Primary Trauma Care

Telangana course report

18th Nov 2019- 22nd Nov 2019

The PTC course in Telangana was set up after identifying a need for better trauma care in India where deaths due to self-harm, falls and road injury are increasing despite advances in imaging and medical equipment. The WFSA (World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists), which has established anaesthetic courses in Telangana with the help of it’s sponsor, Masimo, gave the PTC foundation the opportunity to expand the course to Telangana. In Hyderabad, the capital of Telangana, there are experienced emergency, anaesthetic and surgical doctors but there is no established teaching in the standardised approach to trauma care. In addition to this, there is no single established pre-hospital service that provides adequate, standardised trauma care. This course aimed to introduce the PTC course to doctors in Hyderabad from different hospitals, departments and stages of their careers. The hope is that those doctors, with their combined enthusiasm, diverse knowledge base and influence within individual medical and political communities, will establish a local PTC committee that will begin to teach healthcare professionals across all areas of Telangana.

The course ran over 5 days starting from the 18th of November (2019). It was hosted by the Continental Hospitals in Hyderabad, with the assistance of the head of the emergency medicine department, Dr. Sowjanya.

The course was split into three segments. The initial segment took place on the 18th and 19th November. The aim of this aspect of the course, apart from teaching the PTC curriculum, was to identify potential PTC instructors, who could carry this course forward locally. There were 19 candidates present all of whom were hospital doctors. The skill set ranged from house officers to professors. The majority of candidates had a background in anaesthesia or emergency medicine, but the group also included two orthopaedic clinicians and a general surgeon. Of the 19 candidates, 9 were able to attend the remaining 3 days of the course, in order to train as PTC instructors, and carry on the course locally.

The 20th of November was an opportunity for the new Instructors to familiarise themselves with the course format, hone their teaching skills, and brush up on the PTC curriculum. The 20th and 21st was an opportunity for them to organise and deliver the PTC course independently, but with the assistance of the original instructors. The later segment was delivered to 20 eager final year medical students.

Each day began at approximately 0830 and finished at 1630. Tea, snacks and Lunch were provided by the continental hospital and funded by our sponsor, Masimo. The equipment for the course was entirely sourced locally. Most provided by the Continental Hospitals.

The courses started with a Pre course MCQ and confidence assessment, and ended with the same. The knowledge base for the course was provided via a combination of small group discussions, lectures, practical stations and clinical scenarios. Both segments of the course
showed a significant improvement in both MCQ scores and confidence in dealing with trauma, by the candidates. The feedback for the course was very positive. Written feedback reflected an appreciation for practical aspects of the course in particular and a teaching style that was not familiar to candidates but made “difficult things seem simple” and allowed “attainment of knowledge without perceived effort”. We hope that this teaching style as well as its content will be passed on through further courses taught by local instructors.

In terms of objective markers of the course, there was a 20.5% improvement in MCQ scores and 13% improvement in confidence for the first group (hospital doctors). The second group (medical students) saw an improvement of 19% in MCQ scores and 55% increase in confidence dealing with trauma.

I would like to thank the International experienced faculty who took time out of their busy schedules to come to Hyderabad to deliver the week long course.

- Dr. Sophie Hardy (Course director and emergency medicine registrar)
- Dr. Mike Dobson (Consultant anaesthetist)
- Dr. Ahmed ElSayed (Consultant cardiothoracic surgery)
- Dr. Andy Kent (Consultant orthopaedic surgeon)
- Dr. Mandeep Kaur (General surgery Registrar)

The candidates that became instructors and took part in the second half of the course:

- Dr. Kamlesh Lokhande (Chief consultant – Anaesthesia/critical care)
- Dr. Kousalya Chakravarthy (Associate professor Anaesthesia)
- Dr. Reeta Agarwal (Consultant Anaesthesia/critical care)
- Dr. Sree Sowjanya (Course coordinator and Head of department Emergency medicine at Continental Hospitals)
- Dr. Varun Sangle (Emergency medicine/critical care Registrar)
- Dr. Raja Narsing Rao (Professor Anaesthesia)
- Dr. Sithi Sabeera (Emergency medicine resident)
- Dr. Anusha Reddy (Emergency physician)
- Dr. Narmada Botulugunta (Emergency physician)

Special thanks to:

Dr Sunil Pandya and Dr Kausalya Chakravarthy for help with recruitment and advertising for the course, printing materials, sourcing specimens for practical sessions and general advice for running the PTC course locally.
Amal Paonaskar, projects officer at the WFSA for establishing links between PTC and WFSA and for helping to coordinate the course and its smooth running.

Special thanks also to Continental Hospitals and it's CEO, Dr Rahul Medakkar for hosting and welcoming us to their Hospital for the first PTC course in Telangana. We hope there will be many more to come.

The sponsors for this course were:

- Masimo (global medical technology company)

Report presented by: Varun Sangle