

GLOBAL HEALTH SESSION 2

Date: June 7TH 11-13 HRS. Room 718

Chairs: Dr. Andrew Argent, South Africa and Dra. Bettina von Dessauer, Chile

Introduction too much discussion and no proposed solutions

Across the world there are considerable disparities in the resources available to intensive and critical care units. Fundamental consequences of that disparity include: the need to set standards that are appropriate to that environment. It is not possible to apply all the standards that would be expected in rich countries to poorer countries. However it is critically important to ensure that patients really do receive the best achievable quality of care in that situation. Likewise it is essential to ensure that the health system as a whole is actually receiving “value for money” for the resources focussed on that unit

The process of resource allocation to specific patients becomes really a challenge when there are not enough resources to provide allocations to all those who are referred (and those who could potentially benefit from those resources).

People working under those circumstances are required to innovate, and to develop solutions that have not been widely shared in the current critical care literature.

Finally, even in rich countries there may be times (under disaster situations) where standards of care and approaches to care need to be modified. A particular challenge of these situations is the fact that healthcare professionals are now being asked to make major decisions in a realm where they have little experience, under extreme pressure. Prior planning may be the only way to facilitate this process

1. Dr. Rakesh Lodha

Quality of care in resource limited hospitals

Key points

1. Huge disparities in child survival in different parts of the world.
2. As efforts are made to improve the provision of health care to every child, quality of health care also needs emphasis.
3. Quality can be improved even in resource poor scenario. Available evidence supports the quality improvement initiatives.
4. QI initiatives will need to be customized for specific scenario.

Take home message:

It's our duty to improve the quality of healthcare for children, even in the most resource poor settings.

2. Dr. Elizabeth Molineux

Creative use of scarce resources

Key point

We must think laterally – use our initiative

We must all be innovators

Take home message

there is always something we can do>.

3. Dr Bettina von Dessauer, Dr Satoshi Nakagawa, Dr. Suchitra Ranjit

How do you allocate resources in your unit.(Panel discussion).

Some topics to discuss

1. Adequate allocation of resources requires deep knowledge of the processes and the own results, costs, based on adequate guidelines and protocols used in the PICU. This includes the clinical and the administrative/organizational perspective. Quality assessment is a basic. Errors and complications are of high cost, human and financial ones, and every effort has to be made to avoid them. One example: in the PICU Hospital Roberto del Río , Santiago de Chile, in daily practice, at the beginning of the morning visit, we review a dozen of quality indicators: they include readmission to the PICU, medication errors, accidental extubation, extubation failure, transient transfer of a patient due to an unavailable resource in the hospital, evidence of a new HAI, loss of CVC or an arterial line. Every episode is analyzed looking for the underlying cause and a local solution.

2 Allocation of scarce PICU beds is OK but not only in winter season or in relation to any outbreak. It s a daily job to increase efficiency in the handling of a scarce and high cost resource

3 Need of guidelines and efforts to make an rational use of specific procedures or medications: not only iNO, ECMO, blood products, renal replacement but also medicinal oxygen (highest cost in any hospital around the world but nobody cares), antibiotics and others.

4 Occupation of scarce PICU beds by children with chronic poor outcome diseases. Huge problem and underdevelopment of stepdown facilities almost around the world: That's a goal to reach in the next time.