochi district hospital.

The faculty consisted of :

- 2 family medicine senior registrars who were able to learn and improve in their teaching skills on the course;
- 2 PTC faculty members from Mzuzu(North of Malawi) as a way of refreshing PTC facilitation skills in preparation for courses to be delivered in the north in 2019,
- 1 medical officer from KCH to help provide the general perspective to trauma care delivery
- 2 experienced PTC facilitators from Blantyre.

We organised an Instructor Course on the day before the delivery of the course. The experienced PTC facilitators (Dr Mulinda Nyirenda and Mr John Gawanika) conducted the Instructor course using 2015 instructor course materials. Costs for running the instructor course were met using PTC Malawi funds.

The instructor course was greatly valued by the 5 participants. They appreciated the following lectures the most – how to create an interactive environment, communication skills and how to engage an adult learner. The reflection after each session was commended as helpful. The faculty asked for provision of resources earlier in future and some commitment to lectures or sessions to facilitate so that they could practice during the instructor's course practical sessions. At the end of the day, participant confidence levels had improved in their ability to deliver the PTC course.

This was Dr Jessie Mbamba's first participation as an instructor after having attended the PTC course in June 2016. All other facilitators have more than one PTC course facilitation experience.

The faculty then planned for the delivery of the PTC 2 day course using the 2015 PTC materials. Peer mentors were assigned for each instructor.

Details of Activities (any special arrangements or timing?)

The PTC course was delivered with a few adjustments to the course timetable template. On Day 1 when we opted to complete all lectures before proceeding into skills stations after tea break. The demonstration scenario on day 1 focused on primary survey conduct. We repeated the demonstration scenario on day 2, now doing both a primary and secondary survey. This helped participants focus and perform better in the scenarios practice. We have noted that it helps cement the learning for participants. We added a drowning discussion for the group as it was frequently injury encountered at this hospital.

Outcomes (for each course please include number of people trained, their roles and the change in average MCQ/Confidence Matrix scores. For instructor courses, please also let us know which course materials you used).

14 participants (1 Family Medicine Registrar, 5 Clinical Officer, 4 medical assistants, and 4 nurses) attended the course to completion.

Average Pre-test score was 55.4%, Average Post-test score 66.4% and Average mark improvement 11%.

The confidence matrix showed an improvement in confidence to handle the trauma case scenarios evaluated as standards on the course. Handling a paediatric and a pregnant woman with trauma had the least confidence scores in the pre course evaluation and improved considerably

Evaluation Summary *(what is your overall view of the success and relevance of this course?)*

The course was a great success. It achieved its objectives by equipping the clinicians and nurses with the relevant skills to deliver trauma care effectively with minimum resources. Participants indicated that this was the first interactive trauma course they had engaged in and felt empowered to deliver the course.

The faculty performed well as a team and it was great to witness the family medicine registrars gain confidence in empowering staff they work with better. Dr Mkwaila was an amazing course director that helped us keep focus and adjust to participant needs during the course.

Evaluation Report *(list the team's answers from the post-course evaluation)*

The course elements was graded as very well delivered by more than 75% of the participants and the rest indicated the course content was delivered well.

The participants were appreciative of the hands-on experienced offered on the course – highlighting scenarios and workshops. Participants also appreciated learning about a systematic primary survey evaluation.

On query regarding what to improve on the course, the common request was to extend the time in which the course is delivered to allow more scenarios practice sessions.

Please supply details of any coverage by press, radio or TV

Nil

Acknowledgements *(please give the names of people, institutions or donors that deserve special mention)*

Family Medicine Faculty at College of Medicine, University of Malawi met the costs of this PTC course. The Primary Trauma Care Malawi group who mobilised resources to have the instructor course.

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