

We are Núria Torre, Joaquín Astete and Sophie Stephenson a medical and nursing team that has come to do a transport course in RDT hospital including training in sick baby stabilization. Before our arrival, we were in contact with FVF coordinators María Tasso, Xavier Krauel and Cristina Gutiérrez, to arrange the aims of our volunteer work, and with Dr. Sudheer and Dr. Dasharath from RDT to finalize our stay.

Our background:

- Dr Joaquín Astete, paediatrician working in a la Seu d’Urgell Hospital and primary care center (Lleida, Spain). He finalised his Master’s Degree in ‘Infectious Diseases and Global Health’ from Miguel Hernández University in 2015. He has previous experience in international cooperation: worked in RDT hospital for 3 months in paediatric wards in 2013 and also at Pablo Horstmann Foundation in a paediatric clinic for one month in Ethiopia, June 2017. Experience in simulation as a participant in several courses.
- Dr Núria Torre, paediatrician and a neonatologist from Sant Joan de Déu Hospital (Barcelona, Spain), working in the Paediatric and Neonatal Transport Service for the last 5 years. International work experience in a Neonatal Transport Service in Leicester Royal Infirmary Hospital (Leicester, UK) for one year in 2016. International cooperation experience: worked for 7 months in the neonatology department in RDT hospitals in 2015 and also at Pablo Horstmann Foundation in paediatric clinic for one month in Ethiopia, June 2017. Instructor in high fidelity simulation since 2014 and as a participant in several courses.
- Sophie Stephenson, neonatal intensive care deputy sister and neonatal transport nurse from Leicester Royal Infirmary Hospital (Leicester, UK). International cooperation experience in a Neonatal Unit in Jamaica over a week in March 2015. Instructor in high fidelity simulation since 2017 and as a participant in several courses.

Planning our visit:

Dr Dasharath and Dr X. Krauel told us about the current plans to start a neonatal and paediatric transport service for RDT hospitals, which made us really happy because we were aware of such need from our previous collaborations. Also, they shared with us the need to train nurses and doctors who will be involved in this service. Due to our experience in high fidelity simulation they approached us to propose

a course in neonatal and paediatric transport scenarios. We also decided to include some training in initial stabilization of a sick baby. This would generate the acquisition of new skills in relation to transport of a patient plus stabilisation of sick babies, which could be used in other situations and departments.

Work done during our stay:

We have trained a total of 29 nurses from RDT hospitals 19 from Kalyandurg and 10 from Bathalapalli, also 3 resident doctors from Bathalapalli attended the course. Moreover, we have trained 2 doctors and 2 nurse in charges as simulation instructors along with 2 Spanish nurses for support, which will allow them to continue practising in the future.

The structure of the course was different for Kalyandurg and Bathalapalli, due to some organisation issues and the absence of a doctor in the vast majority of the scenarios.

There were three batches of nurses from Kalyandurg in 3 days, the first two days there were two batches of 7 nurses each day from paediatric wards and the third day one batch of 5 nurses from NICU. The schedule consisted in an introduction to transport and simulation, theoretical aspects regarding the topics and six simulation scenarios, first two related to transferring a patient and the rest stabilisation of a sick patient, paediatric or neonatal depending on the background of each batch. The topics were respiratory and neurological failure, birth asphyxia and cyanotic baby.

The performance of the nurses is to be highlighted. They showed an approachable and willing to learn attitude, engaging themselves completely on the simulation as the days went by. A special mention for the NICU nurses who showed an amazing performance far beyond their usual nursing skills.

The participant's feedback was really positive willing to do more scenarios and asking a lot of questions during the course. Although the course was really great overall, we thought they could have taken more advantage if we have had a translator with medical skills.

The course done in Bathalapalli followed a different schedule and with nurse Sophie Stephenson's arrival she was able to participate as well. There were two batches for 4 days, one in the morning and

one in the afternoon. Each batch consisted of 1 nurse from paediatric ward, 1 nurse from PICU, 2 nurses from NICU and 1-2 resident doctors, plus the full participation of the PICU and NICU nurses in charge and partial participation of Dr. Dasharath and Dr. Manohar, depending on their respective duties.

