

# Anaesthesia in Developing Countries course, November 2019

# **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 highincome 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. In addition, the burden of untreated surgical disease has recently become a hot topic of discussion among international agencies, particularly related to the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery whose findings were published in 2015.



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. Uniquely among these centres, ADC is delivered in Uganda. This affords opportunity for first-hand experience of an African healthcare setting and much-valued collaboration with faculty from a number of African countries.

## **November 2019 ADC**

The course was held between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019, based at the Mt Elgon Hotel in Mbale. It was accredited by the Royal College of Anaesthetists for 20 CPD points. 16 delegates attended, from Australia, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Rwanda, Sweden, the US and the UK. There was a spread of experience from trainees through to mid-career consultants, several 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, hands-on skills sessions and hospital visits to CURE Hospital (an NGO hospital delivering



predominantly paediatric neurosurgical care) and Mbale Regional Referral Hospital (a government referral hospital serving about 4 million people). 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 an international faculty with representation from the UK, Zambia and Uganda. Details of faculty and their background are provided as an appendix, as is the detailed programme.

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



Drawover assembly

very highly. As always, particularly valuable were the opportunities to learn from and network with faculty anaesthetists from within Africa, who were able to explain a number of issues first hand and also discuss their experience of working with overseas volunteers. We are particularly grateful to Dr Hazel Mumpansha (Zambia), Dr Naomi Shamambo (Zambia), Dr Fred Musana and Dr Paul Ochieng (both from Mbale, Uganda), who gave up time to join us and teach.

We owe a great debt of thanks to those who make the course possible, in particular: Dr Sarah Hodges (Uganda) for organisation at Kampala, Dr Adam Hewitt-Smith who organised the conference facilities, hotel booking and hospital visits in Mbale, as well as teaching on the course itself, the whole faculty who work together to provide a unique and high-quality course; the Mt Elgon Hotel for their excellent facilities and welcome, the Oxford University Hospitals, Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics and Nuffield Division of Clinical Neurosciences (OxSTAR), and Interface, 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)

"I have never been on such a great course."

"It has been an invaluable experience!"

"Thank you so much for organising such a course! It has covered so much breadth in just one week."

"One of the best courses I have been on."

Course delegates, 2019





# Appendix 1: Course programme 2019

Mon	0900 0915 0945 1015 1100 1130 1215 1300 1400 1530 1600 1630 1700	Welcome & housekeeping The context: What is "Global Anaesthesia"? Anaesthesia around the world Resources I: Oxygen sources around the world <i>Coffee</i> Resources II: Using ketamine wisely Clinical practice: Trauma and disasters <i>Lunch</i> Resources III: Where there's no machine (drawover circuits) Clinical practice: Unfamiliar pathologies <i>Tea</i> The view from Uganda Hospital briefing
Tue	0800	Hospital Visits I
	1300	Lunch
	1400	Resources IV: Procurement and New (old) volatiles
	1500	Resources V: Drawover machines
	1545	Tea
	1615	Clinical practice: Paediatrics
	1700	The view from Zambia
Wed	АМ	Hospital Visits II
	1300	Lunch
	1400	Resources V: Workshop:
		Equipment maintenance Blood Cleaning and sterilisation
	1530	Issues in research in LMICs
	1600	Teq
	1630	Hospital debrief
	1700	The view from Rwanda
	1700	
Thu	0830	Clinical practice: Airway challenges
	0915	Aid and ethics
	1015	Clinical practice: Obstetrics
	1100	Coffee
	1130	Physical health of the volunteer
	1215	Best practice for visitors
	1300	Lunch
	1400	Making difficult decisions
	1515	Clinical practice: Critical care
	1600	Теа
	1630	Resources VI: Electrical and gas safety
Fri	0930	Psychological health of the volunteer
	1015	Resources VII: New technologies
	1100	Coffee
	1130	Teaching and training: your skills and resources
	1230	Quiz
	1300	Lunch
	1400	Preparing to go: practicalities and considerations
	1500	Feedback and close
	2000	





# Appendix 2: Faculty for ADC 2019

#### Dr Nick Boyd (Bristol, UK)

After finishing training in the Peninsula Deanery, Dr Boyd completed a fellowship in paediatric anaesthesia and simulation at Great Ormond Street Hospital, followed by work at Bristol Royal Hospital for Children. During training he developed a strong interest in global health and worked in a rural Ugandan hospital for six months as a senior registrar. He is now completing a Masters in Global Health at King's College London and is currently based in Sierra Leone.

