

Oxford visit to KCMC, October 2009

The Oxford/KCMC collaboration known as 'OK Links' arranged a visit of 14 staff, mainly from Oxford hospitals, to visit KCMC for one week to take part in an intensive period of teaching and training. The theme adopted by all participants was 'Resuscitation'. The group comprised three theatre nurses (one with particular expertise in resuscitation), two consultant surgeons, two urologists, two radiographers, a radiologist, a clinical engineer, a paediatric nurse and two paediatricians. As on previous occasions we received the warmest of welcomes.

All members spent their time assisting with training of KCMC personnel and simultaneously learning from KCMC as well. Two of the group ran the clinical meeting on one morning to a full lecture theatre with many standing outside the theatre doors. Training was conducted by tutorials and in the clinical settings of outpatient clinics, ward rounds, operating theatres and the radiology department. Two staff members were identified to be responsible for resuscitation throughout the hospital, to train all staff in basic lifesaving techniques and to ensure that equipment is present in clinical areas and maintained. The clinical engineer in the group was able, with his counterpart at KCMC, to repair many items of equipment around the hospital.

There has been talk for several years about setting up a School of Radiography at KCMC. The radiologist in the party, together with Mr Ahaz Kulanga, the Project Manager, drew up an application to the British Council for funding to establish a School of Radiography. We will know in February 2010 if we have been successful.

Another proposed development is 'distance learning' particularly for postgrads working for MMed degrees. It is suggested that supervisors at KCMC could be assisted by carefully chosen specialists in UK. They could, for instance, mark essays and help to improve the standard of written scientific English.

On our one day off we went on a safari to Tarangire National Park where we were privileged to have a grandstand view of a lioness stalking and killing a wildebeest.

If anyone reads this piece and would like to find out more about OK Links please contact gfellows@globalnet.co.uk. You do not have to be in Oxford.