

The Alan & Cyril Body Trust

Registered Charity No 1133557



Mulago Report

January-February 2012

I have continued to visit Kawempe Health Centre on a weekly basis. In conjunction with getting the theatre up and running I have been doing CME sessions with the midwives on postoperative recovery. The theatre is now fully functional. Last week we did the first caesarean section and Louise was there to see it! The power went midway through the operation and after 30 minutes they eventually managed to turn the generator on. In the future I think it would be wise to turn the generator on prior to starting the operation. I am going to give the midwives at Kawempe the remaining kits that we have and provide some training on AMEWS.

I am still working closely with the midwives at Kabubbu health centre. We have now held five health education sessions on family planning with women living in and around Kabubbu. Approximately 30-40 women have attended each session. Next week along with a midwife who specialises in family planning we will be holding a one day camp for local women to get IUDs, Implanons and other forms of contraception. A new midwife and a nurse have recently been appointed, they both seem to be experienced and have a great relationship with the patients. On a positive note there were 16 deliveries in January, which is almost double the number of deliveries they had in September when I first visited. Together with the nurse in charge we have designed and printed a booklet that has a partograph, drug chart, observation chart and a section for clinical notes, which is a great improvement on the old system of writing in exercise books or on loose bits of paper.

As part of the Ugandan Maternal Hub Sarah (the midwife in charge of HDU) and I visited Dr Rob Bates and his team of doctors, midwives and nurses in Hoima Hospital. The aim of the visit was to provide training on AMEWS. The training went really well and the team were able to offer support to the midwives after we had left. Hoima hospital is much smaller than Mulago with approximately 20 postnatal beds (compared to 80 at Mulago) which will make the implementation of AMEWS much easier. Louise and I then revisited Hoima a week later give the midwives their kits. This is a great example of how the hub can be utilised. I definitely got some good ideas from the visit!

I had a welcome visit from Louise Ackers last week. It was a hectic week of meetings and visits. One meeting was with Dr Livingston Makanga at Kampala city council to discuss appointing a medical officer at Kawempe. Dr Makanga agreed to help us but explained that it may be hard to get someone appointed in the near future, and until then the operating theatre will not have the intended impact on Mulago. Dr Rob Bates visited Kasangati HC to evaluate their non-functioning operating theatre, like Kawempe it's a health centre IV so it should provide emergency obstetric surgery. This will be an exciting project to undertake! Two LMP 'helpers' arrived last week. Sabrina from the Netherlands and Chanelle from Liverpool. They will be staying between 8-12 weeks and I will be getting them involved in projects at Kawempe and Mulago. Currently we are working on an observational study/ evaluation of current practices and barriers to taking patient's observations on the maternity wards at Mulago.