



INCTR USA

Ethiopian Twinning Georgetown University Hospital

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This project began in January 2011 and continues today. The nursing program focuses on supporting the new nursing team that began working on the newly designated pediatric oncology ward with 26 beds and a team of 14 nurses.

INSTITUTIONS

- Tikur Anbessa Specialist Hospital, Addis Ababa

OBJECTIVES

- To ensure that children with cancer in Ethiopia (the ward is the only hospital treating children for cancer) receive the best possible nursing care given the limited resources of the hospital and country.

METHODS

On-going support from very experienced (>10 years) pediatric oncology nurses from the U.S. and Norway. Four visits for assessment and continued training were conducted in 2013.

PROGRESS

Two newly graduated pharmacists have been assigned to the ward, thus freeing the nurses from some responsibility for preparing chemotherapy. The visiting nurses have focused on safe chemotherapy preparation and administration, family teaching, infection control and psychosocial support for children and their family members. One Ethiopian nurse attended International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) 2013 in Hong Kong and presented her work on developing a Nursing Pain Assessment and Management module for the SIOP Pediatric Oncology in Developing Countries (PODC) Nursing Curriculum that is under development. Another Ethiopian nurse had a poster presentation accepted for AORTIC on development of a pain scale for parents of infants and toddlers with cancer, however, unfortunately, she was unable to secure a visa to South Africa.

FUTURE PLANS

Efforts continue to explore an oncology master's program as requested by the School of Nursing (adult and pediatric combined) and to find a solution for a structured clinical nursing training program when staffing permits. One important goal is to have pharmacy take full responsibility for chemotherapy preparation.