The schedule consisted of introduction to transport and simulation, theoretical aspects regarding transfer and communication. There were 14 simulation scenarios, the first two related to transferring a patient and the rest related to stabilisation of a sick patient. The topics were haemodynamic, respiratory and neurological failure, birth asphyxia, preterm baby and cyanotic baby.

The performance of the Bathalapalli participants was very satisfactory. They showed an approachable and willing to learn attitude, engaging themselves completely on the simulations as the days went by. Depending on doctor's duties some of the scenarios were ran without them, which allowed us to observe the differences in team working when the doctor was present or not. Because of that, we realised that continuing with simulation scenarios and working on teamwork will be really beneficial for them.

Furthermore, we trained Dr. Dasharath (HOD paediatric department), Dr. Manohar (PICU), Sister Radica (NICU nurse in charge) and Brother Balajoji (PICU nurse in charge) as simulation instructors. This way, they can carry on with simulation scenarios training regarding any topic.

The participant's feedback was really positive, willing to do more scenarios and asking a lot of questions during the course. Overall, the Bathalapalli courses were really great, but we think that the approach to teamwork in simulation will be easier working in small groups and even better if it is done in Telugu by one of the new instructors in the future. However, these new instructors need to remember that they have to master their skills as instructors in clinical skills and start working step by step in team work simulations.

Moreover, these kinds of simulation will help the residents to be prepared for their residence exams because they will have simulation scenarios on it.

In addition, we had a special class with ambulance drivers and social workers, to discuss about how the transport affect to the patient.

During our stay, there were some real patient transfers where we got involved. Taking the opportunity to see the learning of the participants on the course, which was really outstanding.

Thanks to Paula and Adriana, Spanish volunteer nurses, who helped and supported us in the organisation of the course in addition to their daily duties. They also participated in the instructors teaching, so that they can support the new instructors.

There was a short visit to Kalyandurg where we did some classes in stabilization of the sick patient to the nurses who could not attend the simulation course. Moreover, we arranged the last bits of compiling the data for babies' readmissions in Kalyandurg.

Sophie Stephenson, Paula and Adriana conducted a **nurse's workshop** at Bathalapalli Hospital based on preventing infection when giving IV medications. In total 52 nurses from all areas of the hospital attended. Many of the hospital nurse's in charge were able to attend the workshop including the head of nursing Sister Merly, which will allow the information to be passed on from the nurses in charge to all nurses who could not attend the training.

The workshop consisted of short teaching sessions for the whole group followed by practical demonstrations in three groups with nurse's participation. The workshop focussed on infection prevention when accessing central lines, Aseptic Non Touch Technique and Medication Incompatibilities. The subject of infection prevention was chosen because it was identified that hospital acquired infections are a large problem in many hospitals around the world including Bathalapalli. The prevention of such potentially life threatening infections is very important for all patients and also very simple when techniques such as the Aseptic Non Touch Technique are applied.

We received very positive feedback and participation from the nurses during the workshop. They recognised the importance of the training, asked lots of questions and were very keen to practice the techniques. Overall the training was very successful and with the support of the head of nursing Sister Merly we hope that the information and training will reach many more nurses and prevent many patient infections in the future.

Dr. Joaquin Astete helped Paula and Dr. Dasarath in the design of the posters for Contact and Airborne Precautions for isolations rooms/areas that will be use in the RDT Bathalapalli hospital.

RDT is doing an enormous job in improving the health and social conditions of the poor people in India. We're glad to have had the opportunity again to see the great work that the paediatric departments of RDT hospitals are doing and how the team is improving day by day. I We would like to thank all the RDT-FVF team for the opportunity that they have given us to come here. Thank you to all the paediatric staff (doctors and nurses) for being so generous with us and especially to Dr. Ashok, Dr. Onkar and Dr. Dasharath for their kind support. Also thank you to the FVF volunteer family for allowing us to be part of the team. We look forward to continuing to work with RDT-FVF in the future.