BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SURGICAL CAPACITY - A CASE CONTROL STUDY OF LOW-COST LAPAROSCOPY TRAINING SIMULATION PROGRAM

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INTRODUCTION

In recent years, there has been notable progress in pedagogical approaches for surgical and procedural skills, with simulation-based training gaining significant traction. However, implementing such training method in resource-limited settings poses significant challenges

But by emphasizing simulation-based training and adopting flexible instructional methods, institutions in these settings can substantially benefit trainees, trainers, and the broader community, enhancing educational capacity and effectively preparing healthcare professionals to navigate the unique challenges of the Ethiopian healthcare landscape.

OBJECTIVE

• To determine whether the low-cost surgical simulation model ALLSAFE is applicable in surgical skills training at Yekatit 12 Hospital Medical College

METHODOLOGY

A group comprising surgeons and trainees participated in a study where they practiced in a specialized, standardized simulation laboratory with low costs. Subsequently, they underwent a clinical phase involving laparoscopic appendectomies. The performance of each participant was recorded and assessed.

RESULTS

Currently, 11 participants are engaged in the module, at varying stages. Three have completed it successfully and performed laparoscopic appendectomies as primary surgeons, totaling 19 surgeries.
The average surgery duration was 74.6 minutes, with patients staying in the hospital for an average of 1.3 days.

This training approach has motivated participants and boosted momentum within the surgical community. Though the formal testing phase has ended, the ALLSAFE tool will continue to be utilized.







CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it can be confidently asserted that providing laparoscopic surgery education is entirely attainable even within surgical systems operating in resource-constrained settings. This experience has revealed a fundamental truth: local opportunities possess the potential to revolutionize the surgical landscape of our healthcare system. Moreover, this initiative has offered valuable insights into the imminent transformation our system is poised for.