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## Bradford – St Lucia GI Endoscopy Workshop 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015

### Acknowledgement

I acknowledge the generous grant from the British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG).

### Background

St Lucia is a small island in the Caribbean with a population of 180,000 people. There are two main hospitals: Victoria hospital in the capital Castries (north of the island and the larger of the two hospitals) and St Jude Hospital in the south.



Victoria Hospital



St Jude Hospital (temporarily relocated to a football stadium)



The new St Jude Hospital with 2 dedicated endoscopy rooms

In 2008 during a visit to St Lucia I met with the Medical Director of St Jude Hospital, Dr Sylvestre Francois, who invited me to teach GI endoscopy at St Jude Hospital.

In 2009 I set up the Endoscopy Unit at St Jude hospital with a generous donation of a Pentax stack, four gastroscopes and three colonoscopes from the Yorkshire Clinic, Bingley, UK. Sadly, the surgical wing of that hospital burnt down only 10 days after the unit was set up with the loss of all the equipment. There were three casualties during this fire. I set out to obtain more equipment to restart that unit and fortunately Olympus kindly donated a stack with two gastroscopes and two colonoscopes. In addition, through a generous gift from one of the banks in St Lucia along with my personal contribution, another refurbished Pentax stack was acquired with two gastroscopes, two colonoscopes and one duodenoscope for St Jude.

The Ministry of Health of St Lucia, in the meantime, acquired an Olympus stack, one gastroscope and one colonoscope for Victoria hospital.

In 2013, I helped to set up the endoscopy units at both Victoria hospital and St Jude hospital. In 2014 I ran another workshop for both hospitals. This work was done in my own personal time along with one of the endoscopy sisters from Bradford and an endoscopy nurse from Mauritius.

As the demand for training grew, I realised that I needed help to continue this work, and I hence applied for a grant from the BSG.

### **The Visiting Team**

Accompanying me on this trip, in their own personal time and benevolently, were:

Mr Jonathon Robinson, Consultant Colorectal Surgeon from Bradford Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust,  
Dr Pradeep Mundre, Consultant Gastroenterologist from Bradford Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust,  
Sister Nemia Domondon from Bradford Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust,  
Staff nurse Ally Sobratty from SSRN hospital, Mauritius, with whom I have worked closely during workshops in Mauritius and who is excellent with troubleshooting Pentax equipment.



The visiting team

## **The Local Teams**

At Victoria hospital:

Dr Arlette Charles, Consultant Surgeon, trained in the UK – with excellent diagnostic upper and lower GI endoscopy skills,

Dr Dawit Kabiye, Consultant Surgeon, trained in Cuba - with excellent diagnostic upper and lower GI endoscopy skills and basic ERCP skills,

Dr Tamara Remy who started her upper GI endoscopy training with me during the 2013 workshop.

SHOs interested in endoscopy



Participants of the October 2015 GI Endoscopy workshop

At St Jude hospital:

Dr Richard Burt, Consultant Surgeon, with excellent diagnostic upper and lower GI endoscopy skills,

Dr Charles Greenidge, Consultant Surgeon, with excellent diagnostic upper and lower GI endoscopy skills,

Dr Fidelia Moonie, surgical trainee, with good diagnostic upper GI skills,

Dr Sylvestre Francois, Consultant Physician – to start on the training programme as the first physician to be trained in endoscopy in the public sector in St Lucia.

SHOs interested in endoscopy



The team at St Jude Hospital

## **Equipment**

All the equipment described above was in good condition. Endotherapy equipment consisted of material which I have gathered from several sources (Olympus, Diamed, Cook Medical, Boston Scientific) and which I have donated to the two hospitals over the years. Of note, there has been no investment from the Ministry of Health in endotherapy equipment so far.



Endoscopy equipment – Dr D Kabiye



Endotherapy from generous donations

Upon my request, Unisoft have kindly donated their electronic reporting system to each hospital, for which I am very grateful.



