

Feedback review on

Trauma Radiology Lecture

delivered by Mrs Patti Edwards

at Holy Family Hospital, Nkawkaw

On October 20th, 2008

Review done by

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Of behalf of

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Introduction

As part of what have become regular visits by the health charity Moteclife-UK, Mrs Patti Edwards gave a lecture on Trauma Radiography at the Holy Family Hospital, Nursing Training College on 20th October 2008. The lecture was opened to all hospital staff as well as students of the college. It was well attended by the nursing students. However, hardly any hospital staff attended. The following is an analysis of the returned questionnaires from those attending the lecture.

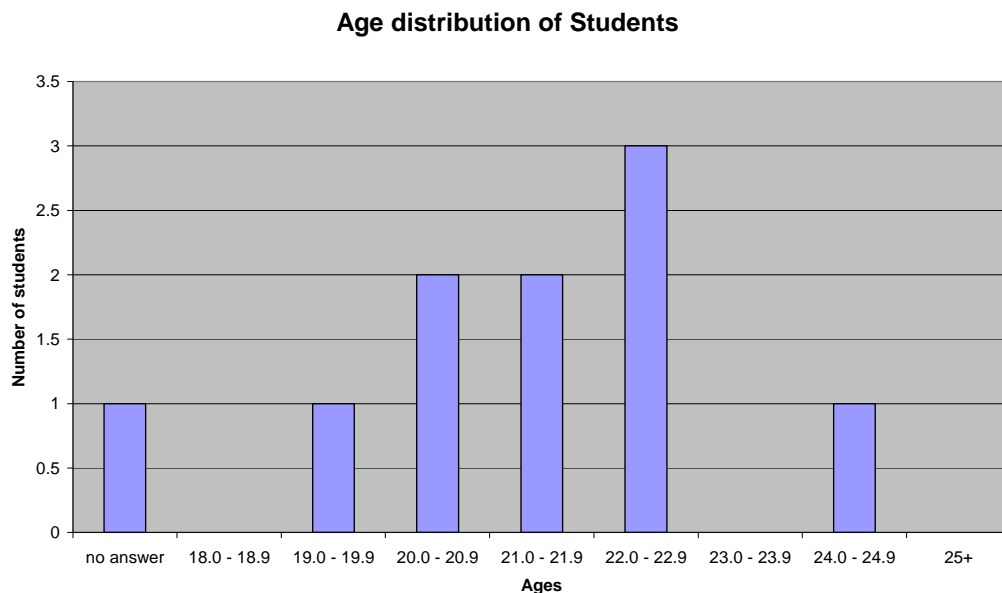
Background

The town of Nkawkaw is roughly midpoint on the trunk road linking the Ghanaian capital, Accra and the second city Kumasi. The Holy Family Hospital is a District General Hospital run by the sisters of the Holy Spirit Congregation, headquartered in Holland¹. It has a Nursing Training College and the lectures on this trip were held at the College except for departmental lectures and demonstrations which were done on the work floor. The timing for the lectures was often between 4.00pm – 5pm because that was when the use of the College lecture hall came to an end.

Characteristics of lecture attendants

As mentioned above this lecture was attended predominantly by nursing students although it was opened to all medical staff. The students were aged between 19 and 25 years. See Fig 1 below.

Fig. 1

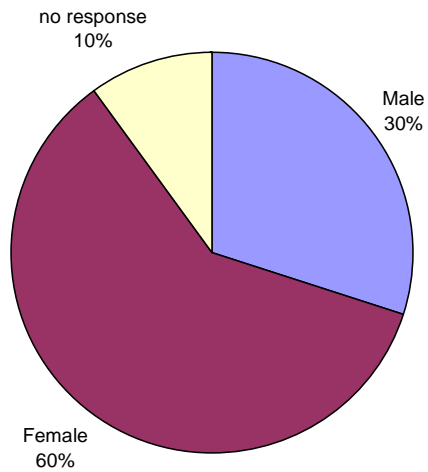


¹ See Previous report By Rosemary Doogan on Moteclife website – moteclife.co.uk

There were as twice as many female students as there were males. This is a reflection of the intake of Ghanaian nursing school in general. See Fig. 2 below.