#### Dr Steph Connelly (Bath, UK)

Dr Steph Connelly is an anaesthetic registrar with interests in developing-world anaesthesia, global health and humanitarian work. She has experience in provision of anaesthesia and remote and emergency healthcare in various under-resourced environments, particularly in Rwanda, Uganda and Peru. She also works regularly in aeromedical repatriation.

#### Dr Rachael Craven (Bristol, UK)

Dr Craven is a consultant anaesthetist at Bristol Royal Infirmary. She has a wealth of experience in the field working with MSF in Syria, Libya and Haiti among other locations. She has also been involved with training for anaesthetists on the UK Trauma Register in affiliation with UK-Med.

#### Dr Hilary Edgcombe (Oxford, UK)

Dr Hilary Edgcombe is a consultant anaesthetist at Oxford University Hospitals, Oxford where her practice includes anaesthesia for transplant surgery. She has clinical and teaching experience in a number of countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Kenya and South Africa. She is Course Director for the ADC course.

#### Dr Jeanne Frossard (UCLH, UK)

Dr Jeanne Frossard is a consultant anaesthetist at UCLH NHS trust in London and has been involved in this course for 11 years, as well as lecturing on the similar global outreach course in Canada and on clinical officer refresher courses in Rwanda and Mozambique. She is especially interested in trauma management and has been on the faculties setting up Primary Trauma Care in Rwanda, MSF Belgium, China, Iraq, Jordan, the West Bank and the Gaza strip. She has worked twice in Sarajevo during the siege with an NGO called HAMD, twice with the ICRC in a war surgery hospital on the Kenyan/ Sudanese border and with MSF in Afghanistan.

#### Dr Ian Geraghty (RCoA, UK)

Dr Ian Geraghty is a semi-retired anaesthetist and intensivist from the north west of England. He has worked and taught in Africa on short-term visits. He has an interest in global health and is the deputy chair of the Royal College of Anaesthetists' Global Partnerships Committee.

#### Dr Adam Hewitt-Smith (Mbale, Uganda)

Dr Adam Hewitt-Smith has over five years of experience working in a low resource setting. He has a passion for paediatric anaesthesia, trauma care and teaching and alongside Ugandan

colleagues, has developed a novel degree-level training programme in anaesthesia in Uganda. He is an honorary lecturer at Busitema University Faculty of Health Sciences and is registered as a PhD student at Queen Mary University of London. His research interests include perioperative outcomes and anaesthesia education in low resource settings, and he is the Uganda National Lead for the 2nd African Surgical Outcomes Study. He co-directs the ADC course acting as local co-ordinator in Mbale.

#### Dr Hazel Mumphansha (Lusaka, Zambia

Dr Hazel Mumphansha is a paediatric anaesthetist based in Lusaka, Zambia, with experience taching and training on the Mmed programme, as well as in collaborating with overseas partners.

#### Mr Robert Neighbour (Diamedica, UK)

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 Paul Ochieng (Mbale, Uganda)

Dr Ochieng is a physician anaesthetist based in Mbale, Uganda. He is a current AAU Anesthesia Scholar and works with international partners on workforce-related research. He coordinates visits to the CURE Hospital in Mbale as part of the ADC course.

#### Dr Naomi Shamambo (Lusaka, Zambia)

Dr Shamambo is an anaesthetist in Lusaka, Zambia with first-hand experience of the recently developed MMed programme. She also plays a key role in the Primary Trauma Care project in Lusaka.

