FELLOWSHIPS (Subspecialty Training) in GHANA

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TIMOTHY R. B. JOHNSON, MD, FWACS, FGCS
BATES PROFESSOR AND CHAIR

KWABENA AMO-ANTWI, MBCHB, MGCS
GYNAE ONCOLOGY TRAINEE KATH/KNUST
THE ROAD TO EXCELLENCE IN MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE:

CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE GHANA COLLEGE AND GHANA

Timothy R. B. Johnson, MD

Bates Professor & Chair

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
THE ROAD TO EXCELLENCE:
WHERE WILL IT TAKE THE GHANA COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS?
- SPECIALTY TRAINING

- SUBSPECIALTY TRAINING
Ghana Postgraduate Ob/Gyn Training

- Established 1989 (Carnegie Corporation, RCOG, ACOG and Ghana Management Committee) – Ghana “picks” best from other models and adapts to local history & culture
- 5 Year Curriculum
- Goal: FWACS Certification as qualification
• Developed Critical Mass (over 140 trained, retention nearly 100%, faculty development, medical student and house officer education, “trickle down”)

• Post-Training Experience for leaders (Maternal fetal medicine, MPH, ultrasound, oncology, urogynecology, family planning)

• One Dean and 5 department chairs all graduates of the program

• Pipeline (faculty, private sector, regional hospitals) critical mass for distribution to meet Health Services needs.

• Publications including 3 text books.
LESSONS FROM THE GHANA POSTGRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAM IN OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

IN-COUNTRY TRAINING

ECONOMIC STABILITY AND FUTURE NATIONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
• FAMILY MEDICINE
• EMERGENCY MEDICINE
• PEDIATRICS
• PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION
• NURSING, NURSE MIDWIFERY
• DENTISTRY
• PHARMACY
• PUBLIC HEALTH
GHANA COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

&

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Present

A Pre-Conference Workshop of the 6th Annual General and Scientific Meeting on

FAMILY MEDICINE SEMINAR

Date: Tuesday, 8th December, 2009
Time: 08.00 am to 4.00 pm
Venue: Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons,
54, Independence Avenue, Ridge, Accra
FIRST BATCH OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE RESIDENTS ADMITTED

The first batch of residents for the Membership programme in Emergency Medicine has been admitted. The College’s Emergency Medicine programme is run at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital with support from the University of Michigan and the University of Utah.

With the 8 residents who were interviewed for admission are Professor Paul Nyame, Rector of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Conrad Buckle (1st from right), Dr. Daniel Wachter (2nd from right) and Dr. George Oduro (3rd from left) are all Emergency Medicine Specialists who will be part of the Faculty to help with the training.
2007 - Program development with University of Michigan Dept of Pediatrics with UGMS and KNUST funded by Wm Davidson Institute of the UM Ross School of Business for replication of GPTP O&G (Dr Steve Park and Dr Valerie Castle) → FAILURE; program from U Utah → FAILURE; next steps NEONATOLOGY with DUKE
- SPECIALTY TRAINING
- SUBSPECIALTY TRAINING
The development of post-residency sub specialization

- Maternal Fetal Medicine (Perinatology)
- Gyn Oncology (adv chemo, surgery)
- Reprod Endocrine/Infertility (IVF/ART)
- Urogynecology / Pelvic Floor Prolapse
Subspecialties were developed to improve patient care and encourage research in academic centers.
• Certification
  – “Grandfather”
  – 2 Year Training Program – after 4 year residency
  – “Program Requirements” – explicit & rigorous

• Program Accreditation
  – Application
  – Site Visit
  – Review & Accredit every 4-5 years minimum
By 2005, MFM fellowships 3 years with research (after 4 years of OBGYN residency)

Over 800 certified MFM sub-specialists

Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine annual meeting over 1500 attendees with a strong international presence

NIH established “network” of MFM clinical trial sites (advances in pre-eclampsia prevention, prevention of Preterm Labor)