Fig. 2

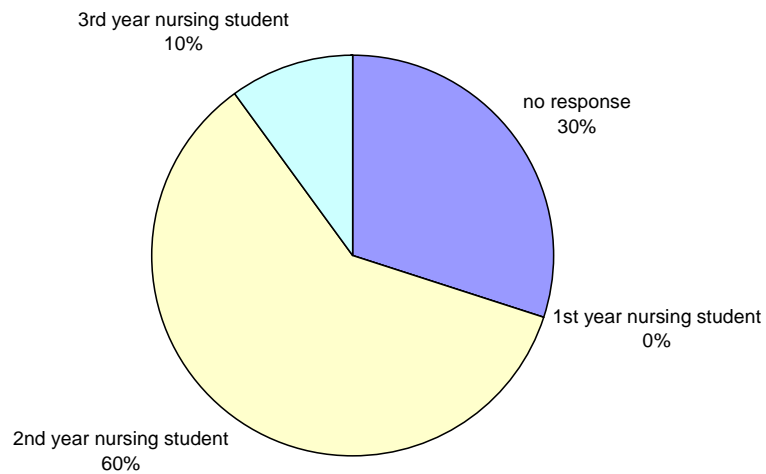
Gender Distribution of Attending Students



Most of the attendees were second year students. See Fig. 3

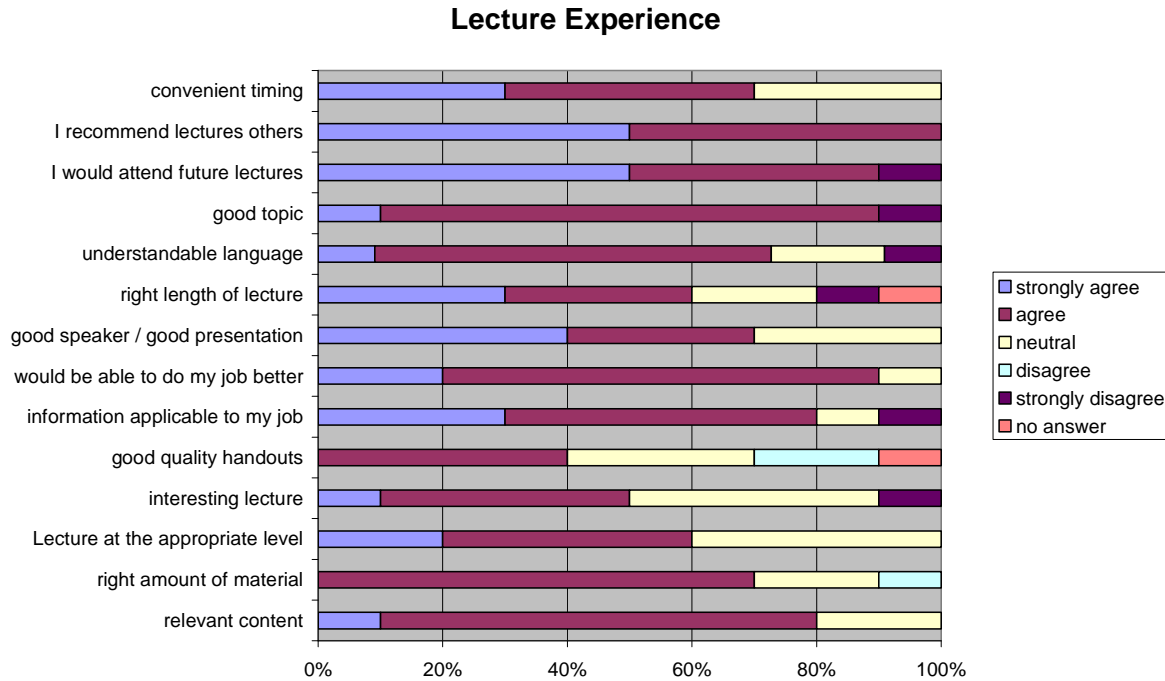
Fig. 3

Students by year group



Lecture Experience

Fig. 4



80% of respondents found the content of the lecture relevant and 70% found the timing convenient.

90% said the lecture topic was a good one. 70% said that the lecture had the right amount of material and 60% of respondents said the lecture was of the right length.

70% of respondents said that the language used was understandable. 60% said that the lecture was at the appropriate level but only 50% thought a lecture on trauma radiology was interesting. The interest in the lecture was definitely not a reflection on the speaker as 70% thought she was a good speaker and / or gave a good presentation. Even a higher figure of 90% would attend future lectures and everyone, 100%, would recommend the lecture to others. This acknowledgment of the lecturer's presentation also came through in the free text comments.

80% found the information they received applicable to their work and 90% said that the lecture on trauma radiology would enable them do their work better.

40% of respondents “agreed” that the handouts were of good quality but 20% “disagreed”. 30% were neutral on this issue of handout and there was no response given on 10% of returned questionnaires.

