

# EMIT 2017: Nursing and Emergency Medicine in the Tropics

*a two-week course for nursing trainees in Rwanda*

- Duration:** 1 or 2 weeks (optional - preference will be given to those coming for two weeks)
- Venue:** Based at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Kigali (CHUK).
- Delegates:** The course is aimed at nurses interested in public health and emergency medicine (EM) trainees. However, other specialties are welcome.
- Places are limited to **5 nurse delegates** and 10 EM trainees in order to provide individual and small-group teaching both in the classroom and at the bedside.
- Places will be allocated on payment of the booking fee.
- Cost:** **For nurse delegates:** US\$ 300 for one week; US\$ 560 for two weeks. A booking fee of US\$ 150 must be made on application to secure a place. The balance can be paid in cash (US dollars) on attendance. There is a US\$ 50 discount if the balance is paid online before the end of February.
- Online payments can be made through Bromley Emergency Courses.

**Course directors:** Dr Giles Cattermole FRCEM DTM&H ([giles@cattermole.org.uk](mailto:giles@cattermole.org.uk)); Jessica Tsuchiya MSed, BSN; Elizabeth Anne Jones BSN,CPN; Kimberly Pierre MSc, BSN, CCRN ([nursingemit2017@yahoo.com](mailto:nursingemit2017@yahoo.com))

The course is organised on behalf of the Rwanda Emergency Care Association, and supported by the University of Rwanda and the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Kigali.

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## Objectives:

- Teaching and training in EM, trauma and critical care, specific to a low and middle income country (LMIC).
- Clinical exposure to emergency care, critical care and paediatric critical care in an LMIC including interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge sharing to address global health challenges
- Nursing care and differing priorities in a LMIC in the specialties of Accident and Emergency, ICU, PICU and Paediatric accident and emergency
- Emphasizing nursing input and understanding contributions practitioners can make in a resource challenged environment

## About CHUK and the ED:

CHUK is Rwanda's tertiary referral hospital, and the University of Rwanda's teaching hospital. Many ED patients are transferred from district hospital EDs when they are unable to provide necessary

care. Patients are also brought to the ED directly by SAMU (EMS), or self-attend. Blunt major trauma forms a significant proportion of the case-load, together with critically ill medical patients (eg: sepsis, malaria, DKA, hypertension/stroke, TB/HIV). The resuscitation room also functions as an ED-ICU, with up to four ventilated patients. Patients often remain in the ED for a few days pending admission, and there are usually 30-40 patients in the department. The department has two ultrasound machines (FAST, RUSH, FASH, DVT, lung and cardiac scans are all routine) and CT is usually available. This ED also accepts the incoming Paediatric trauma cases.

### **RECA Conference:**

The course fee includes attendance at the Rwanda Emergency Care Association (RECA) day conference, 12 May. Confirmed speakers include Prof Tim Rainer (Cardiff, Vice-President of the International Federation of Emergency Medicine); Dr Heike Geduld (Cape Town, President of the African Federation of Emergency Medicine); Prof Rob Crouch (Southampton, Consultant Nurse and Hon Prof in Emergency Care); Dr Adam Levine (Rhode Island, Associate Professor of Emergency Care). Conference details can be found at [www.recaonline.org](http://www.recaonline.org)

### **Course outline:**

The course will run from Monday to Friday each week.

- Week 1 (1-5 May) includes a one-day visit to a district hospital ED.
- Week 2 (8-12 May) includes attendance at the RECA conference (12 May).

During the eight days in CHUK, participants will be able to rotate through half-days in each of: Paediatric Emergency, Paediatric ICU, Adult ICU, Adult A&E (accident and emergency)

The majority of the course will take place in the clinical setting with rotations through ICU, paediatric ICU and emergency and adult emergency. This will consist of case presentations, lectures and small group discussions, bedside teaching and for nurse delegates, working hand in hand with a Rwandan Nurse for a maximal clinical experience.

Although there can be no guarantee of case-mix during the course, it is almost certain that participants will be able to see a range of trauma, critically ill medical patients, and pathology that they are unlikely to encounter in a developed-world setting.

The programme is subject to change according to the availability of faculty.

### **Administrative issues:**

#### ***Cancellation.***

If participants cancel their booking, payments made online are non-refundable.

Other expenses. Accommodation, food and transport within Kigali are not included in the course fee (with the exception of transport to the district hospital, and a course dinner each week).

Accommodation is available in Kigali to suit all budgets, including hostel accommodation next to CHUK.

***Visas.***

Participants will require a tourist visa (you will not be taking any clinical responsibility, and will not need a medical licence or work visa). Citizens of some countries (currently including UK, US, Germany and Sweden) can obtain a visa on arrival for US\$ 30.

***Money.***

There are plenty of ATMs available in Kigali, but Visa is more readily accepted than Mastercard. The best forex rates are for US dollars.

***Health and safety.***

Yellow fever vaccination is officially required for entry to Rwanda, and malaria prophylaxis is strongly advised. In terms of crime, Kigali is one of the safest cities in Africa, but it is still wise to take precautions from theft. Road safety is probably of most concern to tourists. Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

***Language.***

The official language of the university and hospital is English, and all teaching will be in English. All doctors speak English. Most patients do not. Hospital staff also speak French.