

# Report Back of Visit to Sudan by Peter Nourse for APFP

## October 2014

I effectively had a three day visit as I arrived on Tuesday morning at 2am and left on Friday at 3 am.

It was a very fully program and they kept me busy the whole day which was good.

I was very impressed with the people who are very respectful of each other, and very friendly APFP related meetings:

### Tuesday:

- Met with Prof Umaima Muhiealdien Sabier. Consultant at Gaafar Ibn Ouf hospital and Sawson Abdelmoniem Paediatrician. Sawson is busy applying for a fellowship at Red Cross and is hoping to come next year. Prof Sabier trained in England and works both in the public hospital as well as at a private clinic where they have quite a well-developed endoscopy unit. They are able to do liver biopsies, scopes, PEG insertions. They also have histopathology available. She would like her fellows trained in the wide spectrum of skills offered at RXH including care of liver transplant patients because although they do not offer liver transplant, they frequently have to follow up patients that are transplanted abroad.
- Prof Tigani M Ahmed. Senior Paed Nephrologist discussed training further fellows. Dr Tigani established PD in Sudan in 2001 followed by HD in 2005. He emphasized the need to retain doctors after training and suggested they should sign a contract.
- Meeting: Prof Zain Karrar –Head of Sudan Medical Council (equiv HPCSA), Prof MA Abdella –Head of Sudan Paed Medical specialization board. This group are very interested in establishing formal subspeciality training in Sudan. They would like Time in SA to count as time spent towards their training in Sudan. They also asked whether it would be possible to accredit time spent in Sudan as time spent in SA. It seems they have to do 2 yrs training and then an exam. Many people are not able to spend the full 2 years in South Africa so if they could spend some of the time in Sudan that would count towards writing and exam that would help a lot.

### Wednesday

There was a nephrology day organised (a bit like a refresher course for paed and registrars): Talks given by Dr Nourse

-UTI in children

-Hypertension in children

About a 120 people attended. The facility was impressive with good audio-visual facilities. Dr Nourse met Dr Laila who is a senior Paediatrician at the ministry of Health. He described what the APFP

### **Thursday was a day of visiting hospital and meeting people.**

#### **Soba Hospital:**

Soba hospital is the main university hospital of Khartoum university. It has a separate Paediatric wing which has all the subspecialties. Services here are fairly well developed although they are very well developed in some areas and then quite poorly developed in other. For example, they have 40 patients on hemodialysis but they do not have any ventilators in their Neonatal ICU only CPAP and surfactant is not available. They have a 4 bed ICU and here they have a ventilator although they do not have any intensivists working here just medical officers who get instructions from the various subspecialties. They have an adult endoscopy unit which does some Paediatric endoscopy but not in small children. The theatre facilities are very good and they have separate paediatric theatres. They have good radiology department with a CT on site as well as screening and ultrasound. It is possible to get MRI's but patients need to be sent to other hospitals. The lab facilities are good. They have histopathology including immunohistochemistry but no EM.

Dr Nourse met the director of the hospital Dr Ehab Tarowa and described the APFP.

#### **Gaafar Ibn Ouf Hospital:**

This is a stand-alone Paediatric hospital covering all specialities and ICU. It is also affiliated to Khartoum University as well as another university. It seems there are quite a plethora of Universities that train doctors but Khartoum is the main one. There were all subspecialties represented here with facilities similar to Soba Hospital. There did seem to be more beds and the Neonatal service seemed more resourced.

#### **Thursday evening:**

Dr Nourse presented at the Rotana Hotel on new developments in AKI in children and the need for the development of acute PD in children. Dr Nourse met the head of the Medical Specialization board.