

Proposal for a VTT Program in Neonatal Resuscitation and Post Resuscitation Care of Newborns at the Medical University Level in Gondar, Ethiopia

Statement of the Problem:

Newborn deaths in the first week of life in Ethiopia have remained at unacceptably high levels. Studies there have shown that many of these deaths could have been prevented if personnel skilled in neonatal resuscitation attend every birth. However, someone trained in these life-saving skills attends only 10% of the births in Ethiopia. A critical shortage of instructors in neonatal resuscitation and post resuscitation care at Ethiopia's medical universities has severely limited the training of sufficient numbers of medical personnel to meet the needs. (See Appendix 1)

Goals:

A Training of Trainers Program in: (1) neonatal resuscitation and (2) care of the newborn after resuscitation will help to alleviate the critical shortage of instructors in these life-saving techniques at the University of Gondar and potentially at other medical universities throughout the country.

Objectives:

To prepare instructors at medical universities to teach neonatal resuscitation and post resuscitation care of the newborn to medical, nursing and midwife students and hospital staff in sufficient numbers to meet the goals. (See Appendix 2)

Team Members: San Diego Instructor Group

Patricia Bromberger MD is a retired Kaiser neonatologist with experience teaching NRP instructor courses in several underserved areas, including Vietnam, and Ghana. She is a Neonatal Resuscitation Regional Instructor, a STABLE instructor, and is a Helping Babies Breathe Master Trainer.

Karin Davies MD is a retired Kaiser pediatrician who lived in Ethiopia as a child. She has a strong interest in supporting medical education in Ethiopia and has experience in developing and implementing education programs. She has training in neonatal resuscitation and post-resuscitation care of newborns and she is a Helping Babies Breathe Master Trainer.

Elisa Imonti RN has been a Kaiser neonatal nurse for more than 25 years and has been a charge nurse for more than 10 years. She has extensive experience coordinating and teaching neonatal nursing care. She is a NRP instructor.

Maroofa Fata RRT, NPS is a registered Respiratory Therapist who is the assistant department administrator for respiratory care services in the neonatal intensive care unit at Kaiser in San Diego. She is an expert in respiratory treatment of the neonate and in the care and maintenance of respiratory equipment. She is a NRP instructor.

Carole Leland, PhD, is a highly respected professional in leadership development and change. She has worked as a leadership consultant in Ethiopia for several years, working with the Ministry of Health's Senior Staff, USAID projects, and the Ethiopia/US collaborative efforts with HIV and AIDS prevention.

Plan of Action:

In a three-part program lasting 2 years the San Diego Instructor Group will train 16 members from the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Gondar to become instructors in neonatal resuscitation (NRP) and 16 instructors in the care of the newborn after resuscitation: (See Appendix 7).

Part One: A six-day workshop will consist of (1) Two days learning the NRP course material (NRP Provider Course). (2) Two days learning to teach the NRP course material (NRP Instructor Course,) and (3) Two days practice teaching the NRP provider course under the guidance of the San Diego Instructor Group. Following completion of the course they will earn the title of NRP instructor.

Part Two: Six months after Part One the San Diego Instructor Group will hold a second six day workshop to train 16 instructors in post-resuscitation care of newborns consisting of: (1) Two days learning the course material, including a brief NRP refresher course. This course material will cover post resuscitation care of the newborn. (2) One day learning to teach the material (3) One day learning how to implement change and (4) Two days practice teaching a Post Resuscitation Care provider course under the guidance of the San Diego Instructor Group. After successfully completing the Six-day workshop the instructor students will earn the title of Post Resuscitation Care Instructor.

Part Three: During the second year of the program the Ethiopian instructors will teach 8 courses. The San Diego Instructor Group will provide ongoing support, mentoring, problem solving, and evaluation. (See Appendix 3).

Numbers Trained: Thirty-two New Instructors will train a total of 416 providers during the course of the two-year project. (See Appendix 4).

Sustainability:

(1) Expectation of continued teaching: In the 6 months following parts 1 and 2, the Ethiopian instructors will teach at least 2 training courses to their colleagues and students with pre and post mentoring by US team via Skype. In the 2nd year of the project, the Ethiopian instructors will teach 8 courses to their colleagues.

(2) Support for ongoing training: by providing long distance mentoring by Skype and two on site visits in the 2nd year to directly mentor teaching courses.

(3) Provide financial support: to the university with a stipend of \$1000 for each independent course taught up to a total of 12 courses.

(4) Supply all training materials: necessary for 2 years of training

(5) Leadership Training Module: Dr. Carole Leland will introduce the participants to essential concepts and practices of change and transition. She will emphasize communication and feedback techniques to enhance teamwork and collaboration.

(6) Create a position of Project Coordinator: for a member of the university staff to schedule classes, keep records, and manage equipment. Provide a stipend to support this position during the duration of the project.

(7) University Support: The Departments of Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Neonatal Nursing, and Nurse Midwifery and the University have signed letters of support for the program and have agreed to incorporate the classes into the curriculum and to assume support for continuing the program at the conclusion of the project.

