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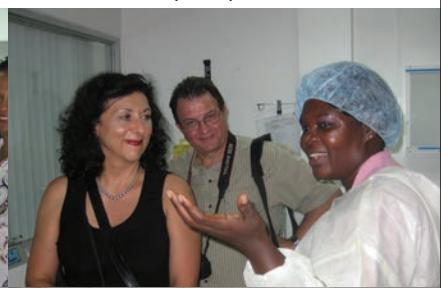
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(416) 724-5937



Nine midwives complete neonatal resuscitation training

By Shirley Thomas

NINE midwives from the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) were last Friday specially honoured and presented with certificates after successfully completing a period of training in Neonatal Resuscitation, with a focus on the prevention of deaths in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

The honouring of the nurses on International Women's Day proved to be most appropriate, since it was an all-female team drawn from the institution's Neonatal Care Unit, who shouldered the tremendous responsibility of saving the lives of new-born babies with breathing difficulties.

The programme focuses on basic resuscitation skills for new-born infants and is intended for health-care providers who perform resuscitation in the delivery room or newborn nursery.

The midwives honoured and certified included Shivani Ramdihol, Cindyann Hutson, and Delma Hutson - the three top performers on the programme who were awarded prizes for their outstanding performance. The other six nurses are Elizabeth Anne Hughes, Correlle Miggin, Peggy Samuels, Dothlyn Richmond-Trotman, Melissa Gittens and Deyan Vancooten.

Director of Nursing Services, Matron Audrey Corry, commended the nurses for



Ms. Shivani Ramdihol gives the vote of thanks.

Standing in background are the midwives trained and certified in neonatal resuscitation. With them (fourth from left) is Senior Departmental Supervisor, Ms. June Cato. Seated in front are (l-r) Mr. Owen John; Dr. Sheik Amir; Matron Audrey Corry and Ms. Noshella Laickecharan.

their commitment to the job, and the skills acquired during the training, and noted that they are using those skills right now "to help our babies in the Neonatal Unit and in the birthing rooms."

TO DO WELL

Matron Corry explained that the focus of the programme was on ensuring that an infant at birth has every chance not only to survive but "to thrive and do well."

"It is about ensuring that the babies, if they do not breathe at birth, are resuscitated in a manner in as short a time as possible, so that they can begin breathing, and that no other complications arise," Corry explained. "When ever an infant is born, there are many things that can go towards preventing him/her doing well. Certainly, we understand that breathing is absolutely necessary for life and an infant has to be born, don't breathe spontaneously and therefore have to be assisted for that breathing to begin. Here is where the importance of neonatal resuscitation comes in," she said.

Corry assured that the nursing professionals were trained to identify the problems that might occur or would have started to occur. Equipped with the new skills, they are now able to identify what might be responsible for an infant not breathing and therefore know how to take action, and what steps to take to get the babies breathing quickly so that there are no complications later.

The midwives have been trained to work in the maternity unit in the working room as well as in the new Baby Care Unit - the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). They were assigned to the birthing room

of the NICU and participating fully in the training programme and wrote overseas exams on completion of the programme. All nine nurses were successful in the examinations. In congratulating the nurses, Matron Corry called on them to be proud wearers of their badges and holders of their certificates.

The babies very likely to benefit from the training received by the nurses are those who may have presented problems prior to, or were potentially likely to present problems at birth.

The programme was initiated last May, during activities to coincide with the celebration of Nurses' Week 2012. Corry, on behalf of the hospital administration, expressed profound gratitude to those overseas-based friends of the Georgetown Hospital, who were instrumental in conducting the programme here, through funding, facilitation and other forms of support.

Special thanks were expressed to Canada-based Guyanese, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harakh and other overseas-based Guyanese who continue to lead support towards mobilizing for continued training of nurses at the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation.

"These are persons who have joined themselves to us as support persons, to give assistance in very many ways, and this is one of the ways in which they are giving their support in helping to train our staff to be competent and to be able to respond to emergency situations like these," Corry said.

She also had kudos for

FACILITATORS

Corry concluded that the Maternity Unit of the Georgetown Public Hospital has benefited immensely from such a training programme and that this nation receives the best possible health care, starting with the birth of our babies," she affirmed.

In brief remarks, Director of Medical and Professional Services, (acting in Chief Executive Officer), Dr. Sheik Amir, and Assistant Director of Nursing Services, Mr. Owen John, declared their support for the programme and gratitude to the stakeholders and making such a noble initiative possible. They also expressed congratulations to the nurses for making the hospital proud.

Adding kudos for Matron Corry, whom he described as the driving force behind continuing education for the Georgetown Hospital, John noted the numerous contributions she has made in the area of training at the institution through the years.

Meanwhile, Ms. Shivani Ramdihol, one of the best graduating nurses, in her vote of thanks offered, stressed the importance of the contributions made by the donors: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harakh (who were also instrumental in mobilizing donors for the construction of the GPHC's Neonatal Care Unit, as well as other stakeholders for making the training possible and for their support in many other ways.

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Nurses honoured for completing neo-natal resuscitation course

MARCH 9, 2013 · BY STAFF WRITER · 0 COMMENTS

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The Georgetown Public Hospital (GPH) yesterday honoured eight outstanding nurses who were successful in the neo-natal resuscitation programme.

The course, which deals with the prevention of neo-natal deaths, was seen as highly important in helping to prevent avoidable deaths.

Director of Nursing Services at GPH Audrey Corry stated that, "neo-natal resuscitation ensures that an infant at birth has every chance to live."

She also went on to say that the maternity unit will benefit greatly from this programme. The nurses who have been trained in this programme are able to help the babies who are not breathing at birth to have a better chance to survive.



The newly trained nurses (standing) pose with from left: Assistant Director, Nursing Services, Owen John; Chief Executive Officer (ag) of the GPH, Dr. Sheik Amir, Director, Nursing Services, Audrey Corry and Senior Departmental Supervisor June Cato.

Neo-Natal Unit Manager Shivani Ramdihol expressed thanks to overseas-based Guyanese Harry Harakh and his wife Pamela Harakh, who were instrumental in making the programme possible.

The nurses honoured are: Elizabeth Ann Hughes, Correlle Miggin, Cindyann Hutson, Peggy Samuels, Dothlyn Richmond-Trotman, Delma Greenidge, Melissa Gittens, Shivani Ramdihol and Deyan Vancooten.

They will be presented with special badges so that they are recognised as nurses who have completed the programme.

www.guyanaburncareunit.com
guyanaburncareunit@gmail.com

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