

Report on “Assessment of TOT Course” Visit to Nablus, West Bank 7th to 10th September 2012

Introduction:

This is a brief report on the visit to Ibn Sina College in Nablus for the purpose of assessing the TOT course run for the first time in the West Bank.

Background:

Following the successful launch of PTC in the West Bank in October 2011, the local committee embarked on 5 PTC courses run independently during the intervening period.

The local committee, with the aid of Medical Aid for Palestinians arranged a Training of Trainers course and requested the presence of 2 delegates from the UK to evaluate the former. Dr Jeanne Frossard (JF) and Mr Khaled Dawas (KD) made the short trip to the West Bank for this purpose.

The Course:

JF and KD arrived the day before the course and met the local MAP Director of Programmes, Salam Kanaan, in Ramallah.

The following day we were escorted to Nablus by Esperanza Shanan (MAP co-ordinator) and arrived at the Ibn Sina College. The teaching area was a purpose built space with tables, chairs, a projector and good AV facilities.

The local committee / instructors comprised:

- Omar Hussein – lead for TOT course
- Nihal Sawalha
- Khaled Al Masri
- Nihad Bsharat
- Salah Itmazeh
- Hadi Dababseh
- Belal Rawajbeh

Refreshments were not available at the start and there was a short delay before these arrived. The schedule for the day was only finalised on the morning of the course and alterations were needed to conform with PTC requirements on the order of the sessions. Initially the workshops were due to be delivered prior to the lectures on teaching skills, scenarios and the discussion groups. This was amended.

At the start, Dr Khaled Al Masri gave a briefing to the rest of the team to ensure all were aware of their roles. Of the 17 candidates invited 7 attended and a further 2 arrived uninvited and without prior PTC experience.

The participants were:

1. Dr. Mahmoud Saleh.
2. Dr. Nedal Daoud (did not attend the PTC course)
3. Mohammed Jum'ah, Nurse
4. Dr. Mohammed Radwan.
5. Dr. Mohammed Qatatqa
6. Khawla El Azzeh, Nurse
7. Mahmoud Al Saradeen, Nurse
8. Ibtisam Shaqoor, Nurse
9. Dr. Saleem Al Rajabi, (did not attend the PTC course)

The course was delivered in Arabic and this was appreciated by most of the attendees. Overall, the standard of the lectures was excellent. The delivery and audience participation were highly commendable.

The workshops worked by dividing the groups into 3 and adding 3 simultaneous scenario stations at the end. rios.



Photo 1: The instructors and attendees of the PTC TOT course in Ibn Sina College, Nablus, 8th September 2012.

The following day, Sunday 9th September, the instructors, Esperanza Shanan, JF and KD met at Al Qasr Hotel, Nablus to discuss and provide feedback on the running of the course. The minutes were kept by Esperanza and have already been circulated.

JF and KD travelled back to Ramallah for an overnight stay before travelling back to the UK on 10th September 2012.

Feedback Given:

- Organisation – the course ran relatively smoothly and the team was very cohesive. Advice was given on time keeping, size of faculty, pre-course preparation etc
- Lectures – these were delivered very well and received very good feedback
- Workshops – Feedback was given on the details of preparing candidates for the microteaching sessions and their organisation

Our overall recommendations were documented in the minutes and covered

1. Planning pre TOT
2. Make sure candidates have instructor manual well before the course
3. Methods of workshop delivery
4. Adherence to the PTC timetable

5. Start and maintain a robust database of feedback to help in future discussions with the Ministry of Health
6. Plan future course dates well in advance and advertise these dates widely
7. Include new instructors in PTC courses as soon as possible
8. Approach and consider teaching staff from medical schools to propagate the course contents and ensure its integration into mainstream medical practice

Acknowledgements:

We would like to thank the MAP team for their hospitality and support. Both Salam Kanaan and Esperanza Shanan dedicated much time and effort to our visit and the continued running of the PTC programme in the West Bank. The local PTC committee displayed much enthusiasm and dedication and made the visit a highly enjoyable and useful one. To everyone, we are grateful.

Khaled Dawas
PTC TOT Instructor
September 2012.