



HIV Care Training of Nurses in India

The mission of the Johns Hopkins Center for Clinical Global Health Education (CCGHE) is to provide cost-effective, high-quality clinical training for doctors, nurses, and other health care providers in resource-limited countries. There is a critical need to provide up-to-date, high-quality and continuous training to health care providers in the most impoverished countries facing high rates of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, pneumonia, diarrheal diseases and other illnesses. In contrast to sub-Saharan Africa, India has a relatively large number of health care providers who could provide care for these patients. Yet, very few nurses in India are specifically trained in the complexities of HIV care.

One of the first CCGHE training programs remains our most popular program to date. The *Nursing Training Curriculum: HIV Practice and Reducing Stigma* was first delivered as a live train-the-trainer program at Sassoon General Hospital in Pune, India in April 2004.

The CCGHE established a training team that included the nursing leadership of Sassoon Hospital and two members of the Johns Hopkins AIDS Service, which is recognized worldwide for excellence in HIV-related patient care. This team initially identified gaps in nursing knowledge and experience. Jo M. Leslie PA-C and Lisa Scotti, RN, BSN (see photo) made several visits to India to conduct a needs assessment, and develop the curriculum in conjunction with the nursing staff. The nursing Matron at Sassoon General Hospital visited Hopkins to examine the nursing care of HIV-infected patients and to finalize the curriculum for India. She subsequently chose an original team of 22 trainers who conducted a series of 4-day training sessions with groups of 15 nurses at a time. Once trained, these nurses were charged with training the rest of the nursing staff in the local language, Marathi. Since that time, the team in India has trained more than 600 additional nurses.

This curriculum has been adopted into the curriculum at the School of Nursing at Sassoon Hospital.

The CCGHE team conducted a series of program evaluations. The nurses understanding of the routes of HIV transmission improved 13-fold after the training, compared to pre-training knowledge assessments. In addition, understanding about the proper use of universal precautions in the care of HIV infected patients increased 22-fold among the nurses that were trained.



The CCGHE training significantly reduced the number of nurses who expressed fear about caring for HIV-infected patients. Before the training, 62% of the nurses reported that HIV-infected patients should be isolated in separate wards. After the training, only 8% supported this position. Patients no longer had biohazard signs on their beds,

identifying them as HIV-infected, and they were no longer hidden in separate wards or in dark corners or hallways in the hospital. The nurses set an excellent example for the doctors and other hospital staff, who also demonstrated a reduction in stigma and fear in their care of HIV-infected patients.

In light of the success of this training program in India, the CCGHE created a pdf-version of these training modules, which is available on our website. This program, *Nursing Training Curriculum: HIV Practice and Reducing Stigma* has been our #1 downloaded training program, with over 12,000 downloads to date. The Johns Hopkins CCGHE has received multiple requests to conduct additional nurses training programs in HIV care, from many other facilities in India and across the world. ■

"A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE COULD CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS."
-Margaret Mead



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Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds Web Casts

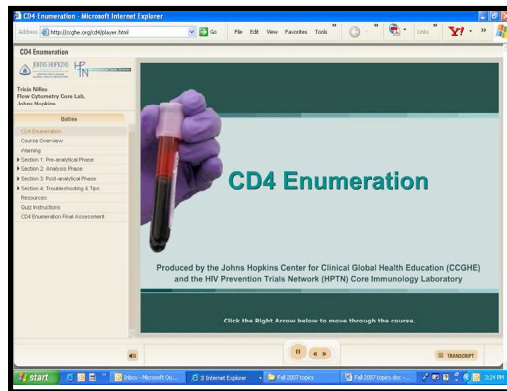
The CCGHE has been web casting the Johns Hopkins Infectious Diseases (ID) Grand Rounds, a weekly clinical case discussion program, since 2005. The live case discussions are webcast live every Tuesday from 8:00-9:30am (Eastern Time), and then archived on the CCGHE web site for on-demand viewing. (Go to Archived Grand Rounds under the tab labeled Distance Education). Sessions are accessed by viewers in more than 50 countries.

Recently, a nurse from Montana praised the program as contributing to the continuing education and fellowship among physicians and nurses on the American “frontier,” whose practice setting is isolated and remote.

In a recent Clinical Infectious Diseases article Surfing the Web (CID 2007:45;15 August), the Johns Hopkins ID Grand Rounds Online program is highlighted among other valuable open-access educational resources on the Internet. The author stated, “It is also important to note that visitors to the Archived Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds presented by the Johns Hopkins Center for Clinical Global Health Education will receive an excellent literature review along with the case presentation.” ■

New! Laboratory Training Series

New demand for HIV care and treatment in resource limited settings has created the need for HIV-related diagnostic tests and training of laboratory technicians in Africa, Southeast Asia and the Caribbean. The HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) of the National Institutes of Health has provided support for the CCGHE to develop two laboratory training tutorials for technicians to improve their laboratory techniques.



The first tutorial provides optimized protocols for peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) isolation, counting, freezing, thawing, and quality control techniques. The second tutorial provides instruction on the laboratory test that is used to count CD4+ T-cells and monitor the immune systems of people who are infected with HIV.

The tutorials have been well received. The two laboratory trainings have been downloaded by more than 1,200 viewers. One hundred CD-ROMs were distributed in March at the annual HPTN meeting in Washington, D.C., and a second printing was ordered in September.

