

## **Report on Hugh Greenwood Skills Course, Malawi 2015**

- The above skills course took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> November by invitation from COSECSA (College of Surgeons of South, East and Central Africa) as a preconference course.
- Funding sought from Johnson and Johnson to support the course was unsuccessful.
- The faculty entailed Mr Tony Lander(co-ordinator), Mr Richard Stewart and Kokila Lakhoo and the local faculty was Dr. T. Tia
- Preparation of material for the course took 2 days and the course was run over one day.
- The course was attended by 12 candidates, a mixture of paediatric surgery trainees, general surgery trainees and clinical officers on a degree course in surgery. The mixture of attendees required the course to be adapted on the day for the requirement of the attendees.
- The venue was a skills laboratory in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Blantyre, Malawi. The laboratory was adequately equipped for the course and the models were prepared by the faculty using animal tissue.
- The course mainly entailed technical skills on bowel and oesophageal anastomosis in various congenital scenarios.
- Analysis of the feedback form showed the benefit of refinement of technique for the surgical trainees and for the clinical officers, the awareness of working in a stepwise fashion for any surgical procedure. Most clinical officers for the first time were taught a formal methodical technique for bowel anastomosis which they admitted to previously working in a haphazard fashion.
- They further fed back that the course was too short and required more technical scenarios.
- The attendees will receive course material electronically in 3 weeks time.
- This is the 6<sup>th</sup> Hugh Greenwood skills course and the faculty felt we should now consider developing a brochure on the course
- Thanks to George Youngson for sponsoring the catering for the course (\$150)
- The faculty felt that the HG-BAPS skills course should be tailored for generality of childhood to capture the large number of adult surgeons with mixed paediatric practice.

Report prepared by



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IAC Chair      28<sup>th</sup> November 2015