

Anaesthesia in Developing Countries course, July 2022

Course report

Context of the course

The Oxford Anaesthesia in Developing Countries course (ADC) exists to improve the quality and sustainability of overseas work done by anaesthetists from the UK and other high-income countries. Many such clinicians have had excellent training and experience in their home systems but rightly perceive a gap between this background and the skills and knowledge they may need in a different setting. ADC (started in Oxford by Dr Mike Dobson in 1981) is a five-day course focused on meeting this need in a variety of ways. It remains the case that many anaesthetists travel to countries with very different resources, to work as part of clinical, teaching and research projects in a wide variety of contexts. Global awareness of urgent humanitarian needs and of the challenges to effective international assistance continues to grow.

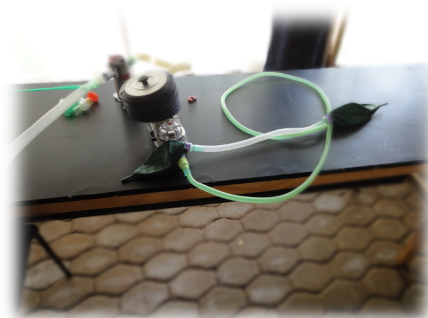
Thus ADC, in common with only a handful of other centres worldwide, provides focused high-quality training both on clinical aspects of working in resource-poor settings and other challenges that the overseas health worker may face. Following a two year pandemic hiatus, a “UK-variant” of the course ran in Oxford, in 2022.

July 2022 ADC

The course was held between the 28th June and 1st July 2022, based at Kellogg College in Oxford, UK. It was accredited by the Royal College of Anaesthetists for 20 CPD points. 16 delegates attended, from the UK and Australia. There was a spread of experience from trainees through to mid-career consultants, some of whom had some prior experience working in low or middle income countries.

Teaching was delivered in a variety of formats including lectures, seminars, interviews, panel discussions and hands-on skills sessions. New this year was the opportunity to hear from colleagues around the world in a “View from” format, explaining their contexts and challenges. As always there were also many opportunities to talk, network and reflect on learning informally ‘around the edges’ of the formal programme.

We were once again delighted to welcome a dedicated faculty with extensive experience around the world in humanitarian and other low-resource contexts. Details of faculty and their background are provided as an appendix, as is the detailed programme.



Drawover assembly

We are pleased to report that course feedback remains consistently positive; delegates unanimously stated that they would recommend the training to their colleagues and individual sessions were rated very highly. As always, particularly valuable were the



opportunities to learn from anaesthetists around the world, and we are particularly grateful to Dr Hazel Mumpansha (Zambia), Dr Steve Pickering (Nepal), Dr Rohit Singh (Nepal), Mr Mohamed Mubarak (Somaliland), Mrs Mary Mungai (Kenya), Dr Habulu Bonsa (Ethiopia), and Dr Adam Hewitt Smith (Uganda) who gave up time to teach virtually on the course. We owe a great debt of thanks to those who made the course possible, in particular the whole faculty who work together to provide a unique and high-quality course; Kellogg College, Oxford, for their excellent facilities and welcome, the Oxford University Hospitals, Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics and Nuffield Division of Clinical Neurosciences (in particular, Niki Andrew) for their continuing administrative support.

It is our aim to continue to provide high-calibre training to anaesthetists wishing to work overseas, and thus to improve the quality and sustainability of their work to the ultimate benefit of patients in the majority world.

Dr Hilary Edgcombe (Oxford Course Director)

“Absolutely loved this course.”

“So grateful for the opportunity to come to this course! Thank you so much”

“Lovely to meet likeminded people and network.”

“Inspiring!”

Course delegates, 2022



Appendix 1: Course programme 2022

Tues	08:30	Registration
	09:00	Welcome and housekeeping
	09:15	General introduction: "Global Anaesthesia"
	10:00	Resources I: Oxygen
	10:45	Coffee
	11:15	Clinical I: Obstetrics
	12:00	"View from... I "
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Drawover systems (theory)
	14:00	Drawover systems (practice)
	15:00	Resources II: Ketamine
	15:30	Tea
	16:00	Clinical II: Trauma
	16:45	Clinical III: Unfamiliar pathologies
Weds	09:00	"View from... II"
	09:30	Global (planetary) health
	10:15	Coffee
	10:45	The aid industry
	11:45	Clinical IV: paediatrics
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Resources III: Blood / cleaning and sterilisation / old volatiles
	14:15	Resources IV: Drawover machines: good, bad and ugly
	15:00	"View from... III"
	15:30	Tea
	16:00	Visiting and being visited
	16:30	Research in 'global anaesthesia'
Thurs	09:00	Clinical practice: airway management
	09:45	Difficult decision-making
	10:45	Coffee
	11:15	Clinical V: critical care
	12:00	Trainee opportunities in the UK
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Resources V: Kit maintenance / donations and procurement
	14:30	New technologies
	15:00	"View from... IV"
	15:30	Tea
	16:00	Understanding health systems
Fri	09:30	Electrical and gas safety
	10:15	"View from... V"
	10:45	Coffee
	11:15	Psychological health
	12:00	Teaching and training: online
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Impacts of the pandemic
	14:15	Case study: short trip to Rwanda
	14:45	Physical health
	15:15	Pragmatics: NGOs, finances etc
	16:00	Close of course



Dr Konstilia Karydi (Oxford, UK)

Konstilia Karydi is originally from Greece where she has worked in refugee and humanitarian contexts before coming to the UK. She is currently undertaking a research project with colleagues in Zambia and Somaliland about perceptions of task-sharing among anaesthesia providers.

Dr Søren Kudsk-Iversen (Oxford, UK)

Søren Kudsk-Iversen is a final-year trainee in Oxford, having successfully completed a Global Anaesthesia Academic Clinical Fellowship along the way. He has interests in the provision of safe surgery in the humanitarian space, working with colleagues at MSF and in Syria on research into surgical outcomes, as well as in sustainability and planetary health (teaching and leading our local Green Theatres project) and in education driven by local need.

Mr Robert Neighbour (Diamedica, UK) - Engineer

A former aeronautical engineer, Robert Neighbour now heads a medical equipment company specialising in the needs of the developing world. Their anaesthetic machines are based on teaming oxygen concentrators with draw-over gas delivery systems. He is a tireless supporter of anaesthetists in the developing world.

Dr Sarah O'Neill (Manchester, UK) - consultant

Dr O'Neill is a consultant anaesthetist based in Manchester, UK. She has experience in multiple locations with Medecins Sans Frontieres, including Yemen, northern Nigeria and Libya.

Dr Naomi Shamambo (Lusaka, Zambia)

Naomi Shamambo is a physician anaesthetist/intensivist trained in Lusaka, Zambia with first-hand experience of the recently developed MMed programme, who is currently working in the UK. She has extensive experience working with international colleagues visiting her country to teach, train and offer clinical services. She is currently working with Dr Karydi on a task-sharing research project.

