

REPORT

PFCCS Course held in Nepal on October 17 & 18, 2019

Pictures from the course at the end of the report

Pediatric Fundamental Critical Care Support Course (PFCCS)

PFCCS course is meant for those interested in learning and reinforcing their existing knowledge in the management of critically ill or injured children. This course was developed by the pediatric section of the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) and is licensed by SCCM. This two-day course includes a balance of didactic lectures and interactive (hands-on) skills stations to help health care providers recognize, stabilize, and care for pediatric patients who are acutely deteriorating.

Objectives

- Prioritize assessment needs for the critically ill or injured infant and child
- Select appropriate diagnostic tests
- Identify and respond to significant changes in the unstable pediatric patient
- Recognize and initiate management of acute life-threatening conditions
- Determine the need for expert consultation and/or patient transfer and prepare for optimal transfer

PFCCS Course held in 2019

ANMF support

We are grateful to ANMF for funding support of \$1460 to purchase the PFCCS license and books, and the transport of the books to Nepal.

Special thanks to Dr Ajay Khilnani (US), Dr Dhruva Shrestha (Nepal), and Dr. Rateena Rajbhandari (Nepal) – instructors- for taking the responsibility of initiating, directing, and arranging all logistics.

Venue

The 2 full day PFCCS Course was conducted and organized by the Nepal Pediatric Society (NEPAS). The course was held at Patan Hospital, Patan Academy of Health Sciences (PAHS) – Lagankhel, Lalitpur, Nepal.

Course Goals:

- There is a paucity of formally trained critical care specialists in Nepal. Pediatricians work in pediatric critical care facilities with no formal or informal training.
- Provide a fun, 2-day, Pediatric Critical Care course that not only advances medical knowledge and skills, but also reinforces educational concepts through case-based learning and simulation.
- Continue this recurring course to physicians who care for many children but lack formalized curriculum/training in pediatric critical care.
- Create a self-sufficient educational model by training Nepalese instructors who can teach/direct subsequent courses; thereby making them independent of external (international) teachers.
- Reinforce a long-term educational/clinical partnership based in trust, compassion, and substantive education.
- Ultimately, provide better care to the Nepalese community by advancing local medical knowledge and clinical skills.

Faculty

- 3 Pediatric critical care physicians from 3 different universities in the United States
- 3 Fellows in Pediatric Critical Care and 1 Pediatric Advanced practitioner from Northwestern University in the United States
- 4 Local trained PFCCS instructors. Three instructors were trained 2 years prior and had already instructed the course in the year 2017 and 2018. This is the first teaching opportunity for 1 local instructor.

Participants:

- 30 Local Pediatricians from various hospitals in Nepal including Patan, Ilam, Bhaktapur, Biratnagar, Kathmandu, Dhulikhel, Syangja, Bhairawa.
 - These pediatricians do not have formal fellowship training but presently serve
 - as PICU/NICU physicians
 - Outpatient and inpatient pediatricians
 - Emergency Departments

Outcome:

- A minimum of 70% of all participants passing the course on the first attempt; confirming an effective teaching course.
 - There was 69% increase in score from the pre-test to post-test
- Improved collegiality amongst participating physician trainees and faculty members.
- 4 local physicians who successfully completed the training course and effectively served as course instructors, 1 local physician served as the course coordinator and course director.
- Feedback from each participant to ensure that future courses continue to serve this community's' needs well.
- The pediatricians not only learned about managing critically ill children but also understood child advocacy, team work, and communication.
- The major change they thought they could bring about was safe transport of the critically ill child, protocol development, and procedural sedation to decrease anxiety and pain in suffering children.

Image 1: Participants and Faculty: 2019 PFCCS at Patan Academy of Health Sciences



Image 2: Dr Vinod Havalad (US) and Dr Puja Amatya (Nepal), instructors, discussing ventilator strategies



Image 3: Local Instructors Dr Puja, Dr Rateena, Dr Raju, and Dr Dhruva (standing from right to left) discussing intubation drugs at the sedation skill station



Image 4: Dr Ajay Khilani (US) and Dr Dhruva Shrestha (Nepal), instructors, facilitates the Megacode



Image 5: Referring and Accepting teams at the Transport skill stations

