

Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course

August 23 – 27, 2010

Accra, Ghana

POST-COURSE SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared by the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI)



The Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course, hosted by Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, sponsored by the Breast Health Global Initiative and HopeXchange in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT).



The Breast Health Global Initiative



Programme of
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Course Sponsors	Breast Health Global Initiative HopeXchange Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Course Coordination:	The Breast Health Global Initiative (international program) The Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital (local program) Susan G. Komen for the Cure® (advocacy training) Oncology Nursing Society (nursing education)
In-Country Partnership:	HopeXchange / The Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance
Report Prepared By:	Benjamin O. Anderson, M.D., Chair and Director <u>Breast Health Global Initiative</u> Leslie Sullivan, Managing Director, Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) FredHutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Washington, USA Email: lsulliva@fhcrc.org; Telephone: 206-667-2545; www.bhgi.info

The following Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course Post-Course Summary Report, prepared by the Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI), describes the essential components of the highly successful five-day Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course in Accra, Ghana, August 23-27, 2010, organized and led by the BHGI and co-sponsored by the BHGI, HopeXchange and IAEA PACT.

Essential elements and findings of the highly rated course delivered in Ghana outlined in this report include:

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| ○ Key Participants & Roles • Faculty & Program Administration | Page 6 |
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| ○ Survey Data: Participant evaluations, Next Steps, Recommendations | Page 12 |

Attachment: Course Program

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Overview of Educational Program Development

- The Breast Health Global Initiative (BHGI) strives to **develop, implement** and **study** evidence based, economically feasible, and culturally appropriate *Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control* for low- and middle-income countries (LMCs) to improve breast health outcomes and access to breast cancer screening, detection and treatment for women (www.bhgi.info).
- The BHGI is addressing capacity-building through a program of education and training of health care providers and civil societies developed through strategic collaborations with key stakeholders.
- BHGI Educational Approach: Education and training courses are designed by the BHGI to be culturally appropriate, resource sensitive with approaches to deliver optimal breast cancer care based on real world scenarios.
- HopeXchange, a nonprofit humanitarian organization, initiated and is leading the HopeXchange Ghana Health Project (Project), a collaborative international effort aimed at increasing the healthcare capacities in Ghana and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- BHGI, a founding collaborative partner in the Project, established its first international Learning Laboratory in Kumasi, Ghana to design, implement and test education and training modules based on the BHGI clinical breast health and cancer control guidelines that can be adapted and used by diverse communities to expand breast health programs.
- In 2008 and 2009, initial educational activities, including a one-day breast cancer seminar and a two-day breast cancer course were held respectively in Accra and Kumasi. The experience acquired, while conducting these pilot activities, laid the groundwork for the Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course developed in 2010, and other educational initiatives in breast cancer education and training.
- The **first** Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course was conducted in Kumasi, Ghana, in January 2010. The course was designed by the BHGI in collaboration with HopeXchange, with support from Susan G. Komen® for the Cure. The in-country course educational sponsor was the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) in Kumasi. KATH provided key organizational input and leadership and provided the local faculty for the course. The course content was designed with additional input from a local advisory group organized through the Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance. This highly successful 5-day program brought together over 160 doctors, nurses and social workers from all regions of Ghana to learn the fundamentals of breast cancer early detection, diagnosis and treatment.

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- The **second** Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty training course, designed by BHGI in coordination with HopeXchange and Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, was held in Accra in August 2010. The Accra course was again sponsored by the BHGI and HopeXchange with support for the international faculty travel and lodging provided by the Program of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The revised course curriculum was based on the first Kumasi course, but with significant revisions and modifications based on feedback from the Kumasi participants and faculty.
 - The Accra course was coordinated by the BHGI, the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital (local host partner), Komen for the Cure and the Oncology Nursing Society, USA in partnership with HopeXchange and the Ghana Breast Cancer Alliance.
 - The scope of this course was expanded to include breakout training to nursing and civil society, and new hands-on training modules including surgical training for breast ultrasound and ultrasound guided biopsy.
 - This second multi-disciplinary breast cancer education and training program in Ghana brought together over **170 doctors, nurses and social workers from 18 health facilities and Non-Governmental Organizations**. The program was designed to improve breast cancer outcomes through creation and pilot testing of the education module that can be expanded in Ghana and extended to other African countries.
 - Ghana is one of the eight WHO/IAEA PACT Model Demonstration Site (PMDS) and one of the pilot countries for the Virtual University for Cancer Control regional network (VUCCnet) initiated by the IAEA in Africa. The course demonstrated that synergies generated by partners working together at the country level could improve the outcome of training activities, and at the same time it was a good opportunity to test a breast cancer training program as a possible starting point for the development of a virtual course for on-line training.
 - **Course highlights** of the multi-disciplinary program included key lectures and practicum training sessions on: multi-disciplinary cases (breast cancer treatment panel); the **first-ever** sentinel node biopsy procedure in Western Africa; use of breast ultra-sound to assist surgeons in diagnosis and treatment; systemic therapy for prevention or control of metastatic disease; applications of fine needle aspiration sampling and cytology for diagnosis, and; advocacy and nursing education.
 - The total cost to conduct the Accra Course was cost approximately \$87,000, exclusive of in-kind donations and staff time devoted by BHGI, HopeXchange and Korle Bu. Financial contributions from IAEA PACT (\$50,000), BHGI (\$18,600) and HopeXchange (\$18,600), provided the necessary funding for the Accra Course. The primary cost components were faculty travel and accommodations (60 %), venue rental (30%) and course logistics (10%).

