

COURSE REPORT REGIONAL HEALTH DIRECTORATE, UPPPER EAST REGION,  
GHANA 17 - 24 May 2018

Report Presented by: Malvena Stuart Taylor

# PTC



**G.A.S Partnership**  
Collaborating for health in Northern Ghana

PTC Ghana Courses  
(17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>, Bolgatanga; 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>, Bawku; 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, Zebilla)  
& Instructor Course (25<sup>th</sup>) Bolgatanga,  
May 2018



Candidates at the end of  
a PTC course in  
Bolgatanga, Ghana  
17-18 May 2018



Candidates at the end of  
a PTC course in Bawku,  
Ghana  
21-22 May 2018



Candidates at the end of  
a PTC course in Zebilla,  
Ghana  
23-24 May 2018

## Summary

Through a grant generously awarded by the Tropical Health Education Trust (THET), plans were established to increase the pool of trained staff and trained trainers to a) continue improving trauma care in the region; (b) extend this training, using Ghana-trained staff, to their neighbouring region, Upper West which, hitherto, had not received such training.

3 PTC and 1 ToT course were run around the region. 91 candidates successfully completed the 2-day PTC course. 10 of these were selected and successfully completed the 1-day ToT course. A selection of these trainers plus those trained in previous years will go on to deliver PTC in Upper West Region this October as part of an intensive 2-week programme.

## Background

Up to this year there had been 5 PTC courses and 2 Training of Trainer (ToT) courses in Upper East Region of Ghana. It was recognised by healthcare staff in the region that capacity building needed to continue but, with further ToT courses, there would be sufficient number of trainers to deliver the courses to their neighbouring region, Upper West, an area that has not had the same training input as Upper East.

An intensive 2-week course was devised whereby 3 PTC courses would be run throughout the region. Due to timetabling of the UK faculty, the ToT course could only be run at the end of this fortnight, therefore the newly trained trainers will require mentoring when they participate in their first teaching experience in October in Upper West.

## Preparation and Planning:

The 1<sup>st</sup> day was dedicated to bringing regional instructors together since there had been 2 years since the last course. This provided the opportunity to allocate lectures and skill stations to individuals since this did not take place remotely prior to UK faculty arriving in Ghana.

Unlike previous years, the local faculty decided it would be more effective to take the training to key hospitals and train local staff together rather than run the courses centrally in the region. The principle and outcome were positive. However, what this change in practice did throw up were the logistical challenges of setting up such an intensive programme in a new venue. Certainly, lessons were learnt by all, including the 2 new Ghanaian course directors:

1. Ensure the room is large enough for 4 skill stations. There was a late venue change by a hospital administrator who may not have appreciated the geographical requirements of such an intensive course.
2. As before washroom facility were sparse and a specific request needed to be made to open up a local facility, given the long days of training and relatively high number of attendees.
3. Impress upon the administrators the importance in recruiting fresh staff to the training (rather than taken them straight from a night duty into the course as happened on a few occasions).
4. Ensure any candidate with young family have identified a carer – it had been assumed that a young baby could be brought in with the mother for the day's training and unfortunately this resulted in one candidate being asked to rebook when child care was available.

5. CPD approval should be sought ahead of time. This is probably best applied for via the country Medical (& Dental) Council since reciprocal approval can follow from other Colleges. However, there is a cost to this, unlike in the UK (e.g. £80 for 1<sup>st</sup> time approval, plus £80 for a year's recognition. This usually requires a timetable and mini CV of all instructors.
6. Be prepared to teach with electricity cuts (which were frequent). For example, flip-charts and pens became indispensable when faculty were unable to project slides.

### **Course Participants**

The participants were a mixture of local physician assistant (PA) anaesthetists or medical PA's, ICU, theatre and ward staff, including midwives, ENT and Psychiatry. There were no doctors able to join the course which is disappointing but not surprising given the solo role they often have in local hospitals.

