

## Report on Module 3 – Hip

Module 3 was held at the National Referral Hospital Conference room in Honiara Solomon Islands from October 13 to October 22, 2013.

There were 4 trainees in the third module. They are Dr. George Kabwere, Dr. Stephen Kodovaru and Dr. Alex Munamua from Solomon Islands and Dr. Shaun Mauiliu from Samoa. The lectures were delivered by Dr. Des Soares from Australia with assistance from Dr. Patrick Houasia and Dr. Silent Tovosia from Solomon Islands. Dr. Nik Meyer, a visiting trauma surgeon from Switzerland also joined in the lectures and practical demonstrations.

In this module the students were taught a wide range of topics including history taking and clinical examination and surgical management of conditions affecting the hip. Lectures were supplemented with practical demonstrations. Each morning we commenced with a ward round seeing six patients and getting the students to demonstrate history taking and clinical examination. This was a useful exercise as we were able to improve clinical skills. It was also helpful to try and elucidate clinical reasoning and decision making and help with developing these skills.



Each afternoon we did a practical exercise involving a surgical skill. These were greatly appreciated by the students as they were directly relevant to clinical problems they face daily. Some of these involved trauma skills (cannulated screws for a subcapital fracture, Dynamic hip screw for intertrochanteric fractures, external fixation for pelvic fractures, femoral nailing for proximal femoral fractures). We also practiced elective surgical skills including

cemented hip replacement. We are grateful to Stryker Orthopaedics Queensland and Smith and Nephew (Dot Dash) for donating materials for use in training.



The students also prepared single case audit reviews (SCAR) in order to refine and improve practice. This was greatly appreciated by the students as a peer review learning tool. They were able to critique each other in a safe environment and share and learn from each other's clinical decisions. It was obvious that the students had absorbed lessons from previous modules and had incorporated those lessons into their daily routine practice.

Two of our students presented papers at the Australian Orthopaedic Association Annual Scientific Meeting (AOA ASM) in Darwin on 9 October 2013. Stephen Kodovaru presented on "Transformation of club foot care in the Solomon Islands using the Ponseti technique". The Ponseti technique has markedly reduced the rate of postero-medial release surgery and greatly improved the outcomes for infants born with club foot. Alex Munamua presented on "Can training in infection control modify and improve orthopaedic clinical practice?" The results reported by Alex were a direct result of the training received in Module 2 (June 2013). Both papers were well received and there was praise for the PIOA training program.



Dr Stephen Kodovaru, Dr Alex Munamua and Dr. John North at the Australian Orthopaedic Association Annual Scientific Meeting in Darwin 9 October 2013.

Dr Patrick Houasia presented a report of the first two modules at the AOA ASM. There is a lot of interest among AOA members to come to Honiara and help in the PIOA training program, PIOA is grateful for this assistance and looks forward to a long and co-operative relationship with Orthopaedic Outreach and the AOA. The students are now already reading ahead to prepare for the fourth module on Trauma and fracture care commencing on 3 February 2014. We hope to have new candidates from Kiribati and PNG. For more information visit [www.pioa.net](http://www.pioa.net)

**Our thanks to the staff and patients** of the National Referral Hospital Honiara for the use of the Conference room and for allowing us to conduct the course there. Our thanks also to our caterer Be Beola who provided tasty food for the duration of the course. Finally this module would not have been possible without the generous financial support from Peace Nexus Foundation and Hans Joerg Wyss.