Modular PTC Training

In a small hospital, it can be difficult to run a PTC course when instructors and participants need to be away from their work for two days. This may make it difficult to staff the service.

As an alternative way of teaching the PTC course materials, the PTC course has been divided into ten modules that can be delivered by one instructor at a time (with the exception of the demonstration scenario). This was proposed after consultation with experienced PTC instructors around the world and has been piloted in Madagascar and Kenya.

Modular PTC Training has several advantages:

- It is entirely possible for one instructor to deliver all modules but if there is more than one instructor in a district then the modules can be divided between them.
- Since each module is designed to cover a topic of PTC it could also be used as a stand-alone teaching session for a particular system in PTC, example head and spine injury.
- Another advantage is that costs are greatly reduced as only a very small venue is needed (in hospital and catering costs are minimal)

The modules should involve no more than six candidates. With more than this, the practical experience will be diminished during workshops, skills teaching and scenarios.

The ten modules each take between 90-120 minutes. The modules should be completed within four months and the usual assessments apply, i.e. MCQ confidence matrix, feedback forms (the modular feed back form is available in the Logistics Package that can be downloaded from the PTC website). It is important to keep attendance records, and certification should only be granted when a participant has completed all the modules and the final MCQ has been marked. Future instructors can be identified throughout the course and can attend a group instructor course when there are sufficient numbers.

The content of each module is shown below. Scenarios appropriate to the module content have been suggested from which the instructors can select – as an alternative, local instructors could use scenarios that have happened locally as the basis for scenarios, as they will be most relevant to an individual environment. This could also help local debriefing of problems that have arisen in emergency departments.

Modular PTC Training – Suggested Programme

Module 1 Registration Precourse MCQ Introduction to PTC Lecture: local trauma perspective Lecture: Primary survey	Module 2 Lecture: airway and breathing Skill station: basic and advanced airway
 Module 3 Lecture: circulation and shock Skill stations: Insertion of chest drain and cervical spine and log roll 	 Module 4 Lecture: secondary survey Demonstration scenario Practice scenarios 2,3,5
 Module 5 Lecture: chest injuries Scenarios :8 Workshop: Transportation 	 Module 6 Lecture: head and spine injury Workshop: Neurological assessment Scenarios 7,14
 Module 7 Lecture: Burns Scenarios 10,13 Workshop: Analgesia 	 Module 8 Lecture: Abdomen, pelvis and limb injury Scenarios 4,6,9,15
 Module 9 Lecture: Trauma in children and pregnancy Workshop: Paediatrics Scenarios 11,12,16 	 Module 10 Disaster management MCQ Summary Feedback and certificates