A professor of cellular immunology in The Netherlands has incorporated the PBMC tutorial into her course on immunology methods at the University of Leiden.

The next laboratory training, *Western Blot Diagnosis of HIV Infection*, is being developed for release in January, 2008. ■

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Your tax-deductible contribution to support the educational activities of the CCGHE may be directed to:

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**Feedback from our
Course Participants**

This course was really very informative and I have started implementing it for the pts.

-Dr. S

The course is very well organised, it facilitates learning.

-anonymous

Thanks a lot. I am really delighted to see the certificate. It's beautiful. Just wow!!!

-Dr. A

I would be interested in attending any such educational programmes in the future.

Sincere thanks,

-Dr. P



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Clinical Training Courses Under Development

Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV

There is high demand for clinical training that provides physicians with the knowledge they need to reduce mother to child transmission of HIV during childbirth and through breastfeeding. The first step is identifying HIV infected women before or during pregnancy, and the next step is protecting the infant. Both steps require specific knowledge and skills. The CCGHE is working with Jean Anderson, M.D., a leading OB/GYN expert in managing HIV during pregnancy, to create a short and focused online course for physicians in resource limited settings. ■

Management of Adult HIV in Zambia

The CCGHE has received the endorsement of the Medical Council of Zambia to deliver an online clinical training course to physicians in Lusaka, Zambia. The course is planned for delivery in December and January with the help of partners at JHPIEGO in Lusaka. ■

Update from the Recent Pediatric HIV Course in India

The CCGHE launched a comprehensive, 28-lecture, online course called *Management of Pediatric HIV in India*. The course ran for 4 weeks from June through July, 2007 to physicians in the public and private sectors in Pune and Kharagpur, India. 42 physicians took the course and 25 (59%) received the Certificate after achieving 80% or better on the post-tests.

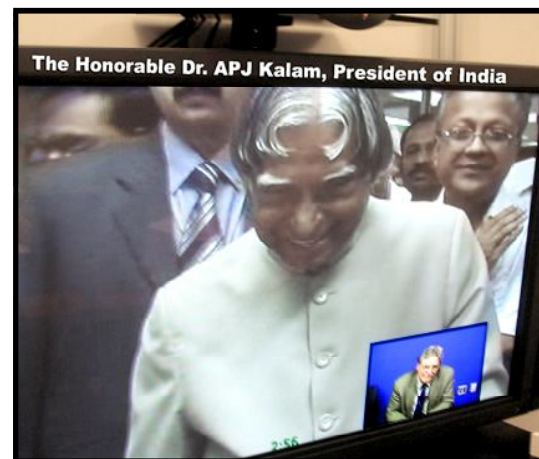
Three medical students from Dartmouth Medical School received a small grant to travel to Pune during August, where they conducted a thorough course evaluation. The medical students ran focus groups with course participants to discover more about the local clinical practice setting.

They reviewed a sample of participants' clinical charts to identify their documentation of several key indicators of care. The students are working with Monica Desai, M.B.B.S., M.P.H. to analyze and write-up their findings. Dr. Desai is a recent graduate of the Master of Public Health program at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health who lives in the UK, where she practices medicine.

The course was sponsored, in part, by the Johns Hopkins Fogarty AIDS International Training and Research Program. ■

President Kalam of India Attends Telemedicine Program

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, then President of India, attended a telemedicine session between physicians at IIT Kharagpur in West Bengal, India and Dr. Bob Bollinger at Johns Hopkins on May 17, 2007. The physicians demonstrated India's new high-bandwidth Internet connectivity by presenting clinical cases to one another by videoconference. President Kalam spoke briefly, in support of this trans-Atlantic exchange of clinical expertise. ■



A Multi-Point International Journal Club

The Department of Neurology at Johns Hopkins and the CCGHE are hosting a videoconference journal club as part of a 12-week course, *Translational Research in Neuro-AIDS and Mental Health*, from August 28 - December 18. The program includes a multi-point videoconference Journal Club between JHU, and the Schools of Medicine at University of Puerto Rico and University of Hawaii. The course also includes special sessions to promote grant writing and scientific writing skills. ■

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Letter from the Director

As 2007 comes to a close, it is with great excitement that we inform our supporters of the CCGHE's activities globally. We reached a milestone with over 500,000 hits to our website in August alone. We continue our bi-weekly case conference in Ethiopia, which is now multi-point connected with providers at Mayo Clinic and East Carolina University. We inaugurated our in-depth Pediatric HIV course in India, which connected and trained physicians from three sites in India; BJ Medical College in Pune, National AIDS Research Institute in Bhosari, and Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur. We have developed laboratory training courses such as *CD4 Enumeration*, which has helped to train scientists and technicians in over 100 laboratories in Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. We are now expanding our activities in Mexico, Zambia, Uganda, Pakistan and Panama.



Our work is not possible without the generous support of our donors. We thank you for supporting us and hope you will continue to do so. A gift of \$250 helps to train one clinician. Please help us make a difference!

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous holiday!

Amita Gupta, MD, MHS

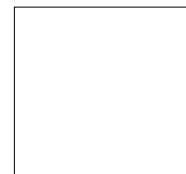
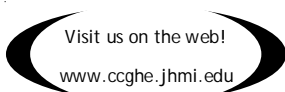
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Your contribution is welcomed and appreciated