

Primary Trauma Care Foundation & Mercy Ships



PRIMARY TRAUMA CARE AND INSTRUCTOR COURSES, MARCH 6-10TH 2017 HOTEL DU PORT, COTONOU, BENIN

The PTC team in Benin have had their first foundation (2/1/2) course in 2016 and have since run one course themselves. At the invitation of Mercy Ships, Jeanne Frossard travelled to Benin to provide mentorship to the Beninoise faculty to aid them running their own 2/1/2 course. All courses were conducted in French.



In addition to its amazing surgical and rehabilitative programme, for which it is justly famous, in recent years Mercy Ships has developed an extensive Medical Capacity Building Programme. Training in PTC has been an integral part of this and Benin is

the third country in which Mercy Ships has introduced PTC – the first one having been in Congo in May 2014 and the second in Madagascar in 2015 & 2016.

Africa Mercy has a crew of around 430 people, which supports a hospital facility with 5 operating theatres and 80 inpatient beds. The fact that it takes 430 well-trained people to support a medical enterprise of this size indicates the difficulties faced by local hospitals, with just a tiny fraction of those resources. Africa Mercy is currently the largest civilian hospital ship in the world (Mercy Ships are commissioning a larger one) and it was formerly a train-carrying ferry operating in the Baltic.

Foreign PTC faculty members:

Dr Jeanne Frossard (Consultant Anaesthetist, UCLH NHS Trust, London)
Professor Nicole Rakotoarison (professor of anaesthesia, Antananarivo, Madagascar}

Mercy Ships Medical Capacity Building team

Krissy Close (MCB Manager)
Abby Watrous (MCB Project Manager)
Joan Koetze (MCB)
Tsiferana Rakatoarisoa (deputy project manager and translator)

Beninese PTC Faculty:, who are all members of the PTC committee

Dr Piere Sodonougbo (consultant surgeon)
Dr Alfred Hounsa (anaesthetist)
Dr Mikaela Moustafa (Consultant surgeon)

The course was run at the Hotel du Port next door to the ship, which was an excellent venue with a large room. Mercy ship staff organized for all the paperwork to be transferred very efficiently to the venue
The whole programme was delivered by the Beninois doctors and Professor Nicole, Dr Jeanne mentored and helped with the instructor course as it was the first time they had taught an instructor course
We were extremely lucky to have Dr Nicole who had travelled from Madagascar to assist, and as the programme is new there as well she felt that she had gained form helping to run an instructor course as well.

Outcomes

The following were achieved:

1. Training in PTC of 30 Beninese healthcare practitioners
2. Training of 7 new Beninese PTC instructors

Acknowledgements

The ship's administrative team was excellent, and the Hotel du Port proved to be an excellent venue. The ship provided excellent and comfortable accommodation for us. All our meals and those of all the participants were provided free of charge, as was our accommodation. The ship's administration also used their skill and local knowledge to helps us arrange our flights.

Course statistics

Course 1

14 Participants, mixture of general duties doctors and and nurses including anaesthetic practitioners.

Instructor Course

7 new instructors were trained

Course 2

16 participants, a mixture of doctors and nurses, trained by the new PTC instructors with mentorship by the original instructors

Pre and post course outcomes:

	MCQ score		Confidence matrix	
	Pre course	Post course	Pre Course	Post Course
Course 1	49%	73%	50%	70%
Course 2	42%	66%	61%	88%

Altogether it was a very satisfactory course and very well administered by Mercy Ship staff. The local staff were full of plans to continue to run courses and it is hoped that a member of the local faculty will be able to travel to help with the course in the Cameroons.