### **Course faculty**

Dr. Malvena Stuart Taylor, UK

#### *Course 1 (Bolgatanga May 17-18<sup>th</sup>)*

Mr Samuel Akolgo – Course Director (PA Anaesthetist and G.A.S. Ghana lead for Anaesthetics & Theatres, Sandema, UER, Ghana)

Ms Ruth Fatchu, ICU Nursing Officer, Bolgatanga, UER, Ghana

Mr. Jeremiah Tamondo PA Anaesthetist, Zebilla, UER, Ghana

Mr Sule Halifa, PA Anaesthetist, Bawku, UER, Ghana

Mr. Musah Raubila, PA Anaesthetist, Bawku, UER, Ghana

Ms Grace Acheampong, PA Anaesthetist, Sandema, UER, Ghana

Mr. Gilbert Azanto, Senior PA Anaesthetist, Bolgatanga, UER, Ghana

#### *Course 2 (May 21-22<sup>nd</sup>)*

Mr. Musah Raubila, PA Anaesthetist, Bawku, UER, Ghana – Course Director

Mr. Matthew Ayamba

Mr. Jeremiah Tamondo PA Anaesthetist, Zebilla, UER, Ghana

Ms Grace Acheampong, PA Anaesthetist, Sandema, UER, Ghana

Mr Sule Halifa, PA Anaesthetist, Bawku, UER, Ghana

Dr. Malvena Stuart Taylor, Retired Consultant Anaesthetist, UK

#### *Course 3 (May 23-24<sup>th</sup>)*

Mr. Jeremiah Tamondo PA Anaesthetist, Zebilla, UER, Ghana – Course Director

Mr. Musah Raubila, PA Anaesthetist, Bawku, UER, Ghana

Mr. Matthew Ayamba

Ms Grace Acheampong, PA Anaesthetist, Sandema, UER, Ghana

Mr Sule Halifa, PA Anaesthetist, Bawku, UER, Ghana

Mr. Gilbert Azanto, Senior PA Anaesthetist, Bolgatanga, UER, Ghana

Dr. Malvena Stuart Taylor, Retired Consultant Anaesthetist, UK

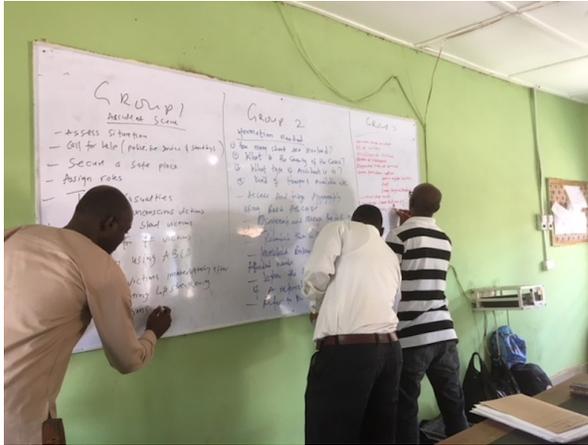
#### *Instructor Course (May 25<sup>th</sup>)*

Mr. Samuel Akolgo, Ghana

Mr. Musah Raubila, Ghana

Prince Ibrahim – ICU Lead Nurse, Bolgatanga, Ghana

Dr. Malvena Stuart Taylor, UK



Candidates involved in Disaster Management Workshop

Local Instructor running Neurological Assessment Workshop



**Results & statistics**

91 candidates completed PTC training

70 candidates (77%) increased their MCQ score (by 1-9 correct answers out of 20)

8 candidates maintained their score pre- and post-course

10 candidates dropped their score – feedback from a general discussion outlined how MCQ results may have dropped but the candidates had a better understanding of the issue being tested whereas pre-course, much was guesswork.

Confidence increased in 79 candidates (87%) by 0.25-2.5 points (5-point scale)

2 candidates maintained their score

9 candidates dropped their score – this would suggest consolidation of training would be of benefit.

Feedback on the course training was 4.45 (range 1-5) with very positive comments regarding perceived benefit to candidates of training received. Of particular note was the hands-on elements which is a core theme of the course. As on previous courses, there was a frequent request to extend the length of the course which is probably impractical. However, it does suggest that local top-up refresher sessions would help to consolidate and maintain knowledge and skills.

### *Instructor course*

10 new instructors were trained but will need to wait until further courses before they can actually teach as provisional instructors.