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The Accra course covered the following general curriculum:

- *Epidemiology* – International and Ghanaian statistics regarding breast disease
- *Endocrine biology of the breast* – Fetal development, puberty, lactation, post-menopausal changes
- *Non-malignant breast conditions* – Pain, cysts, fibroadenomas and phyllodes tumors, mastitis
- *Malignant pathology* – In situ disease, invasive cancer (ductal and lobular), cancer staging
- *Breast cancer risk factors* – Family history, reproductive factors, environmental factors, BRCA1/2 genes
- *Diagnostic work-up* – Pt history, CBE, mammography / ultrasound, metastatic work-up
- *Breast imaging* – Breast ultrasound, diagnostic mammography, BIRADS classification
- *Tissue sampling* – Surgical biopsy, percutaneous needle sampling, image guided sampling
- *Breast cancer surgery* – Modified radical mastectomy, axillary staging, breast conservation therapy
- *Breast cancer adjuvant treatment* – Radiation therapy, systemic therapy
- *Locally advanced and inflammatory breast cancer* – Etiology, diagnosis and treatment
- *Multidisciplinary care* – Breast conservation therapy, neoadjuvant therapy
- *Nursing* – Primary breast evaluation, patient triage, oncology nursing
- *Palliative care* – Management of treatment symptoms, pain management, end-of-life care

Extensive, time-sensitive BHGI planning, coordination, and support administration was essential in the successful delivery of the August course, including:

- Course design and support; Instructional design (format, culturally relevant content/level)
- Medical training focused on multidisciplinary organization and coordination, developing a multidisciplinary program as a model for hospital-based diagnosis and treatment programs in Ghana. In parallel, general breast education was provided to civil society groups. Susan G. Komen for the Cure® provided training courses for advocacy; the Oncology Nursing Society provided training courses for nursing.
- Development of content information materials
- Collaboration of stake holders; local input/expertise
- Development of content information material (printed, PPT, web-based portal design for on-line open access to program, PPTs)
- Development of learning activities
- Identification of clinical faculty
- Complex administration (BHGI Management, administrative support and coordination locally, IAEA PACT administrative contact and in-country team coordination; registration of students)
- Course Monitoring, Evaluation and Assessment: learner evaluation survey development, and data analysis
- Logistical coordinates

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KEY PARTICIPANTS & ROLES

BHGI Staff

Prof. Benjamin O. Anderson, MD, BHGI Chair & Director, COURSE CO-CHAIR Dr. Anderson is responsible for the complex curriculum development and course operations. This included planning of the five-day agenda for the Accra course, developing content for lectures and clinical training sessions. With a hands-on approach, Dr. Anderson closely managed the complex course coordination between international partners and advocacy groups, and facilitated sponsorship for the course. He identified and invited international faculty, gathering recommendations from key stakeholders through extensive communications.

As Chair and Director of the BHGI, Dr. Anderson brought highly specialized expertise to the course. He is internationally renowned for pioneering development of the first evidence-based *Guidelines for International Breast Health and Cancer Control* for low- and middle-income countries (LMCs). The BHGI is now developing guidelines-based medical education and training for LMCs through implementation science, and global collaborations.

Ibrahim Ali, MSW/MPHc, BHGI FIELD COORDINATOR Coordinated all in-country course logistics for the Accra course, including transportation and lodging arrangements for international faculty, communications between partners, printing of course materials, confirmation of course venue and meals. Mr. Ali handled payments of expenses and important price negotiations as necessary. He administered pre-course and post-course surveys, analyzing the data from surveys, and developing the course summary. To personally ensure that all aspects of the course and logistics ran smoothly, Mr. Ali spent a total of two weeks in Ghana (before, during and after the course), addressing the diverse coordinate issues of this internationally collaborative medical educational undertaking.

