



Minutes of the ICS Fistula Committee Meeting

10th February 2013, 14.00-17.00, Sheraton Heathrow, UK

Attending: Sherif Mourad (Chair), Jacky Cahill, & Suzy Elneil

Also in Attendance: Patricia English, Fistula Project Manager for FIGO

1. Zonal Subcommittees activity review; 2 zones east and west

It was found that no zonal activities were encountered along the last years and hence we see it is better and more reliable to work in 2 zones only and those would be the East and West Africa Zones. East Africa is well taken care of by the team of Sherif, Hassan, Ahmed and Yassin. The west zone will be supervised by Suzy Elneil in the Anglophone area and Gill Karsenty in the francophone area.

2. Awareness Missions to Sophie Fletcher

We shall discuss with Sophie Fletcher if she can come up with a programme for fistula awareness.

3. Fistula Events 2013; Uganda 3 in June

Next event will be Uganda in June 2013

4. Fistula Committee Website Sophie & others

Sophie Fletcher & others are working on this mission and we shall look at the progress with them.

5. Fund raising follow-up Jacky & Suzy & Ahmed & Sherif

Jacky & Suzy & Ahmed & Sherif will be looking at different options in the form of preparing fund raising modules for donations, equipment's, surgical kits.

6. Research Projects.

Antimuscarinics pre and post fistula repair (on going).

7. Fistula Center in Uganda/ Sponsorship of Uganda center – donation

This issue was discussed in more details after our last workshop in Uganda and we approached the different authorities in Kampala till we reached a preliminary memorandum of collaboration. The Ugandan people will offer us a ready built department already used for gynecology and fistula patients. We think it is a great opportunity for the ICS to be the leader in initiating such an International Center in Africa. We looked at the chances of direct donations, or of collaborations with other societies and organizations.

8. Communication with the FIGO/ Training Manual

There was a discussion mainly about the possible collaboration of the FIGO as organization with the ICS to open the International Fistula Center in Uganda>

The first aspect was using the FIGO manual of surgical training of fistula repair to be used at the center for the training and treatment of fistula. The second aspect is the possibility of donations from the FIGO to push with ICS in creating the new center.

Patricia was open to the discussions and promised to put it on the next board meeting for actions.

9. Communication with UNFPA

Suzy will continue on communicating with the UNFPA with regards to the surgical kits donations, the collaborations in the fistula missions and the Uganda center support.

10. Surgical kit by UNFPA

This issue was discussed with the UNFPA in details by Ahmed Saafan in Bangladesh during the last ISOFS meeting and he brought the different available kits that the UNFPA had prepared. We might be able to create a simpler one and ask the UNFPA to consider it for donating our fistula missions.