



Pediatric Acute Surgical Support (PASS)



Training Impact at Operation Childlife

- Educating and training our local colleagues moves our activities from “point in time” interventions that affect a small number of children, to a more systemic impact that can improve the lives and outcomes of more children into the future.



What is PASS?



- The Pediatric Acute Surgical Support (PASS) training programme was developed by Ai-Xuan Holterman, Professor Emerita of Surgery, University of Illinois College of Medicine, and President of the International Pediatric Specialists Alliance for the Children of VietNam (IPSAC-VN), along with a multi-institutional team of pediatric surgeons and critical care specialists.
- The course is based on the premise that enhancing the initial assessment, recognition, and early appropriate management of a life-threatening surgical emergency in an acutely ill child, decreases avoidable morbidities and mortality
- The course contents consisted of a mix of didactic materials for general neonatal and pediatric surgery, modified PALS/ATLS, in-person multidisciplinary team-based skill stations, interactive clinical scenarios and simulated trauma cases



Why is there a need for PASS?

- Low and low middle income LMIC countries carry a disproportionate burden of childhood injury mortality and morbidities
- World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that one million children die annually due to traumatic injuries (2016) 90-95% in LMIC
- The gaps in the clinical staff readiness to acutely care for pediatric patients, especially for the child with life-threatening surgical injuries and illnesses are further accentuated in LMIC countries
- training opportunities for front-line hospital personnel are severely lacking in LMIC
- The goal of Pediatric Acute Surgical Support (PASS) course is to prepare caregivers in LMIC, for the acute management of life-threatening pediatric surgical emergencies.

How is it taught?

- Traditional VN medical education system of teacher-centered classroom didactic lecture delivery, with low teacher-student interactivity
- PASS challenged learners to:
 - think critically,
 - to practice clinical problem-solving,
 - to use a systematic approach in the care of patients with complex multi-organ injuries,
 - to be engaged in team performance discussions and to practice teamwork

What Makes PASS Different?

- PASS offers a broader course content that includes beyond pediatric trauma, serious commonly seen neonatal and general pediatric surgical emergencies to prepare the caregivers in the recognition and initial management of the most common life-threatening pediatric surgical illnesses
- PASS is not a first-aid pre-hospital course preparation for first responders, or a pediatric surgical skill course for surgeons, but a training course in the initial assessment and management of life-threatening pediatric surgical illnesses that targets both non-surgical and surgical providers

What Makes PASS Different?

- In order to promote multidisciplinary patient care, nurse training and physician nurse team communication as they are key factors in effective trauma training
- PASS places a heavy emphasis on group dynamics and team communication, with the use of team exercise during the unfolding trauma scenario exercises and the inclusion of everyone in the course and the team training.

What is Operation Childlife Planning?

- The PASS programme will be delivered on at least 2 trips each year. OCL Volunteers will be accredited PASS Tutors and will train, assess and certify our colleagues in our partner sites.
- OCL volunteers will become accredited PASS Tutors, enabling them to deliver the PASS Programme to healthcare professionals in our partner countries, so that they can become PASS certified. PASS education materials will be provided, in advance, via OCL Virtual

The first PASS course run by Operation Childlife, took place in Bahrain in April 2023, in partnership with PASS and King Hamad University Hospital.

Several course attendees received accreditation as PASS trainers, an important step in building the Operation Childlife faculty to teach PASS in our partner hospitals.



**OPERATION
CHILDLIFE**

KING HAMAD
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
مستشفى الملك حمد الجامعي

**12
CME
Credit Hours**

PASS
Pediatric Acute Surgical Support

6-8 April 2023
Main Lecture Hall,
King Hamad University Hospital

**Pediatric Acute
Surgical Support (PASS)**

Workshop Led by:
Prof Aixuan Holterman
Chicago Illinois USA

**The acute management of life-threatening
pediatric surgical emergencies.**

The course goal is to prepare health care personnel in the immediate management of neonatal/pediatric life-threatening surgical conditions and road injuries at their first point of entry into hospital.

Registration Free:

- PLACES LIMITED
- FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

Registration Link:
<https://forms.office.com/r/j7MX7Pd8M9>

For registration, kindly contact:
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Congratulations – 1st PASS Graduates of KHUH



Useful links

ipsacvietnam.org

operationchildlife.com

Rivas JA, Bartoletti J, Benett S, Strong Y, Novotony TE, Schultz ML. **Paediatric trauma education in low- and middle-income countrys: A systematic literature review.** J Global Health. 2022;12:04078.

Nguyen B-U, Holterman A, Holterman M and Dinh L-T (2022) **Academic Pediatric Surgery Capacity Building in Vietnam Through PASS, a Pediatric Acute Surgical Support Course.** Front. Surg. 9:868483. doi: 10.3389/fsurg.2022.868483

T. Dinh, T. Khairallah, C. Nguyen et al., **PASS-A course in Pediatric Acute Surgical Support to build pediatric surgical emergencies capacity in developing countries,** Journal of Pediatric Surgery, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpedsurg.2022.03.004>