He collaborated closely with BHGI staff to handle the logistical coordinates of both international and local faculty members, serving as the onsite *"go-to"* for all issues relating to the course. Logistical activities included, but were not limited to, managing flight itineraries of international faculty, providing travel advisory, scheduling airport pickups and drop offs, hotel reservations, meetings, ground transportation and other local cultural etiquette. Additionally, he planned the international faculty dinner and tourist activities such as sightseeing.

Mr. Ali directed course delivery activities including development of survey instruments, printing and photocopying course materials, ensuring the provision of course materials, collecting participants' information and administering pre- and post-course surveys. Additional tasks included collaborating with course venue (the hotel) to ensure proper functioning of laptops, internet, projector; timely provision of catering and regulation of room temperature.

Mr. Ali performed careful accounting and banking services such as tracking expenses, cashing checks, payment vouchers and receipts. Post course activities such as analysis of course surveys and preparation of accounts of receipts and payments. These functions were performed with constant communication with the BHGI administrative coordinator, faculty members, course participants and vendors. He brought invaluable precision, *prior, during and following* the course, and cultural knowledge to the entire project.

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Marisa Hartman, BHGI ADMINISTRATOR Ms. Hartman organizes specific courses and performs informatics management of on-line resources for the BHGI. For the Accra course, Ms. Hartman prepared budget, invoices, expense receipts and budget reports and submitted them to sponsors including wire transfers to country contact and provided any supporting budget/expense detail as requested. She coordinated planning calls, gathered faculty bios, photos, and PowerPoint presentations. She was responsible for extensive email communication with international faculty (sending and tracking invitations, fielding questions, sending deadline reminders, etc.). She coordinated international faculty travel, course handout and educational resources. She tracked course planning, including task lists, and communicated with BHGI director and field coordinator extensively to ensure all details are handled. She brought specialized, meticulous experience and follow-through to the project.

In-country Staff

Joe-Nat Clegg Lamptey, MD, Head, Department of Surgery, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, COURSE CO-CHAIR

Dr. Clegg Lamptey was responsible for in-country course operations. He obtained support from Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, the Ministry of Health, and the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. He secured medical privileges for international faculty. He also secured the course venue, engaged local faculty, inviting participants, and coordinated all (170) participant registration and logistics, including accommodation for participants outside Accra.

Dr Clegg-Lamptey ensured participation of other hospital departments for hands-on training at the Korle Bu Teaching hospital: pathology, radiation oncology, radiology and the theatres. He organized a video-link between the First floor Theater and the second-floor lecture hall conference for the Live O.R. surgical demonstrations.

He coordinated all activities at the course venue and the Korle Bu Teaching hospital.

Sheriff Mohammed, ASSISTANT TO JOE-NAT CLEGG LAMPTEY, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital Point of contact for logistical issues, and assisted Dr. Clegg-Lampety with all tasks related to course operations.

Dominic Osei-Kofi, HopeXchange Provided in country logistical support for Course, facilitated local support for Course and assisted in ensuring the safe and proper transfer of necessary funds between local and international parties. **Daniela Grillo, HopeXchange**. Ms. Grillo is an executive administrator with HopeXchange and was extremely helpful in assisting with hotel arrangements for the international faculty.

HopeXchange • Oncology Nursing Society • Susan G. Komen for the Cure®

Prof. Riccardo Masetti, MD, HopeXchange, COURSE CO-CHAIR In his capacity as the Medical Director of the HopeXchange Ghana Health Project, and as an internationally respected breast surgeon, Dr. Masetti was the driving force behind the creation of the breast cancer specialty training program in Ghana. Dr. Masetti has been instrumental in the design and content of the Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Courses curriculum. Additionally, as part of the international faculty team, Dr. Masetti has served as a keynote lecturer, as well as providing hands-on demonstrations of innovative surgical techniques during the in practicum sessions.

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Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Operated a nursing course during the specialty break-out session. Mary Gullatte, an experienced ONS teacher, was sent to Ghana to teach a selection of the ONS breast education modules. She provided education to nurses and will help assess needs for future courses.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Conducted an advocacy workshop during the specialty break-out session. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Use teaching methods presented (puzzle, role play, and small group problem solving) to teach other people about breast cancer
- Reduce stigma about breast cancer in the community
- Identify ways to help women who are getting treatment for breast cancer

Komen coordinated with the Oncology Nursing Society to address advocacy and nursing educational needs in a coordinated fashion. Representatives in Accra from Komen for the Cure:

Elizabeth Thompson, President, Komen for the Cure, INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

Mollie Williams, Managing Director, Community Health Programs, Komen for the Cure, INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

Ana Teasdale, Global Programs Manager, Komen for the Cure, INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

Christine Florez, Roundtable Member Services Specialist, Komen for the Cure, INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

IAEA Staff

Kristina Pleskach, IAEA SPONSOR CONTACT IAEA contact for sponsorship of the international faculty. Ms. Pleskach was a key point of contact for submission of funding request, initial budget and final accounting report. As the IAEA administrative contact, she worked closely with the BHGI Administrator on funds transfer in compliance with IAEA criteria in a time-sensitive manner.

