

Establishing an American Heart Association International Training Center in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

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Introduction

- For more than 15 years nurse educators from Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area have assisted nursing leadership at Grace Children's Hospital (GCH) with educational activities
- GCH was founded in 1967 and has been serving the lower Delmas area of Port-au-Prince providing inpatient and outpatient care, primarily for pediatrics
- Supported by International Child Care USA, a Christian health development organization which supports health programs in Haiti and the Dominican Republic



Resuscitation Trainings

- June 2016 focused on the 2015 guidelines of the American Heart Association (AHA) for basic life support
 - 5 classes
 - 20 health care promoters
 - 17 lay persons
 - Conducted by U.S.A. nurse educators, one of whom is an AHA BLS Provider Instructor
- Returned in November 2016 to conduct BLS training to 14 more health care promoters



GCH to participate in AHA International Training Center (ITC) Process

- Process is referred to as Selection Criteria and Accreditation
- An ITC is an educational, health related organization outside the U.S. that signs an agreement with the AHA to provide the AHA's Emergency Cardiovascular Care programs and issue cards
- Many requirements to become an ITC
 - Legal
 - Administrative
 - General liability insurance
 - Instructors
 - Facilities
 - Equipment
 - Commitment
 - Territory
 - Number of people trained
- Evaluation and approval of new ITCs takes several steps
 - Presentation of letter of intent and application form
 - Assessment process
 - Information verification
 - Preliminary approval
 - Application must gain legal approval
- Upon application approval, the ITC appoints a Training Center Coordinator
 - Many responsibilities
 - Submit reports to AHA twice a year
 - Drafting a quality assurance plan

Establishing the Simulation Laboratory

- 2015 – modest beginnings
- Occupies a large dedicated space in the education division of GCH funded by USAID
- Director of Nursing has Sim Lab management responsibilities
- Primarily funded by a grant from the United Methodist Women and anonymous donors
- Features several types of manikins - core pediatric and adult in-hospital clinical skills training, insertion of pediatric IV catheters and simulation of normal or complex birthing deliveries
- Resuscitation training is now possible with 8 sets of infant, child, adult CPR manikins and 8 French language automatic external defibrillator trainers



25 by 25 Target

- Large death rate numbers from cardiovascular disease (CVD) in low income countries such as Haiti is a concern
- Global phenomenon
- United Nations set a goal in 2011 by setting a target of reducing the risk of premature noncommunicable disease deaths by 25% by 2025
- Goal will focus on the reduction of risk factors for CVD
- Global Cardiovascular Disease Taskforce will disseminate information and approaches to reach the 2025 targets
- The implication for nurse educators is to work with the AHA to provide CPR training to laypersons and healthcare promoters in low-income countries such as Haiti



References

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No AHA Training Centers in Port-au-Prince

- The process by which AHA Instructors can conduct courses and issue AHA cards is in the country of incorporation
- Permission may be obtained through the approval of the AHA's Global Training Department
- Approval is not automatic, and application must have a letter of support from the Instructor's Training Center