### **Recommendations from the past that were applied to this course:**

1. To demarcate training equipment in order that future courses can progress more easily – *whilst this was achieved, there were still training items missing and this made it challenging to provide authentic scenario experience. The final solution was to purchase a large suitcase and storage box clearly labelled for PTC training and only made available to appropriate staff.*
2. To have more PA anaesthetists in the region to facilitate other trained instructors to support courses (this increase in staffing is already underway but typically the hospitals in this region have only 1 anaesthetists (PA) and there are no medically-trained anaesthetists within 100km – *achieved with this cohort of training.*
3. Fund an appropriate training mannequin for basic and advanced airway since Bag-Valve-Mask ventilation is such a pivotal skill in the hands of staff caring for trauma victims this cannot be easily taught without one – *achieved through the THET fund granted this year. I would strongly recommend the Adult Airway Management Trainer Torso (Ref: PP0086) by Simulaid, cost in 2018 £1,265 excl VAT.*
4. Support to encourage local modular training to increase the number of trained staff and to provide refresher training for those already trained in PTC – *not yet achieved*
5. Consider a web-based activity with regular scenario practice, leading to annual CPD credits – *not yet achieved.*

### **Acknowledgements**

I am very grateful to the following individuals and organizations:

Tropical Health Education Trust (THET) for their generous grant in supporting the training this year, Ghana Health Services, UER, Ghana for their continued support and logistics in running these courses (in particular Felicia Bawa)

Afrikids Charity for their trust, encouragement and logistical support.

My final thanks go to Mr Samuel Akolgo, PA Anaesthetist, without whose leadership and hard work, such courses would not have been able to take place and to Mr Musah Raubila and Mr. Jeremiah Tamondo who took on the new role of Course Director in their respective hospitals.

Malvena Stuart Taylor  
July 2018

**Appendix – Class lists (\*) = also completed the ToT course**

**Course 1 (Bolgatanga):**

Issah Felicia  
Mohammed Mariam  
Yinpumongsor Joseph  
Froko Charlotte Shemirah  
Justina Ayorobila Gockah  
Janet Alusia  
Prudence Danle  
Genevieve Kpanti  
Abanga Joel  
Avane Matthew  
Azumah Frank  
*Konu Emmanuel Kwaku (\*)*  
*Lambon Jafouk Thomas (\*)*  
Ibrahim Ahmed  
Ayambire Esther A  
Ayinsakiya Isabella  
*Gifty Tater (\*)*  
Richard Dagba  
Akiama Prosper  
Ayamga Josephine Lamisi  
Akolbire Bismark  
Rosemary Yeboah  
Abagna Irene  
Atsu Mawuli Julius  
Alhassan Safura  
Kwaning Fred

*Michael Amoah Atua (\*) – attended PTC in 2016 but completed ToT this year*

**Course 2 (Bawku):**

Builari Adamu  
John Bosco Kwame  
Atambilla Hamidu Salamatu  
Moses Ndaago Abumah  
Ibrahim Karimu Azumah  
Abudu Richard Banima-Njah  
Ninten Paul  
Joyce Lomokie Adjokatse  
Ayaaba Jacob\*  
Sumaila Gariba, Abubakari  
Soter Y Musah  
James Manmara  
Alhassan Issahaku Modoo  
Jackson Malariyo Laar  
*Andrew Anabah (\*)*  
Karim Tanimu

Martha Osei Gyimah  
Agana Timothy  
Nyaaba Joseph Akolgo  
Konlan Benjamin Kok  
Moses Klamdusib Hamidu  
*Azongo Joshua (\*)*  
*Yakubu Iddi(\*)*  
Fidelis Sandow Mamboda  
Musah Fuseini  
Solomon Delwin Akudugu  
Akampawine Felicia  
Nabor Nathan Kweku  
Stephen Azari Asambo  
Asaana Salam Alhassan  
Adakudugu Atubiga Paul

**Course 3 (Zebilla):**

Ayamba Kingsley  
Aduri Peter  
Asebiga Clement Asoya  
Bannor Cecilia  
Mba Moses Dee  
Ayaaba James Azumah  
Adombire Raymond  
Akalale Darius Ayinbila  
Adams Aminatu  
Avoka Mary Anane  
Adafabla Calvin Crispin Ayinbire  
Amenko Apoore Lawrence  
Portia Narki Ibrahim  
Amiah Nsumah Monica  
*Tetty Ernest (\*)*  
Kalilim Azumbil Andrews  
Alebga Joseph Bopam  
Ibrahim Sualihu Alhassan  
Awini Nicholas Yirimea  
Prosper Namkina Apasera  
Adamu Amadu  
Awini Jacob Akparibo  
Ayembire Elizabeth  
Akunaba Anthony  
Issah Mbawin Karim  
Isaac Agongo Ayariga  
*Awini Peter Azua (\*)*  
*Nsoh Anaba Isaac (\*)*  
Apepeo Emmanuel  
Alaro Bashiru Adiboud  
*Akontiwak Yakubu Moses (\*)*