

African Partnerships for Patient Safety

University Hospitals of Leicester and Gondar

University Hospital, Ethiopia

Background

The Link with Gondar has existed for 15 years and the APPS Partnership started 3 years ago.

The Lead for Leicester has been Sandra Kemp, a Nurse, and the Lead for Gondar was Dr Gashaw Messele, a Surgeon, who was also the Medical Director.



Making a Difference

Hand Hygiene has been our biggest challenge, and at times one of our most difficult. By working both as a team and a partnership we have overcome difficulties and now have hand rub in all areas of the hospital. Audit has helped us a great deal and we now have 50% compliance in some areas. The hand rub is being used not only by the Hospital staff but also by patients and carers.

The WHO checklist is being used in most operations but there are still some hurdles to overcome.

The Health Worker Protection team has just been established and policies are being written.



Personal Reflections

We created a very diverse APPS Board and met regularly as a team. We communicated well throughout and supported each other.

We made new friends and learned different ways of working.



We had many challenges and tried to overcome them together.

APPS has made us “think” and taught us how to work in a different environment within a different culture and with different people.

Our Identified Priority Areas

1. Health care-associated infections – Hand Hygiene
2. Safe Surgical care
3. Health-care waste management
4. Health Worker Protection
5. Research

2013 – Taking APPS Forward

Now that we are moving into phase 2 of our partnership, and with constant staff changes in Gondar, we have decided to update our Situational Analysis and create a new Partnership Plan.

Both partners see the importance of this work and we have support from the two most senior individuals in each hospital to continue.

WATCH THIS SPACE...