Fifth ANZGITA – Myanmar Training Program, scheduled for 6 to 17 March 2017 at Department of Gastroenterology, Mandalay General Hospital, Mandalay, Myanmar

INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

BACKGROUND

The first program was held over two weeks during May 2014 at the Department of Gastroenterology, Yangon General Hospital. A total of 58 doctors and nurses attended.

The second program in March 2015 followed the inauguration of the Department of Gastroenterology, YGH as the Myanmar Training Centre of the World Gastroenterology Organisation and also as the National Endoscopy Centre by the Myanmar Ministry of Health. Fifty-two doctors and nurses attended.

The third program from 10 to 23 February 2016 was also held at the YGH with an attendance of over 100 doctors and nurses. The biennial Myanmar Gastroenterology and Liver Society Meeting was also being held in Yangon at this time.

A fourth program was held from 24 to 28 October 2016. This one week course at the YGH focussed on endoscopy with both Myanmar and ANZGITA teachers. Attendees included doctors and nurses from the larger district and divisional hospitals where endoscopy units had been set up.

THE FIFTH PROGRAM

The two week training will be held for the first time in Mandalay, at the Department of Gastroenterology, Mandalay General Hospital and is supported by the University of Medicine, Mandalay and the Mandalay University of Nursing.

INFORMATION

This information sheet is prepared for all interested trainers. This will be updated with the latest information.

Myanmar

Country: Myanmar (formerly Burma)

Population: 51 million (2014 national census)

Capital: Naypyidaw. Population 200,000. 200 miles (300km) north of Yangon

**Mandalay**: population 1.2 million. Average temperature range in March is 35 to 43°C.

**The Universities of Medicine**:

Postgraduate training in Gastroenterology is provided at the following four:

1. the University of Medicine (1), at the Yangon General Hospital, 1 500 beds
2. the University of Medicine (2), at Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital, 700 beds soon increasing to 1 000 beds
3. the University of Medicine, Mandalay at the Mandalay General Hospital, 1 800 beds
4. the Defence Services Medical Academy, Mingaladon at the No. 2 Military Hospital, Yangon, 500 beds

**The Department of Gastroenterology, Mandalay General Hospital**

The Department

It is located in the *Man Taung Yeik* building within the MGH complex. The GE wards and endoscopy suites are on the 3rd floor whilst the out-patient clinics are on the 4th floor. Lectures will be given in the conference room on the 9th floor with a smaller room on the 3rd floor for a smaller group. In-patients are kept in 6-bedded bays.

In-patient beds : 57

Outpatient attendance in 2015 : 6 132. Since April 2016, new clinics have been started for IBD (inflammatory bowel disease) and ERCP patients

**Endoscopy numbers (2015):**

- Colonoscopies 1 460
- ERCP’s 282
- Double-balloon endoscopy 9
- Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) 125
- Video capsule endoscopy 38
- Urea Breath Test 70
- Oesophageal manometry (2016) 13

Daily routine endoscopy list includes 40 OGD’s and 20 colonoscopies
ERCP list on Wednesdays number about 7

Medical staffing

Professor and Head 1
Associate Professors 2
Consultant gastroenterologist 1
Gastroenterology fellows 5 (year 1 : 2, year 2 : 1, year 3 : 2)

Nursing staff

Sisters 3
Staff nurses 9
Trained nurses 10

The Teaching Program

Trainees will include postgraduate fellows in gastroenterology, general medicine and general surgery. These will be from the MGH and other major hospitals. Doctors and nurses from the divisional and district hospitals who have received endoscopy training for their new endoscopy units will be invited.

Endoscopy nurses from the main units will receive a structured program with assessment goals. A new diploma course, the Diploma in Speciality Nursing (Gastroenterology Nursing) is starting at the University of Nursing (Mandalay) in January 2017. These nursing students will also attend.

Topics will be selected by MGH consultant staff and mutually agreed to and linked with Myanmar and ANZGITA teachers.

It is expected that the first two full days of the course will be allocated to lectures. This allows a larger number to attend only these talks and then return to their hospitals. The daily program should begin at 9.00am and end by 4.00pm, with an hour break for lunch.

Trainees’ assessment forms used by the WGO training centres will be completed at the end of the program.

Details of lectures and endoscopy teaching are being prepared.
Out-station visits: During the course, there is a three-day weekend because of a public holiday on Monday 13/03 (Full-moon of month of Tabaung). A few doctor/ nurse teams may wish to visit nearby hospitals (Kyaukse, Shwebo, Pakokku, Maymyo). New endoscopy units have been set up there with medical and nursing teams receiving training at MGH.

Myanmar Visa

Visa applications may be submitted to the Myanmar Embassy in Canberra. There is however a streamlined application via an eVisa system. Apply online: evisa.moip.gov.mm to the Myanmar Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population. Apply for a tourist visa.

Registration, Medical and Nursing

Please apply to AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency) for a Good Standing Certificate for the Myanmar Medical and Nursing Councils. There is no fee on the Myanmar side for voluntary work in Myanmar. For private, for-fees work the Myanmar Council charges USD1 500.00. Two passport photos are required. Just scan the photos and email to: Dr Nyi Nyi Aung at MGH (drnyinyiaung.medicine@gmail.com), copy to Dr Thida Soe at YGH (drthidasoe@gmail.com). The application for GSC is required for every visit to Myanmar.

Travel

Mandalay has an international airport located 22miles (35km) south of the city. It is served by several domestic airlines. One can thus fly from overseas to Yangon and then change to an internal flight.

There are also many international airlines which fly direct to Mandalay from overseas. These are:

1 Asia Wings, from Cheing Mai, Thailand
2 Bangkok Airways from Bangkok
3 China Eastern Airlines from Kunming, China
4 Silk Air (SIA subsidiary) from Singapore
5 Air Asia from Bangkok
6 Thai Airways from Bangkok

The taxi fare from the airport to the city is MMK12 000 (AUD12.50).

**Transport and accommodation**

Taxis are not as numerous as in Yangon but are available outside the hotels. Motor vehicle traffic is not bad, but Mandalay has nearly 300 000 motorcycles some of which do not follow traffic rules (motorcycles are banned in Yangon). Transport to and from MGH will be provided.

Accommodation is being arranged. All teachers are requested to stay at this hotel where discounts will be negotiated.

**Liaison**

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ANZGITA Myanmar Program

Version One, 22/10/2016

Version Five, 26/11/2016

This Version Six, 15/01/2017