

COURSE REPORT REGIONAL HEALTH DIRECTORATE, UPPPER EAST REGION,
GHANA 15– 19 APRIL 2019

Report Presented by: Malvena Stuart Taylor



PTC



G.A.S Partnership
Collaborating for health in Northern Ghana

PTC Ghana Courses
15th – 19th April 2019
Bolgatanga, Upper East Region



Candidates at the end of a PTC course



Candidates learning basic airway skills by UK Anaesthetic trainee, Alisha

Summary

PTC training has been delivered in the Upper East Region of Ghana, one of the most impoverished areas in the country. Local trainers identified a need to roll out appropriate training to front line staff who were likely to be the first recipients of local trauma. This cohort of staff are fully trained nurses and work in Community Health Provision Services (CHPS). Whilst fully trained they have limited equipment and medication compared with hospitals for which the PTC course has been devised. A programme was set up to deliver a basic level of PTC, extracting material that matched the infrastructure of these CHPS centres. The courses ran for 1 rather than the established 2-day full PTC course.

Over 5 days 120 healthcare staff completed the 1-day training programme. Lessons were learnt about support required to improve equipment levels and an acknowledgement was made as to their level of skill in trauma care.

Background

To date 12 PTC courses and 5 Training of Trainers(ToT) courses have been delivered by the G.A.S. Partnership [<http://www.gaspartnership.org/aboutus>] in Upper East and Upper West Regions of Ghana over the past 4 years. It was felt by local Ghana-trained staff that similar principles of training should be delivered by healthcare staff likely to be close to the sites of trauma. The most natural focus for this was provided by staff working in CHPS (Community-based Health Planning and Services) Compounds [<http://www.ghanahhealthservice.org/chps/category.php?chpscid=98>]. The focus of this trip was to develop and deliver a Basic form of the PTC course, teaching skills that staff could use with the limited equipment and resources to hand.

Preparation and Planning:

The author of this report (also course director) selected appropriate sections from the PTC manual so that a 1-day course could be delivered in 5 areas of Upper East Region of Ghana. Slides were naturally reduced and certain skill stations were excluded since equipment such as chest drain, intubation etc were not available to the relevant staff. Throughout this process the author communicated with the registered certified anaesthetist familiar with PTC as to what was and what was not appropriate as a knowledge-based or skill-based learning so that training became fit for purpose. A particular emphasis was placed on the A.B.C.D.E. approach to systematic assessment and management of a trauma patient. There was also a significant amount of time allocated to Disaster Management and Triage and Transfer of patients.

Manuals, designed with the reduced but relevant content were issued to each candidate. It was made very clear throughout the day that this did not comprise the full PTC course. Parallels were drawn between this and the Basic ALS courses delivered to UK nursing staff.

Certificates were issued at the end of each day, though CPD was not awarded by the Ghana Medical & Dental Council since staff being trained were not members of this regulatory body.

Course Participants

Participants came from nearby CHPS compounds or Healthcare Centres (a step-up in terms of equipment but not at District Hospital level). A maximum of 25 participants per day was arranged. This was just as well given the relatively small rooms made available for the training.

Course faculty

Dr. Malvena Stuart Taylor (retired consultant Anaesthetist from University Hospital Southampton, UK)

Dr. Alisha Raffiq-Fazal, ST3 Anaesthetic Trainee, University Hospital Southampton, UK

PLUS

Course 1 (15th April)- Bawku

Musah Raubilla– Local Coordinator, UER

Yakubu Iddi, UER

Course 2 (16th April)- Zebilla

Jeremiah Tamondo– Local Coordinator, UER

Sule Halifa, UER

Course 3 (17th April)- Navrongo

Moses Ayelgum – Local Coordinator, UER

Konu Emmanuel Iwaku , UER

Course 4 (18th April)- Sandema

Rockson Ayantoya

Issahaku Ibrahim Abu (Prince)

Course (19th April)- Bolgatanga

Matthew Adam – Local Coordinator, UER

Ruth Fatchu, UER

Results & statistics

Formal pre- and post- knowledge assessment was not carried out due to the tight training timetable each day. However each candidate successfully acquired all practical skills taught. In all 120 healthcare staff were trained over 5 days.

Formal feedback was not obtained due to lack of time. However verbal feedback was collated after each course and I present a sample of comments here:

“Before this course I would manage a trauma client with no structure and too often they succumbed to death. Now I understand and can follow the structured ABCDE approach. I have so much more confidence to make a bigger impact upon the outcome of my client.

"I noticed and really appreciated the time management of the course. None of the instructors ran over time and that made a big difference to my ability to hold my concentration.

"There was a good mix, balance and timing of lectures and practical sessions. I learnt so much.

"It should be longer.

"It would help to have a microphone since it is difficult to hear the lecturer from the back.