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INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

A total of 38 faculty (16 international and 22 local) members with varied expertise and international education experience were involved in the delivery of the course.

- Ben Anderson** COURSE CO-CHAIR
Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast cancer epidemiology, physiology and common breast problems
Day 2 – LECTURE: Surgical therapy for local control of disease
Day 3 – CONFERENCE OVERVIEW: Remarks
Day 3 – FACILITATOR: MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CASES: Breast cancer treatment Panel
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions: Breast cancer surgical cases (O.R.)/Live O.R. surgical demonstrations of cases discussed in the tumor board
- Nada A. S. Al-Alwan** Day 1 – PACT Presentation
- Rolando Camacho-Rodriguez** Day 1 – LECTURE: Why PACT? What is PACT? How PACT operates
- Bob Carlson** Day 1 – LECTURE: General principles of breast cancer treatment
Day 2 – LECTURE: Systemic therapy for prevention or control of metastatic disease
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions
- Rosemary Clement** Day 1 – LECTURE: Patient navigation to improve patient access to care
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions: Lymphedema and wound care
- Christine Florez** Day 2 – FACILITATOR from Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Track A – Advocacy and Civil Society Groups
- Mary Gullatte** Day 2 – LECTURE: Identifying Risk Factors in Breast Cancer
Day 2 – LECTURE: Breast Cancer Prevention and Early Detection
Day 2 – LECTURE: Techniques of Clinical and Self-Breast Examination
Day 2 – LECTURE: Breast Cancer Treatment Modalities
Day 2 – LECTURE & DISCUSSION: Breast Cancer Treatment: Side Effect Management
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions: Lymphedema and wound care
- Jay Harness** Day 2 – LECTURE: Breast ultrasound to assist the surgeon in diagnosis and treatment
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions
- Krys Kiel** Day 2 – LECTURE: Radiation therapy for local control of disease
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions

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- Britt-Marie Ljung** Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast pathology (micro) – benign vs. malignant
Day 1 – HANDS-ON TRAINING CYTOPATHOLOGY TRAINING: FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION TRAINING (Korle Bu Hospital): Applications of FNA sampling and cytology for diagnosis
Day 2 – LECTURE: Pathology services – Cytology vs. histology
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions
- Riccardo Masetti** COURSE CO-CHAIR
Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast diagnosis and the role of clinical breast examination (CBE)
Day 3 – ADVOCACY SPEAKER, Roundtable Discussion
Day 3 – FACILITATOR: MULTIDISCIPLINARY CASES: Clinical breast diagnosis
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/ Training sessions: Breast cancer surgical cases (O.R.)/Live O.R. surgical demonstrations of cases discussed in the tumor board
- Louise Miller** Day 2 – LECTURE: Role of imaging in breast cancer management
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/Training sessions
- Lisa Newman** Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast cancer risk factors and critical role of early cancer detection
Day 2 – LECTURE: Tissue sampling options
Day 4 – HANDS-ON PRACTICUM/ Training sessions: Breast cancer surgical cases (O.R.)/Live O.R. surgical demonstrations of cases discussed in the tumor board
- Ana Teasdale** Day 2 – FACILITATOR from Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Track A – Advocacy and Civil Society Groups

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- Elizabeth Thompson** Day 3 – ADVOCATE REPRESENTATIVE ON THE 1ST PANEL (President, Susan G. Komen for the Cure ®)
- Mollie Williams** Day 2 – FACILITATOR from Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Track A – Advocacy and Civil Society Groups
Day 2 – LECTURE: Early Detection –Public beliefs about breast cancer education
Small group break out session: Strategies for addressing barriers to early breast cancer detection in Ghana
Day 2 – LECTURE: Treatment -Public beliefs about breast cancer treatment
Small group break out session: Strategies for addressing barriers to breast cancer treatment in Ghana
Day 2 – LECTURE: Education: Educational needs for the public – what works?
Small group break out session: Development of educational materials targeting the Ghanaian population
Day 3 – ADVOCATE REPRESENTATIVE ON THE 2ND PANEL

