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NIHR Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies

Newsletter April 2019

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Upcoming Events

Annual Stakeholder Meeting
2019 – TBC, Sierra Leone

GASOC Annual Conference
2019 – 14th September 2019,
The Carriageworks, Leeds
[Click here for further details](#)

Welcome to the Global Health Research Group

Welcome to the fourth quarterly newsletter from the Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies (GHRG-ST). Our newsletters will keep you up to date on the developments of the projects in Sierra Leone and Rural North East India.

TARGET Training Programme - 12th - 14th March 2019



In March 2019, GHRG-ST travelled to Kolkata Medical College to deliver the TARGET training programme. The training programme is to train rural surgeons on laparoscopic skills and the use of the Gas Insufflation-Less Laparoscopic Surgery (GILLS) technique.

The training programme was delivered to 7 rural surgeons from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland. The faculty consisted of surgeons from India and the UK. Over 3 days the trainee surgeons completed a number of tasks on a high cost simulator, the GHRG-ST low cost lap pack designed by Dr Manish Chauhan at the University of Leeds and live surgery.

Following the training programme, proctorship will take place at the end of May with some of the faculty travelling to Assam and Nagaland to continue training in the rural setting.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Equipment Delivery, Freetown, Sierra Leone - April 2019



In April the delivery of the remaining equipment for Connaught Hospital took place, the imaging equipment and frames arrived safely after the long sea journey!

Will Bolton joined Tim Beacon in Freetown to set up the equipment and train staff at the hospital how to use the new mobile imaging equipment.



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Whilst at Connaught Hospital, Will took the opportunity to see how the FIXT trial was progressing, meeting with the trial coordinators and Dr Bundu. The trial is going well and has recruited 14 of the 20 before arm patients.

GHRG-ST in the News

Following our visit to the Deputy High Commissioner in Kolkata in March, the office for the High Commission in India issued press releases for our visit, below are the links to the articles published:

Millennium Post
Times of India
North East Now

ASiT Conference Awards

GHRG-ST attended the Association of Surgeons in Training (ASiT) National Conference in Belfast 22nd - 24th March 2019. The group presented two posters and an oral presentation. The group won three prizes, the ASiT Global Surgery Prize, the GlobalSurg prize and the prestigious ASiT/Swann Morton Medal.

[Click here to find out more](#)

4th QHRN Conference 'Crafting the Future of Qualitative Health Systems Research

Dr Rebecca King and Dr Amrit Virk from the GHRG-ST group presented at the 4th Qualitative Health Research Network (QHRN) Conference 2019 held in London from 21st – 22nd March 2019. Abstracts for this conference are available online

[Click here to access the abstracts.](#)

GHRG-ST on You Tube

GHRG-ST are now on You Tube, [click here](#) to access our homepage and see clips of our group overview, GHRG 2018 summer student internship and the TARGET study in Kolkata.

Global Health Internships

The summer internships for Global Health will start shortly, this year there will be two students, their projects will be linked to the FIXT trial and the lap pack.

Public Engagement Events

The GHRG-ST team have been busy at public engagement events in February and March. In February the team exhibited at the Science and Media Museum in Bradford as part of their half term activities with the BBC Operation Ouch. We also attended the Be Curious research day at the University of Leeds. At both events we showcased hands on activities linked to our research including a laparoscopic simulator, Ilizarov frame and the low cost bellowscope.



Upcoming Poster Presentations

An Evaluation of Surgical Headlights in Sierra Leone

D Kembal, WS Bolton, J Vas Nunes, A Virk, NK Aruparayil, J Scott, T Weiser, JM Brown, R Van Kalliecharan, DG Jayne
2nd InciSioN Global Surgery Symposium (IGSS), Kigali, Rwanda
20th – 21st April 2019