Report on Primary Trauma Care Program at Cho Ray Hospital, Ho Chi Minh City, April 2018

From Clinical A/ Professors Rob McDougall and Marcus Skinner

The Primary Trauma Care course and program was introduced to Cho Ray Hospital, Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam in April 2018.

The visiting team of two instructors from Utah University and three instructors from Australia conducted a two day PTC course followed by a one day instructor course. Twelve new instructors were trained and on the fourth day the new instructors conducted a half day workshop for local doctors and nurses. Planning is under way for further courses at Cho Ray Hospital and other hospitals which refer patients to Cho Ray.

The Australian visitors were able to meet with the Cho Ray Hospital Director of Anaesthesia, Dr Dong on Tuesday morning prior to the course. Future cooperation was discussed including specific anaesthesia related teaching, Lifebox and trauma education.

Cho Ray Hospital is the largest hospital in Ho Chi Minh City and the emergency department and in 2017 saw 127,000 patients with approximately 50% being due to trauma. It is the major referral hospital for trauma in the southern part of Vietnam. Multi-trauma accounts for just over 1% of all presentations. The emergency department is staffed by 38 doctors, 128 nurses and 20 assistants.

In 2016, Dr Ryan Ernst and Dr Matthew Fuller, emergency specialists from the University of Utah approached PTCF for advice on introducing the PTC program to Cho Ray Hospital in Ho Chi Minh City. The University of Utah has a MOU with Cho Ray Hospital and has been involved with the development of emergency medicine at the hospital for some years. Contact was made with PTCF and planning was begun. Approval was given by Dr Huynh Thao, Vice Director of Cho Ray Hospital.

The Primary Trauma Care Foundation (PTCF) has assisted in delivery of a PTC program at Viet Duc Hospital, Hanoi since 2003. A single PTC course was run in Ho Chi Minh City at the Hospital for Traumatology and Orthopaedics in 2002. And subsequently the majority of OTC courses were undertaken in Hanoi at Viet Duc hospital and the Hanoi medical University hospital.

Key staff involved in planning and co-ordinating

Dr Ryan Ernst initiated the program and coordinated planning with Dr Le Phuoc Dai (Emergency doctor and local PTC coordinator, Cho Ray Hospital). The program was approved in advance by Dr Huynh Thao, Vice Director of Cho Ray and specific planning was between Drs Ernst, McDougall and Skinner.
Course Instructors

Dr Ryan Ernst (USA)
Clinical A/Prof Rob McDougall (Australia)
Clinical A/Prof Marcus Skinner (Australia)
Dr Thomas Tan (Australia)
Dr Shakira Bandolin ( absent from photo)(USA)
Dr Dai ( Choy Ray HCMC)

Course participants

Thirty one participants registered at the start of day 1. In addition to participants from Cho Ray, participants also came from University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMP), Thong Nhat Hospital, Nhi Dong Hospital, University Medical Center HCMC, Hanh Phuc Hospital and District 11 Hospital.
Due to work commitments, not all participants were able to complete the two full days. Participants were awarded certificates of completion.
Details of activities

Sunday 15th April: Planning meeting at Cho Ray Hospital (1500-1700)
Monday 16th April: PTC course Day 1 (0730-1700)
Tuesday 16th April: PTC Course Day 2 (0730-1700)
Wednesday 17th April: PTC Instructor Course (0800-1700)
Thursday 18th April: Trauma workshop run by new instructors (0830-1230)
Thursday 18th April: Debrief between hosts and visitors (1230-1330)
Friday 19th April: Debrief by visiting instructors (0900-1100)

PTC Course in Progress Dr Thomas Tan (Instructor Aus) as patient

Evaluation of the success and relevance of the visit

Feedback was sought (and offered) from the participants, instructors and senior Cho Ray administrators. The standard feedback forms were used. The feedback was almost universally positive. Participants reported enjoying the scenario and skills sessions more than the lectures and the most common comment for improvement was that there should be more time allocated to these interactive sessions.
The instructor course was a particular success. The candidates (photo enclosed) were chosen after the second day of the PTC course and all who were invited were able to attend. All demonstrated a sound knowledge of the basic principles of teaching and were able to demonstrate practical teaching skills.

Happy Instructor candidates.

Dr Phuong  and Dr Luc

PTC Instructor course participants
Acknowledgments

Particular thanks for the support of Dr Huynh Thao Vice Director, Cho Ray Hospital, without which this program would not have been possible. Mr Rob Dalton RN, an experienced educator, travelled from the UK to attend the PTC course and the instructor course and provided excellent support to the visiting instructors. Dr Mike Morgan (USA) was unable to make it to HCMC as his flight was cancelled while awaiting departure.