LOCAL FACULTY

- Dr. J.N. Clegg-Lamprey** COURSE CHAIR
Day 2 – LECTURE: Surgical therapy for local control of disease
Day 3 – TUMOR BOARD: Case Presentation
- Dr. Nii Adu-Aryee** Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast cancer epidemiology, physiology and common problems
- Mary Agyapong** Day 3 – ADVOCACY SPEAKER, Roundtable Discussion
- Prof. J T Anim** Day 1- HANDS-ON TRAINING CYTOPATHOLOGY TRAINING: FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION TRAINING (Korle Bu Hospital): Applications of FNA sampling and cytology for diagnosis
- Prof. E Q Archampong** Day 1 – MODERATOR Afternoon Session III: Cancer Treatment and Patient Navigation
- Dr. S Asiamah** Day 2 – MODERATOR: MORNING SESSION V (TRACK C), Breast Cancer Treatment
- Dr.Baffour Awuah** Day 2 – MODERATOR: AFTERNOON SESSION VI (TRACK C), Breast Cancer Treatment
- Dr. Ben Baako** Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast diagnosis and the role of clinical breast examination (CBE)
- Prof. E.A. Badoe** MODERATOR: Didactic session

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- Madam Gladys Boateng** Day 3 – ADVOCATE PRESENTATION – Personal experience of breast cancer
Day 3 – ADVOCACY SPEAKER, Roundtable Discussion
- Dr. K.O. Dako** Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast cancer risk factors and critical role of early cancer detection
- Prof. R. Darko** Day 2 – MODERATOR: TRACK 3 - Breast Cancer Treatment
- Dr. Edusei** Day 1 – LECTURE: Breast pathology (micro) – benign vs. malignant
- Dr. V Hewlett** Day 2 – LECTURE: Role of imaging in breast cancer management
- Dr. Florence Jackson** Day 2 – LECTURE: Tissue sampling options
Day 3 – TUMOR BOARD: Case Presentation
- Dr. Yaw Mensah** LECTURE: Role of imaging in breast cancer management
Day 2 – LECTURE: Breast ultrasound to assist the surgeon in diagnosis and treatment
- Ms. Naomi Ohene-Oti** Day 2 – LOCAL FACILITATOR: Advocacy and Civil Society groups
- Ms. Julie Tagoe** Day 1 – LECTURE: Patient navigation to improve patient access to care
- Dr. Verna Vanderpuye** Day 1 – LECTURE: General principles of breast cancer treatment
Day 2 – LECTURE: Systemic therapy for prevention or control of metastatic disease
Day 3 – FACILITATOR: TUMOR BOARD
- Dr. Joel Yarney** Day 1 – MODERATOR Morning Session I: Didactic: General Plenary Sessions
Day 2 – LECTURE: Radiation therapy for local control of disease

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SURVEY DATA

Over 170 participants attended the 5-day course in Accra, Ghana. Participants were drawn from medicine, Nursing, Civil Society and the local media. Survey results show 18 facilities /organizations were represented and 83 and 80 participants responded to pre and post course surveys respectively. Ninety-four percent of participants who attended the course agreed to be contacted with 50/50 split between those who preferred email or telephone contact. Of the 83 participants who responded to the pre course survey, 72% had email addresses and 97.5% of post course surveyors believed the course met their expectations; about 90% thought they will definitely take course again and over 90% said course was presented at the right content level. Figure 1 below represents the distribution of survey respondents:

