

Department of Anaesthesiology

BASIC AIRWAY MANAGEMENT COURSE

25 August 2017

The Department of Anaesthesiology at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University and Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital hosted their annual Basic Airway Management Course on 25 August 2017. The aim of the course is to improve the knowledge and skills of airway management of doctors and nurses outside the Department of Anaesthesiology.

The course was planned and organized by Dr. Joyce Baloyi, Dr. Noneka Gcanga, Dr. Grace Makinita and Dr. Mahlodi Ledwaba, all consultants in the Department. Much hard work went into making sure the course would run smoothly.

The course was attended by 62 delegates from Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital, Jubilee District Hospital, Brits District Hospital and Odi District Hospital. 38 Doctors and 24 nurses attended the course.

Prof. Dhaneswhar Bhagwandass, the Head of the Department of Anaesthesiology, opened the proceedings and welcomed all the delegates to the course. A short comical demonstration was done of airway management gone wrong, to highlight why airway management is such a critical skill. Dr. Nomana Faku gave the first lecture on basic airway management, followed by Dr. Charlé Steyl who spoke about the management of the difficult airway. The team doing the demonstration then repeated their effort, this time with a much better outcome!

The course would not have been possible without the generous support from our sponsors: Intersurgical, MEd hold, Medtronic, Respiratory Care Africa, Karl Storz Endoscopes and Teleflex Medical. Trade representatives from each company presented their equipment for airway management. Delegates rotated through five skill stations: 1. Basic airway manoeuvres including bag-valve-mask ventilation, 2. Basic intubation techniques and use of supraglottic airway devices, 3. Airway management adjuncts including video laryngoscopy, 4. Surgical airway placement, 5. Ventilator settings.



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Feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive. Many delegates stated how grateful they were to refresh and practice their airway management skills. For some it was the first time they were exposed to video laryngoscopy. All the delegates enjoyed the hands-on skill stations.

The Department of Anaesthesiology looks forward to next year's course!

Images:

Introduction and Welcome – Prof. Bhagwandass & Dr. Makinita



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Airway Management Demonstration



Delegates in the Auditorium in the New Pharmacy Building on SMU Campus



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Dr. Faku explaining the LEMONS mnemonic in airway assessment



Karl Storz Endoscopes provided the bags for the delegate welcome packs



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Basic Airway Management – equipment from Intersurgical



Basic Airway Management – equipment from Medtronic



Supraglottic Airway Devices



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Delegate practicing the cricothyroidotomy technique with the EasyCric™ set



Basic Airway Management Station



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Dr. Ledwaba demonstrating the surgical cricothyroidotomy



Animated teaching by Dr. Steyl



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Course presenters pose for a picture with the representatives from Karl Storz



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Information about the Department of Anaesthesiology at SMU:

Mission Statement:

As a proudly South African department of Anaesthesiology we aim to provide an academic home for individuals interested in the practice of Anaesthesiology and Perioperative medicine by encouraging quality patient-centred care in the DGMMAH cluster.

Vision Statement:

As a department, we strive to fulfil our mission by being proud of our strengths, yet acknowledging our challenges and improving our weaknesses. We want to eliminate any obstructions to our mission and utilise all possible opportunities.

Staff:

12 Consultants, 29 Registrars, 7 Medical Officers

Website:

<http://www.smu.ac.za/schools/medicine/departments/anaesthesiology-departmental/>

Written by: Dr. Charlé Steyl, Registrar, Department of Anaesthesiology, SMU



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