Comments and suggestions

Respondents were asked if they had encountered Moteclife-UK in any way previously before this trip. In addition they were asked to provide comments on

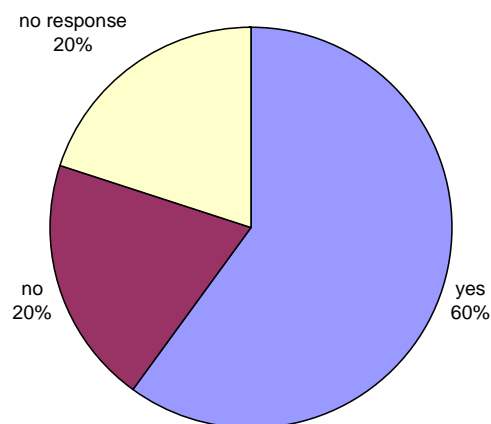
- (i) what they found particularly good about the lecture,
- (ii) how they thought this lecture could have been improved, and
- (iii) what other topics they would like to be covered

Prior experience of Moteclife-UK

60% of respondents have heard of Moteclife-UK before this trip. 20% had not and 20% of questionnaires drew no response. See Fig. 5. All those who have heard of Moteclife-UK prior to this trip encountered the group at similar lectures on previous trips.

Fig. 5

Have you heard of Moteclife-UK before today



What was particularly good about this lecture?

Respondents said that what was good about this lecture were they “good and appropriate explanations” of the radiographs. Respondents also said that the lecturer did make the topic “interesting”. This made the radiographs simple and easier to understand. They felt that this supplemented that school lectures. Specifically respondents said they were happy with the lecturer’s “teaching technique”.

What could have been improved?

60% of returned questionnaires did not suggest any possible improvements. One feedback on what could have been improved about this lecture was that the lecturer could have “taken her time when talking for everyone to understand”. Another suggestion was that the quality of the images used could have been better. There was another suggestion that the handouts should have been given prior to the presentations instead of these coming after the lecture.

Interestingly one respondent who recommended the lecturer’s teaching technique also suggested that the lecture could have been further improved in this instance if it had been interactive. This comment therefore is not a criticism but probably a viewpoint as to how things could have been even better that it turned out.

Future lecture topics

Most of suggestions on future topics came from the second year students. There were only two suggestions from third year students. This was a lecture on “complications of pregnancy and more information on abortions” The topics put forward were as follows.

1. colostomy
2. Oxygen administration
3. N-G tube insertion
4. CVA
5. reproductive health
6. breast cancer
7. nutrition and dietetics
8. complications of pregnancy and
9. information on abortions

Conclusions

The lecture of trauma radiology was timely and relevant to the educational needs of health workers of Nkawkaw. It was well received by the Nursing students at Holy Family Hospital, Nkawkaw and was highly recommended by those who attended the lecture. Most of the attendees did not only believe that the information they gained was applicable to their work but also that it would enable them to do their work better.

This high recommendation and great response to this lecture was largely due to the ability of the lecturer, Patti Edwards to “simplify” and make a difficult topic easy to understand according to the comments.

The issue as to when lecture handouts are to be given in relation to the timing of the lecture itself, the writer believes, should be left mainly to the discretion of any particular lecturer. In this instance as with most lectures on this trip the handouts were left on the school computers to be printed by those who felt the need for them and this might have contributed to the fact that about 50% of respondents gave no view either way on the quality of the handouts. They simply did not have it prior to the lecture.

Also its one thing reading text off a screen during a lecture but when the validation of what is being said depends on the fine details on an image on a screen with less than optimum lighting conditions the quality of this image may be less than ideal. Future lectures of a similar nature may need extra precautions with regards to the lighting conditions.

Nkawkaw town is roughly at the midpoint of the trunk road linking Accra and Kumasi, the capital and second cities of Ghana respectively. This is a trunk road that has its fair share of road accidents. Either city is about a 2 hour drive from Nkawkaw. This means that the Holy Family Hospital is well placed for its share of trauma patients. The ordering and reading of trauma radiographs is therefore a valuable skill for which a constant update would never be out of place for medical personnel, whether they are already qualified or in training.

The trauma patients are managed on by general practitioners who man the emergency unit. Often these doctors do their best but have no particular training in trauma, a situation that pertains to most district general hospital in Ghana². It would therefore be a worthwhile exercise for the

² Buckle, Conrad, MIDA GHANA HEALTH PROJECT CHAG TRAUMA CARE INITIAL ASSESSMENT, Document number - MIDA-IOM/CB/001/2006 prepared for MIDA-IOM and NCHS Ghana

medical staff, especially the general practitioners who man the accident and emergency unit to have this update at least once a year, if they are not already having this update elsewhere, and equally worthwhile to co-opt Mrs. Edwards, if she would accept, to provide this update.