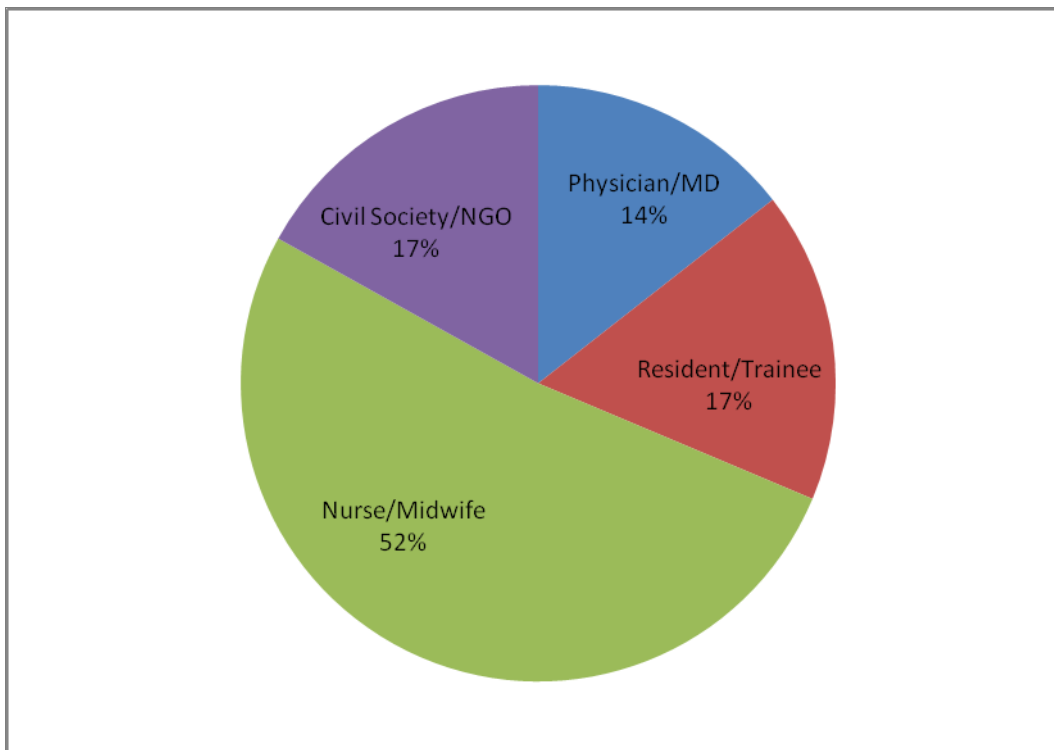


Figure 1: Distribution of survey respondents (both pre and post)

Over half of the respondents were nurses and midwives and physicians, residents/trainees and civil society shared the remaining half of total respondents. Majority (41/83) of respondents were from the Korle-Bu teaching hospital (largest and oldest teaching hospital in Ghana) and the rest were from other regional hospitals and NGOs. Twelve respondents were from the 37 Military hospital; 5 from Koforidua regional hospital and 4 from the Effia Nkwanta regional hospital. Figure 2 is a summary of this information. **Note:** CRH=Central Regional Hospital; VRH=Volta Regional Hospital; Effia Nkwanta Regional Hospital (Western Regional Hosp); TTH=Tamale Teaching Hospital; TGH=Tema General Hospital; GGI=Global Goals Initiative; SSN=Sisters Support Network; CDC=Communication for Development Center; MAP=Mallam Attah Polyclinic.

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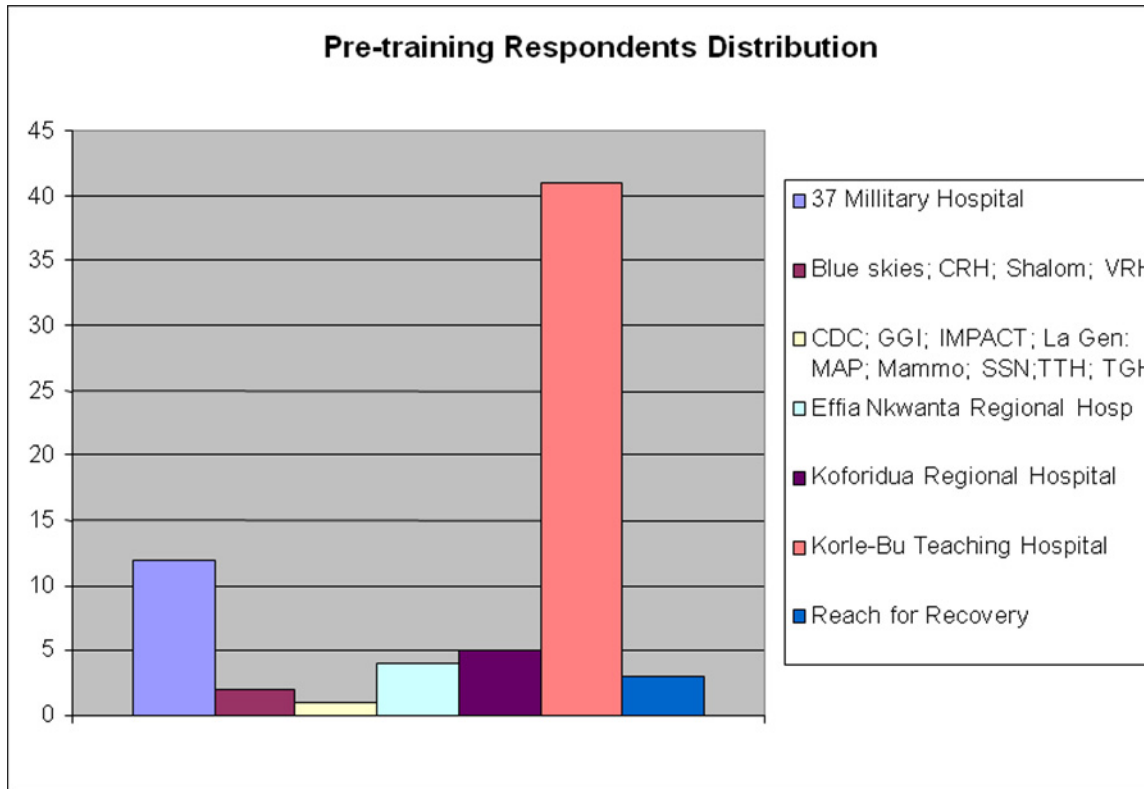


Figure 2: Respondents distribution by facility

Respondents were asked how they found out about the course and about a third of all respondents found out from their workplace. Others found out through a friend or colleague and some learned about the course from a newspaper.

