

# Supporting the delivery of Primary Trauma Care Training in Kongo Central, DRC

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow  
HOPE Foundation End of Project Report March 2021

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**Figure 1: Participants and instructors with certificates outside the training centre in Kimpese**

### **Introduction**

King's College London was awarded £5,000 by the HOPE Foundation in March 2020 to support the delivery of Primary Trauma Care Training in Kongo Central, Democratic Republic Congo (DRC) by King's Global Health Partnerships. This report highlights the key achievements of this project, with a summary of activities using data collected, including an update on project finances, and next steps for the project made possible by this funding.

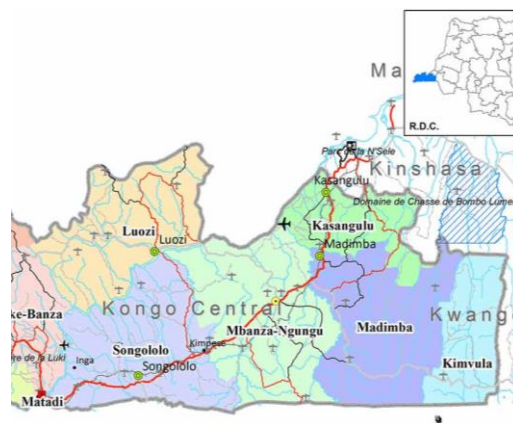
### **Summary of achievements**

Through this grant we have trained 42 healthcare professionals in the Kongo Central province of the DRC in the Primary Care Trauma Foundation's internationally recognised training programme. These frontline clinicians work in the health care facilities in the Kimpese area of the province, where the burden of trauma from traffic collisions is high. The training built on work previously delivered in the province, engaging formerly trained instructors in the country to cascade learning in more remote areas, furthering our impact.

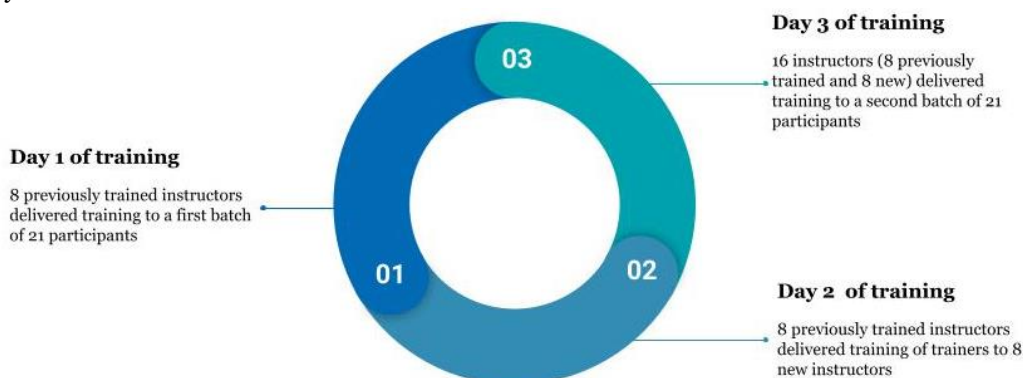
# "PTC gives lifesavers superpowers"

The two-day Primary Trauma Care (PTC) course from the PTC Foundation covers the management of injured patients, taking into account resource constraints experienced in low and middle-income countries. Training on this course empowers health care professionals working in resource-limited settings to deliver lifesaving emergency care with limited resources.

As outlined in the proposal, PTC courses have been conducted by the King's Kongo Central Partnership and the PTC Kongo Central Committee in the main western cities of the province (Boma and Matadi) and further along the main arterial route through the province (Route National Numero 1; N1; red line in the picture to the right) in smaller towns in the Mayumbe forest and towards the Atlantic coast. Through key stakeholder input (including instructor feedback), our own research and in light of recent increases in the number of incidents on the N1 more centrally towards Kinshasa, it has become clear that support is needed to extend training to the central parts of the province.



This project supported this training extension to the health zone of Kimpese, a small town 200km away from the capital, Kinshasa. The training took place in August 2020 and was delivered as in the following diagram over three days:



The training participants were selected by the clinical director of the Kimpese health zone from the surrounding health facilities. The new instructors were selected by the team of trainers for their outstanding motivation and their excellent application of what they learnt during the demonstration scenarios.

## Grant expenditure

Area	Value
Travel	770.81
Venue hire	382.14
Training materials and certificate printing costs	477.74
Subsistence for instructors and course meals	2,265.05
Accommodation for instructors	1,685.35
Other (Instructor internet credit)	137.69
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£ 5,718</b>

A generous donation made to the programme by individuals supporting our work was used to cover the difference in the grant offer total which allowed this training, and follow up instructor revalidation courses, to take place.



### Project Impact

During the training a pre- and post-training test was undertaken to assess understanding of the material covered, a pre- and post-confidence matrix to assess participants' confidence in their own practice and an evaluation form was collected to capture quantitative and qualitative feedback on the training. All participants received a certificate of attendance after completing the training.

From the 42 health workers trained, of which 17 were doctors, 22 were nurses and 3 other healthcare professionals, the following average scores were obtained:

- Pre-test score 9.3/20
- Post-test score 12.6/20
- Pre- confidence 8.8/40
- Post-confidence 25.10/40

The data collected before and after the training demonstrate a marked increase in participant's knowledge on primary trauma care and confidence in their ability to safely treat a trauma patient. Additionally, feedback from the participants on the evaluation of the training and knowledge learned outlined how impactful the intervention has been in the confidence of the participants that the newly acquired knowledge and skills will improve trauma patient safety in their health facilities.



### Feedback from participants

Participants expressed appreciation for the course and the skills they learnt during the training. Most participants said that the key thing they learnt was the systematic approach to a trauma patient starting with a primary survey.

**“With small changes, we can make a significant difference to our trauma patients.”**

### Future activity

This project builds on existing work between King's Global Health Partnerships and the PTC Kongo Central Committee enabling us to further our impact, by bringing down some of the barriers to quality healthcare, bringing health professionals together, advancing their knowledge and practical skills to save patient lives, and boost their morale and confidence in their instructor roles, ensuring the continued high standard of course delivery across the province in the future. The ambition is for this PTC training to be delivered in all the 31 health zones of the province if funding becomes available.

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