

Maternal Life Support in Lusaka: An interprofessional collaborative education project

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Background

- Maternal mortality rates in Zambia have improved significantly over the last 20 years, however the current rate of 201 per 100,000 live births is still above the Sustainable Development Goal target of <70 per 100,000^{1 2}.
- University Teaching Hospital, Women and Newborn is a tertiary referral hospital in Lusaka, Zambia.
- Obstetric Anaesthesia is a very new sub-specialty in Zambia with only 2 specialist obstetric anaesthetists across the country.
- This project aims to improve resuscitation skills amongst midwifery staff and develop the teamworking relationship between Anaesthesia and Midwifery.



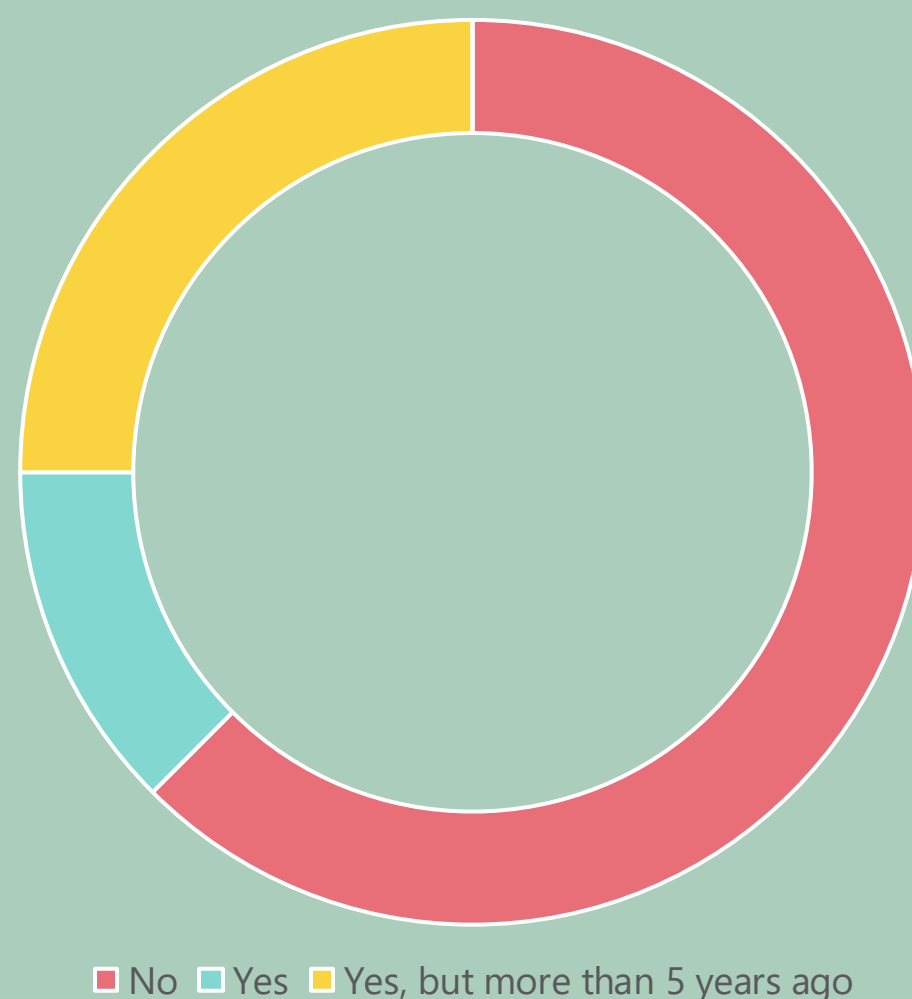
Why?

- At local morbidity & mortality reviews we identified the initial management of the collapsed patient as an area for improvement
- Human resources are stretched, limiting interdisciplinary collaboration in obstetric care
- Obstetric Intensive Care (OICU) treats the highest acuity patients, so was chosen to pilot an education project between midwives and physician anaesthetists

Needs Assessment

- An initial needs assessment surveyed midwives working in OICU to identify baseline knowledge and areas to focus education.
- 63% of midwifery staff had never been trained in CPR and 88% had not received training in the last five years.

Have you had CPR training before?



94% felt **confident** to provide CPR after training, compared to **12% before** training



[Midwives and Anaesthetists participating in training scenarios]



- Anaesthesia Residents received training on facilitating clinical skills teaching
- They then ran short teaching sessions with small group scenario practice for OICU midwives. Sessions finished with time for informal discussion and snacks!
- Topics included: assessment of collapsed patient, maintaining an airway, CPR and adaptations for pregnant patients.
- 20 midwives and nurses received training delivered by 3 anaesthesia residents.
- After training 18 participants completed a follow-up quiz. 100% of participants found the sessions helpful, 61% felt 'very confident' and 33% felt 'confident' in providing CPR after training.

Feedback & The Future

Feedback from participants:

need to teach a good number of health practitioners so most of us should have basic knowledge on CPR

train more staff in different wards about resuscitation

the teaching should be extended to all the nurses in other wards

to teach and involve a lot of nurses in CPR in different departments

More training required

Next topics: emergency drugs, arrhythmias, intubation & ventilators

To have such sessions every 6 months

the exercise was educative and has to be practiced now and again

Next Steps:

- Expansion of the project to midwifery and nursing staff in other departments in the Maternity hospital
- Incorporate sessions into a regular training schedule to sustainably develop the team relationship and maintain knowledge

Challenges

Challenges	Solutions
Time Busy stretched department, limited time to fit education into the shift	Ran sessions at shift changeover times to maximise attendance
Physical Resources Limited access to simulation equipment Resource-limited healthcare setting	Low fidelity manikins borrowed from other departments and centres Teaching scenarios designed to be appropriate to the available resources
Human Resources only 1 obstetric anaesthesia consultant, busy rota for anaesthesia residents	Training anaesthesia residents around their schedule Identified senior midwives to train as peer educators to support expansion of teaching

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Follow this QR code for more information and references!

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 <https://gadpartnerships.com>