Unisoft reporting system in St Jude Hospital

### **Aims of the workshop**

- 1 To consolidate the diagnostic skills acquired by the first generation endoscopists.
- 2 To teach therapeutic skills – polypectomy, banding, oesophageal dilatation to the first generation of endoscopists.
- 3 To provide an intensive training course for Dr Sylvestre Francois at St Jude in diagnostic upper GI endoscopy.
- 4 To demonstrate to the first generation of endoscopists basic skills on how to train their juniors.
- 5 To train the nurses at hospitals in the following: pre-endoscopy (sharing pathways), endoscopy (handling endotherapy equipment) and post endoscopy (cleaning and maintaining equipment and dealing with patients post procedure).
- 6 To do a few ERCP cases with Dr Kabiye who has been on a training course in Cuba.
- 7 To advise the Ministry of Health on issues pertaining to GI endoscopy in St Lucia.

### **GI Endoscopy Workshop**

From the 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015, the training was carried out in two endoscopy rooms at Victoria hospital with all the staff from both hospitals. The aim was to provide a uniform training programme to both sets of endoscopists/nurses and to also encourage sharing of knowledge between the two hospitals. The training team

from the UK then split for the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – one trainer and one nurse went to St Jude hospital to train the staff in their local environment whilst the other team stayed at Victoria hospital.



Basics of upper GI endoscopy – Dr S Moreea



Loop resolution with charge nurse Ally Sobratty, Dr A Charles and Dr D Kabiye



Training the trainer – Dr Charles Greenidge

This workshop was the most successful of all the workshops I have run in St Lucia because of the number and quality of trainers (endoscopists and nurses). Each day, we did between 8 and 10 gastroscopies and 4 – 6 colonoscopies. The training was intensive and very well received from both the local endoscopists and the nursing staff. **All of the aims mentioned about were met** apart from there being no ERCP cases to be done during this week (some of the cases of ERCP are sent to Martinique for further management).



Teaching nursing skills by Sister Domondon



Dr Tamara Remy and Dr Pradeep Mundre

The following therapeutic skills were taught: variceal banding, oesophageal dilatation, EMR and polypectomy.



Mr J Robinson and Dr Arlette Charles



Dr Pradeep Mundre and Dr Richard Burt



Polypectomy

We took Dr Sylvestre Francois through 20 gastroscopies and ensured that there was a plan for further training to allow him to become an independent upper GI endoscopist in the next 6-12 months.



Mr J Robinson and Dr Sylvestre Francois

We used the formative DOPS forms after each procedure and we ensured one to one debriefing with every single endoscopist after each procedure.

We also gave lectures on lesion recognition at colonoscopy and on the management of upper GI bleeding.



Lecture by Dr Pradeep Mundre

### **Meeting with the Minister of Health, Honourable Alvina Reynolds**

The Minister of Health, Honourable Alvina Reynolds, visited Victoria hospital on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 and came to the endoscopy room to watch us train the local doctors. She understood the need to maintain the endoscopy equipment and to invest in endotherapy equipment. She gave a press conference to the national TV and gave reassurance that she will do the necessary to maintain the endoscopy service in both hospitals in St Lucia



Press conference by the Minister of Health, Hon Alvina Reynolds



The Minister of Health attending a training session

### **Feedback**

The feedback (using modified JAG feedback forms) from endoscopists and nurses was very good.

### **Outcome of the GI endoscopy workshop**

1. Reinforcement of diagnostic skills and training of therapeutic skills for 6 doctors – as described above
2. One physician taken through his first 20 gastroscopies with a plan for further training
3. 10 nurses trained to support diagnostic and therapeutic upper and lower GI endoscopy
4. Introduction to training the trainers for doctors and nurses
5. Involvement of the Minister of Health to help expand GI endoscopy in St Lucia

### **Suggestions for future workshops**

- 1 It would be important to continue to consolidate the therapeutic skills of the first generation of endoscopists and nursing staff.
- 2 A training the trainers course would also be of great benefit.
- 3 The Ministry of Health will need further advice to maintain and renew endoscopy equipment and to invest in endotherapy equipment.

**Cost of the workshop:** £5,600.

**Press coverage:** <http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/13887018>.

**Conflict of interest:** Nil.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'moreea', written over a horizontal line.

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