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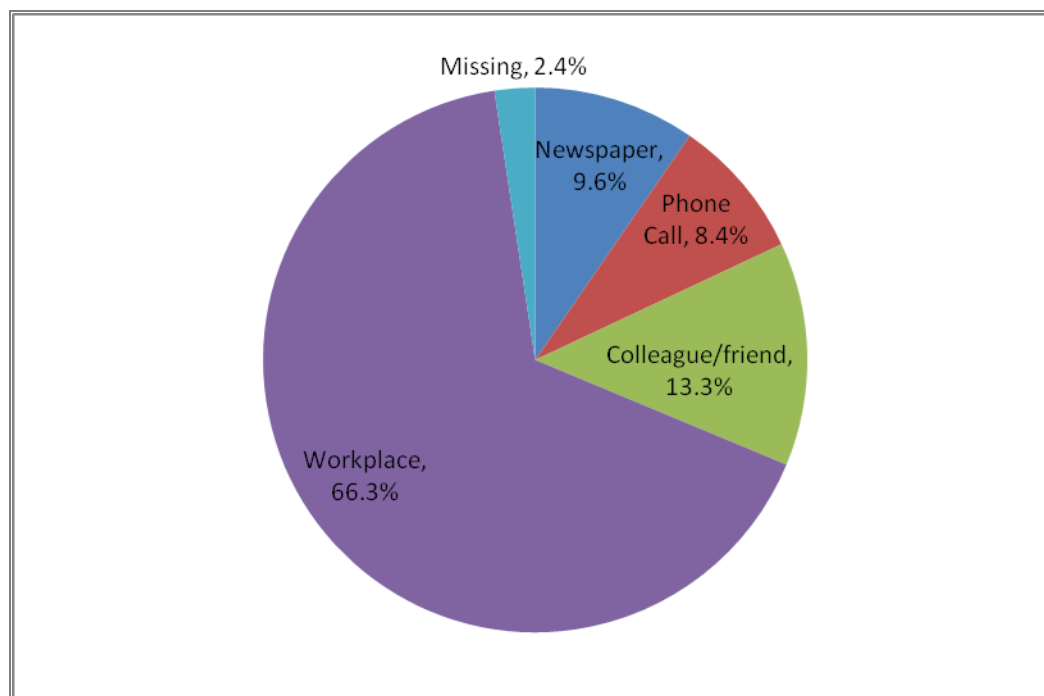


Figure 3: How did you find out about the course?

Indicator	Pre-training (n=83)					Post-training (n=80)				
	Exc.	Good	NI	NA	Mis.	Exc.	Good	NI	NA	Mis.
Well Organized						52	27	0	0	1
Presentation style	38	37	4	0	4	48	29	1	0	2
Visual aids/Handouts	21	43	9	2	8	32	35	7	1	5
Instructors knowledge	63	16	0	0	4	65	13	0	0	2
Instructors response to questions	35	41	0	0	7	41	35	0	0	2
Course covered useful material	37	40	1	0	5	38	38	0	2	2
Course activities were effective	22	49	4	0	8	38	35	0	0	7
Overall evaluation					10	50	30	0	0	0