Magpie (MgSO4) and Post-term Pregnancy are INTERNATIONAL MULTICENTER TRIALS
NEW Subspecialties - US

ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS

- MFM, GYN ONC, REI, FPMRS
- Family planning / Reproductive Health
- Laparoscopy / Minimally invasive surgery (MIS - including robotic surgery and pelvic pain)
- Pediatric / Adolescent Gynecology
- Infectious Disease
- Reproductive Genetics
- Women’s Health (Primary Care)

DEVELOPING PROGRAMS

- Breast care / disease (BRCA and cancer prophylaxis)
- Vulvar diseases
• Accreditation
• Assessment of Competency
• Certification
• Maintenance of certification
• Licensing
• Credentialing
• Privileging
• Professional Society
Accreditation -- US

- LCME (Liaison Committee on Medical Education) → Undergraduate Med Ed
- ACGME (Accreditation Committee on Graduate Medical Education) → RRC (Residency Review Committee: one for each recognized specialty) → Postgraduate (Residency) Education
Competency (1999 ACGME General Requirements for ALL programs)

- PATIENT CARE
- MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE
- PRACTICE BASED LEARNING & IMPROVEMENT
- INTERPERSONAL & COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- PROFESSIONALISM
- SYSTEM –BASED PRACTICE
Certification - US

- American Board of Medical Specialties – ABOG (American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology)
- since the certify, they do not do in-training nor do they assess programs or curriculum
Maintenance of Certification (MOC) - US

- Time Limited 4-6 Years
- Written Exam
- Oral Exam +/-
- CME Completion (Read / Quiz Text)
- Practice Evaluation
- THE CURRENT ABIM DEBACLE
Licensing /Credentialing/Privileging

• Federal
• State
• Hospitals
• Health Systems
• Insurors
Professional Societies

- ACOG (American College of Ob/Gyn)
- ACS (American College of Surgeons)
- ACP (American College of Physicians)

All require certification by the relevant Board of ABMS for membership
WHAT NEXT FOR GHANA MEDICAL EDUCATION AND THE GHANA COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS?
- SPECIALTY TRAINING
- SUBSPECIALTY TRAINING
Subspecialties – Ghana suggestions

- Family Planning
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Maternal Fetal Medicine
- Urogynecology / Fistula Medicine
- Internal Medicine Specialties
- Surgical Specialties
- Pediatric Specialties
INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

- Began July 2008 with 4 fellows (subspecialty trainees?)

- Two trainees each at UGMS/KBTH and KNUST/KATH

- Program includes MPH, MS, equivalent

- Clinical practice, teaching, research, leadership & advocacy.

- First graduates are FGCS

- A textbook Comprehensive RH and FP in the Tropics has been published.

- Further trainees to complete in 2015
COMPREHENSIVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING IN THE TROPICS

Inaugural Fellows: D.Z. Kobilla, E.S.K. Morhe, E.T. Maya, K. Mumuni
2008 – Laparoscopy training course at UGMS/KBTH and KNUST/KATH with “hands-on” training with simulation, animal and live human surgery (with industry support).
Subspecialties – next steps ???

- Urogynecology / Fistula Medicine
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Maternal Fetal Medicine
- Internal Medicine – cardiology, infectious disease …
- Surgical Specialties – MIS, oncology/breast,…
- Pediatric Specialties – neonatology, cardiology, infectious disease …
The Ghana College should play a central role in the accreditation and approval of these programs and the evaluation and certification of the trainees.
LESSONS FROM THE GHANA POSTGRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAM IN OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

IN-COUNTRY TRAINING

ECONOMIC STABILITY AND FUTURE NATIONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
• Long term partnership
• Local decision making based on shared experience
• Bilateral exchange
• Transparency (financial, administration, etc)
• Capacity building
• Long term sustainability
• Personal relationships and commitment
THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT