

NIHR Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies

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Upcoming Events

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

Annual Stakeholder Meeting 11th
November 2019 – Freetown, Sierra
Leone
Further details of the meeting will be
available shortly.

Welcome to the Global Health Research Group

Welcome to the fifth 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 Proctorship Programme - May 2019



May saw the GHRG-ST travel to Assam and Nagaland to carry out the TARGET proctorship with the rural surgeons who attended the TARGET training programme in March. The training programme trained rural surgeons on laparoscopic skills and the use of the Gas Insufflation-Less Laparoscopic Surgery (GILLS) technique.



The proctorship took place over a week in Tukrajhar and Medziphema. The surgeons were split between the two sites. The faculty attending the proctorship were Dr Gnanaraj, GHRG-ST PI in India, Dr Lovenish Baines, MAMC, Dr Manas Dutta and Professor Sukumar Maiti from Kolkata Medical College.



During the proctorship the faculty noted that the surgeons had improved their laparoscopic and GILLS technique skills and they were able to carry out procedures without the trainer's present.

Lift into Research - Grant Success

Dr Will Bolton applied to the BMA Foundation for Medical Research, Lift into Research. His application for Low-cost wire-tension sensing technology to improve the use of Ilizarov circular frame fixators for long bone fractures was successful. The funds awarded are for a 3 year project.



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Stakeholder Meeting, Freetown, Sierra Leone - 11th November 2019

Preparations are underway for our last stakeholder meeting. This year the meeting will be held in Freetown, Sierra Leone. We are putting together the agenda for the day and will be able to share this shortly. Whilst in Freetown, the team will also attend the Medical and Dental Association of Sierra Leone's Annual Conference which takes place from 13th – 15th November 2019.

GASOC #Globalmedtech conference.

Leeds will be hosting GASOC Global Medtech conference on 14th September 2019, 10:00 - 17:00 at The Carriageworks Theatre.



The conference aims to unite doctors and other health professionals in the fields of surgery, anaesthesia and obstetrics with a shared passion for global surgery/global health. We wish to highlight that medical technology is an essential component to improve healthcare needs in the low and middle-income countries. Now is a particularly auspicious time for such an event with the recent launch of 'Future of Surgery Commission' by the Royal College of Surgeons of England. We are especially keen to increase awareness of this amongst students and trainees as we believe this is an area with great potential for meaningful involvement of juniors.

The day will be split into two, with didactic sessions followed by a panel discussion and then a 'hackathon' where a global surgery 'problem' will be posed, and delegates will work in groups to come up with potential technological 'solutions'. We hope to support the most promising of these in further development after the conference.

For more information [click here](#)

Dr Anurag Mishra visit to Leeds

Dr Anurag Mishra from Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC) visited the team in Leeds for 10 days at the end of June. Dr Mishra visited departments who are part of the GHRG-ST multidisciplinary team spending time meeting with colleagues in Clinical Trials, Engineering, Health Economics, International Health as well as Surgery.



Laparoscopic Device wins prize

At the Association of Surgeons in Training conference held in March, we previously reported we had won the prestigious ASiT/Swann Morton Medal for the Gas Insufflation Less Laparoscopic Surgery (GILLS) for minimally invasive surgery in low-resource settings: Methods for evaluating surgical field of view (FOV) and abdominal wall lift (AWL) force – A Cadaveric Study Model presentation.



To learn more about the project, and its potential impact, [click here](#) to watch the video.

Global Health Internships

Alice Benton, Global Health Intern Student who completed her placement with us last year, has been awarded the Beaumont Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research. This was awarded for her research carried out on the Gasless Insufflation Laparoscopic Surgery Device.



This year we will be hosting two students who have now started their internship in Leeds.

Poster Presentations

The VITAL Study: Virtual reality technology to Improve surgical Training in Sierra Leone

WS Bolton

RCS Innovation in Surgical Education, 7th June 2019, London

The Search for Bululi Ulcer in Sierra Leone

H Please

Academic Foundation Conference, 7th June 2019, York

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