



## INCTR USA

### Training of Oncology Nurses in Ethiopia

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

INCTR has an agreement with the Ethiopian Government to assist in developing improved oncology services at the Black Lion Hospital. The Oncology Nursing Committee has been supporting the twinning in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at the Tikur Anbessa Specialized General Hospital (TASGH) since January 2011.

#### INSTITUTIONS

- Black Lion Hospital, Addis Ababa

#### OBJECTIVES

1. Improve nursing care of children with cancer at TASGH
2. Develop a curriculum for oncology nurses appropriate to the local situation
3. Provide training by nurses from technologically advanced countries
4. Provide certification after nurses have completed modules
5. Ensure sustainability (local nurses become trainers)

#### METHODS

Short-term training and long-term collaboration with clinical and material support

#### PROGRESS

To date we have performed multiple short visits with ad hoc trainings. In July 2012 we presented the clinical nursing heads, Matrons and Addis Ababa School of Nursing an oncology nursing curriculum for a short-term training of both adult and pediatric oncology nurses (6-8 weeks) as well as a curriculum for a potential adult and pediatric oncology nursing specialty masters. We are still waiting for approval to begin a formal clinical training program. We are in discussions with the Addis Ababa University School of Nursing to determine if they will proceed with the master's program that they requested. The new pediatric oncology unit (D7) opened on April 16, 2013. We continue to bring needed nursing supplies to the unit such as stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs with manometers, personal protective equipment, digital thermometers, etc. We are also creating nursing report forms, vital sign recording forms, and others are planned. We are working closely with the Pharmacy to establish a chemotherapy preparation room staffed by a pharmacist and including a biosafety cabinet level II. We are also working on nutritional issues of the children and intend to create SOP for the nurses.

#### FUTURE PLANS

Continue with on-going educational and material support of the nurses at TASGH. To also consider expanding said support to Gondar and possibly Hawassa.