



Call for Support: Post Anesthesia Care Training in Cameroon

Mbingo Baptist Hospital (MBH) is seeking nursing educators to teach a course in post anesthesia care to Cameroonian nurses. Training would include classroom didactics and bedside instruction in a busy PACU setting. Class size would be limited to 24 students and the course would run 2-3 months, depending on the curriculum and availability of instructors.

MBH is a 300-bed major referral hospital in the Northwest Region of Cameroon, and is a host to post-graduate African physician residency specialty programs in general surgery and internal medicine. The training encompasses some component of all surgical subspecialties (trauma, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, urology, neurosurgery, oncology, non-cardiac thoracic, peripheral vascular). MBH has separate services for ENT, orthopedics, and plastic/reconstructive surgery, and a one-year fellowship in Head and Neck surgery. The hospital has 10 operating rooms, a 7-bed ICU, and separate endoscopy suite.

MBH is one of five hospitals doing major surgery, with an extensive network of out-patient health centers operated under the Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) Health Board. Health care demand has seen explosive growth in a country where need far outpaces capacity in almost every area of health care. MBH is performing very complex surgical cases, often unavailable in other parts of the country. But good surgery requires good postoperative care. Trained PACU nurses are difficult to find in Cameroon, and the CBC wants to provide training for its PACU nurses. MBH has trained operating room nurses and technicians and ICU nurses, but has not yet run a separate PACU nursing course.

Ideally, MBH would like to run this course in late 2016 or early 2017. Good classroom facilities are available, but the curriculum still needs development. Free housing for instructors would be provided on the hospital compound, but much of the travel and personal expenses would be borne by the instructors. Mbingo is a beautiful, safe place located in the mountains near the regional center of Bamenda.

Any experienced PACU nurse with an adventurous heart and a passion to teach and change lives may contact jimbrownjab@gmail.com for more details or telephone 237-673-148-882.

Most sincerely yours,

Jim Brown, MD, FACS
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