Challenges and Recommendations for future training:

1. The training rooms were very small and there were practical challenges in running skill stations. However candidates and trainers coped well with this.
2. Candidates from some regions were not notified of the training until the actual day. This was despite email information being circulated on a regular basis to Ghana regarding this.
3. The healthcare staff trained have received full nurse training before being allocated to work in the CHPS compounds and Healthcare centres. As such it would be appropriate for the Ghana Regional Health Service to provision Ambu bags for each centre since the skill of basic airway and breathing support were acquired easily by the candidates and this could be life-saving for trauma patients they find themselves stabilizing before transfer to the district hospital.

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to the Wolfson Foundation which funded this course.

In addition, I would like to extend my heart-felt thanks to individuals helping this course be the success it was:

Ghana Health Services, in particular to Felicia Bawa for local logistics

Afrikids Charity, Ghana and the UK for their guidance and support in delivering this course.

To Alisha Raffiq-Fazal, my lovely anaesthetic colleague, who inspired all of us with her unfailing energy, enthusiasm and working knowledge of trauma care.

To the local course organisers who spent much time ensuring training room, candidate recruitment, and meals were provided.

Malvena Stuart Taylor
May 2019

15th April – Bawku
[N = 23]

Prosper Essoun Baidoo
Janet Boateng
Seidu Hudu
Anaba Tijani Abakela
Anabida Issah Emman.
Achimpua Amadu Donald
Akuda Buniyaminu
Ibrahim Mohammed
Akwaka Louis Zalka
David Saddique Winpini
Mumuni Huzeimatu
Sei Kwame Njimakol
Asaabo Cynthia A.
Seidu Mumuni
Ibrahim Aminu Abire
Lazarus Delwin Awaafu
Ndenaab David
Yalayala Lawrence
Mbigri Ambrose Atieulin
Yahaya Rubama
Madi Iddrisu Ayongo
Yakubu Jadid Morga
Baba Mohammed Hardi

16th April – Zebilla
[N = 24]

Anibania Agatha
Abugri Atirago
Fuseini Atahiratu
Asaana Nimatu
Afarabadaga Catherine
Abakisi Q Sheila
Akanlu Margaret
Amadu Yussif
Azambasi Christy
Mahama Zelisah Bawah
Duodu Ishmael
Atiah N Moses
Anaba Evelyn Mpoka
Mohammed Hafiz
Alhassan Hamza

Rabiu Berikisu Rusal
Ibrahim Eliasu Borsugulo
Nanleeb Ruth
Dery Godfred
Yahaya Akudugu Seidu
Akumale Simon
Abugudow
Ayaabilla Fuseini Obed
Awini Obed
Mohammed Abdul-Jalil

17th April – Navrongo
[N = 24]

Ida Kususam Kabah
Songose Matilda
Mercy Tidinchana
Chanagia Awafo Cletus
Akanboyuure Alexander
Inusah Lateef
Adinyina W Sylvester
Agum Alagweh Simon
Azotikemah Regina
Ambalimi Charity
Salomey Tandoh
Adam Issifu
Gloria Logonia
Faustina Sedjoah
Elizabeth Howard
Abavari Martin
Fuseini Faisal N
Boniface Abugum
Abe-enge Simon Akasigri
Adooye Cynthia Mma
Abangbase Ajegekwo
Ayaago Samuel Iddrisu
Bayor Jane
Yorose Cephas

**18th April – Sandema
[N = 26]**

Nantogmah Amidu
Sardi Linus Tahidu
Abasibey Lydia
Aniah Lawrenceia
Ayamba Mercy
Akolgo Atanga Musah
Apaliya Douglas
Anafo Gideon Achii
Michael Yakun Yaw
Fuseini Somed
Abangya Awinebisa Paul
Adams Humu Ani
Ayinyelmah Francis Atuah
Apentiik Barbara
Adams Barikisu
Apaliya Douglas
Awaafu L Apam
Andrews Atia Kwaku
Alagijeji Akeawoleba Saddam
Henry Dery
Jackson Petra
Kudamo Sandra
Atintuak Samiratu Cynthia
Atambire Eric
Apanga Philip
Afabla Ayine Castro

**19th April – Bolgatanga
[N = 23]**

Asampana Paul Asaah
Petuah Ruth
Anarigede Jacob Ayinbila
Yahuza Seidu
Abukari Iddrisu
Wayoe.M.Dorinda
Afour Danstan Agongo
Akokre Nelson
Owusua Agnes
Akansise Hawa Akaribo
Akumbange Janet
Anafo A Jutta
Akolgo Samuel
Ngambire Nelson
Everlove Djanduh
Gamson Godfred
Patricia Awimbillah
Alhassan Abdulai
Soyel Lariba Philomina
Abiire Moses Makavelli
Kwaw Faustina
Apasipanga Victoria
Abdul-Wadood Kubati Khalid