

2012 NATIONAL PERI-OPERATIVE NURSES WORKSHOP IN ACCRA A SUCCESS

Motec has successfully completed a five day national peri-operative workshop for nurses at the Ghana Registered Nurses Association Headquarters in Accra, Ghana from 15th of to 19th of October. The theme of the campaign was 'Saving Lives'.

It was attended by 102 nurses representing all the ten regions of Ghana as compared to 86 nurses who participated in the 2011 educational programme.

The workshop was a collaborative effort by Motec Life –UK, Ghana Health Service, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM-Holland) and the Peri-Operative Nurses of Group of Ghana (PONGG).

Workshop faculty of Motec from England included Dr Raymond Ofori, microbiologist, Mrs Jane Jackson (clinical nurse consultant), Mrs Lesley Bailey (Senior Recovery Ward Nurse), Dr Lily Xiaonuan (Trauma and orthopaedic specialist), Mrs Felicia Wallace (Tissue viability Nurse) and Mrs Rachel Gevell (chartered physiotherapist).

Patient safety issues especially World Health Organisation's surgical safety check protocols, wound care, optimisation of patient prior to surgery, basic infection control measures, ABC of trauma care, post injury and post surgery rehabilitation of patients, principles of patient monitoring including practical ways of interpreting electrical waves of the heart were presented for discussion. The programmes were interactive and appeared to have gone down well. Participants also presented papers on their views on health care improvement strategies for their hospital/region. The Upper West won the best strategy for best practice scheme for hospitals.

On the final day of the programme, Mrs Jane Jackson and the President of the Peri-Operative Nurses Group of Ghana congratulated the participants and the lecturers for the hard work. Both hoped that the various hospitals and health authorities would support the visions of the dedicated nursing staff in order to encourage best nursing practices. Lifebox-pulse oximeters from the Anaesthetic Association of Great Britain were presented to selected hospitals who had participated in an exercise to promote implementation of the W.H.O. surgical safety check list in its entirety or its locally modified form. The presentation was supervised by Mrs Marian Barnor, a patron of Motec Life –UK.

In a closing address, Mr Ofori-Atta reminded the participants of a saying by Florence Nightingale – 'the very first requirement in a hospital is that it should do no harm to the sick'. 'Safe experiences and proper care of our patients should be our ultimate goal' he stressed.

A course dinner dance organised by PONGG was well attended and enjoyed with a new craze of dance called 'position' meant only for the brave - useful addition to the Ghana's AZONTO moves.

Motec wishes to express her sincere gratitude to the Ghana Health Service, IOM-MIDA, PONGG, workshop grounds men for the successful conclusion of the educational programme. Motec will be in discussion with the Ghana Health Service, PONGG and other parties about the form and shape of a similar educational programme for 2013.

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