

SAY lahjoitti 1000 euroa WFSA:n (World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists) kautta, mikä mahdollisti sambialaisen kollegan osallistumisen Nairobin All Africa Anaesthesia -kongressiin. Oheisena Anthony Kalufwelun raportti kongressista.



Annu Tertsunen

Brief report for the fourth All African Anaesthesia Congress held on 12th to 16th August 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya

When I got an electronic mail from Doctor Jannicke Mellin-Olsen, the chair of education committee, I was very excited, but due to not being among the people who were to be sponsored by Baxter, I got a little bit disturbed as I was not so sure that an alternative sponsor would be found in time for me to be ready to attend the congress.

But unlike what I was thinking about, my discouragement was quashed by Doctor Jannicke who managed to find an attractive sponsor and email from her that I was going to be sponsored by the Finnish society of anaesthesiologists led to me having regular heart beats as happiness set in.

The receipt of funds for my air fare hammered the last blows in my anxiety to fly out to Kenya for the congress.

Congress proceedings

The congress which was well attended with main speakers from America and Britain was a challenging one and with no doubt, Immensing beneficial. What I gathered in the four days in Kenya was so shocking for me, coming from a developing country where I practice anesthesia at a provincial hospital which leaves much to be desired due to inadequate equipment, many of which are not available but were highly referred to in many presentations at the congress. The presentations by various speakers were so inspiring to me in that I was in many instances left wondering, if this was a true reflection of modern anesthesia in convention medical world. My experience at the congress have greatly helped me develop a good, well coordinated approach to my day to day work altitude and what I learnt cannot be under estimated.

The speaker's presentations were at a level of efficiency and dedication second to none.

Conclusion

I have since my return to Zambia continued to go through most of the presentations to refresh my unforgettable experiences in Kenya.

I have found my self highly reflecting on various practical experiences (especially the airway management workshop) I have continued to share with my workmates in my departments every time we get some free time. These I now call "in house 4th All African Anaesthesia Congress".

I have since my return been getting great encouragement from my Hospital Management and members of staff to share my experiences many of which are received with an awe of shock. My major challenges are now to translate the knowledge into safe anesthesia practice in my home country.

Science is very dynamic and in anesthesia initial success can really be a myth if maintenance fails. I wish therefore state here that I wish I could attend more of such activities and meetings in future to build on what I learnt in Kenya though in was just in four days.

I'm convinced that with immense effort and dedication which you showed me prior and after the congress can continue for the benefit of my country.

I would also like to extend my gratitudes to my sponsors the Finnish Society of Anesthesiologist and the congress sponsors; Zambia owes a lot to you all.

Signed by Anthony Kalufwelu