Table 1: Summary table of key indicators

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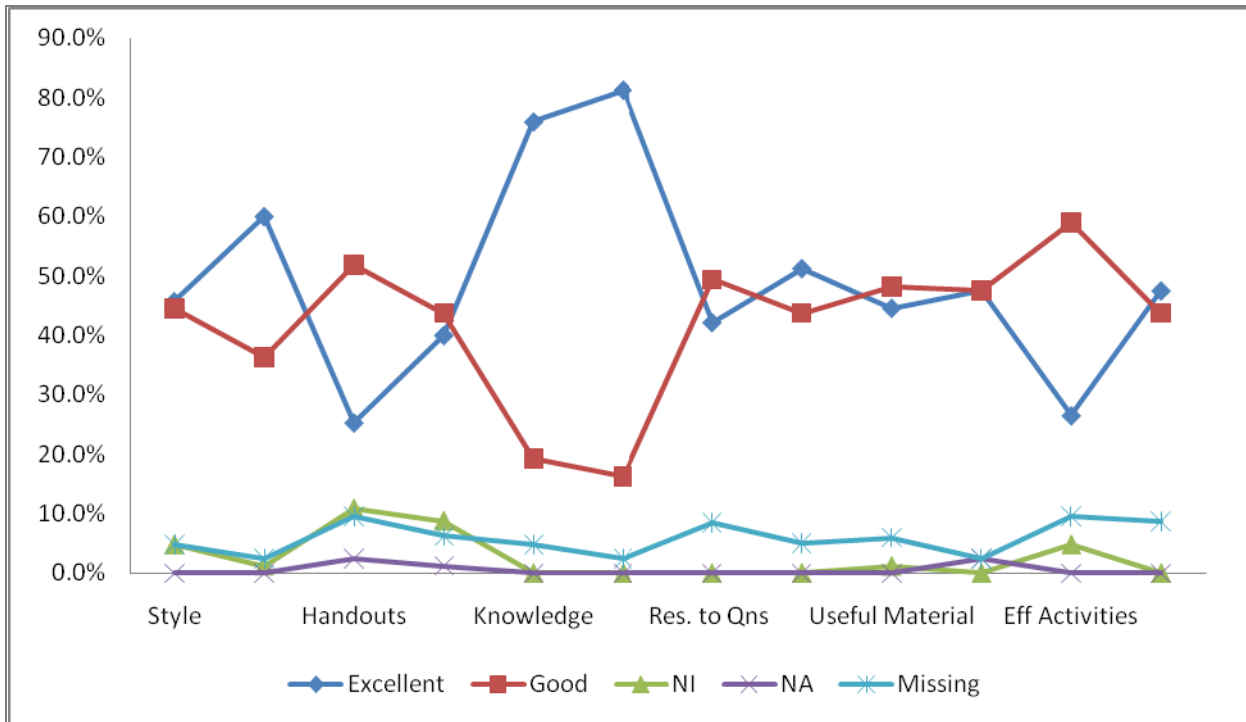


Figure 4: Graphical representation of participants' ratings of key indicators

The figure above represents a summary of participants' response to some key indicator questions on the survey. The line graph depicts changes in respondents' responses to the same survey questions before and after course completion. Most participants rated the knowledge of the instructors highly above all other indicators. There were similar ratings for presentation style. Just 4% of respondents thought the style could be improved and more effective activities could be utilized. About 10% of respondents thought the course handouts need improvement. Overall, an overwhelming majority rated all aspects of the course as either *excellent* or *good*.

In the pre-course survey, course participants were asked to list their learning expectations from the course. The results from this list were categorized into **general** and **specific** and summarized below:

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General participant expectations

Breast Cancer Risk factors; Diagnostic methods; Early Detection, Treatment, Signs and Symptoms; Management of Advance Breast Cancer, Current trends in Breast Cancer management; Advocacy; Prevention; and Capacity Building.

Specific participant expectations

Self care after mastectomy; how long should a lactating mother breastfeed? Dieting; Taking FNAC sample; Community education; public campaigning; side effects of mammogram, chemotherapy & radiation; Palliative care especially management of pain; and how to improve EBM (Evidence-Based Medicine) in Ghana.

Participants were also asked in the post course survey to list the 3 top lessons they learned from the course. The results were coded and the main themes/areas are summarized below:

3 top lessons learned

Multidisciplinary approach; Breast Cancer Risk Factors; Taking biopsy specimen; The role of imaging; Role of advocacy; Nurse Navigation; Role of Breast cancer survivors; Approach to Breast Cancer management; Breast Cancer epidemiology; Role of mammography; Reconstructive surgery for breast lumpectomy or mastectomy; Lymphedema nursing; Early detection; Need for a timely arrival of pathology reports; To do neoadjuvant chemotherapy for lumps less than 4cm before lumpectomy; screening; Diagnosis; Oncology Nursing; and Role of counseling; Clinical Breast Examination & Breast Self Examination.

Areas for improvement

These are direct quotes from respondents on areas of the course that could be improved: Lectures were mixed in terms of appropriateness for audience and accuracy of data; Provide free handouts; Involve stakeholders; Expand training to other parts of the country especially rural areas; Accommodation for all participants; Local input must be improved; Number too huge; The conference had no chair in particular; Divide us into separate groups more often so we can have targeted discussions; Training should be held regularly; Invite other stakeholders; Hard copies of presentations should be made available; Convert the program into a module for intensive education particularly oncology nursing; Ghanaian surgeons should include nurses in breast cancer management; Invite more health workers; Explain some of the terminologies; Motivation for participants; Laboratory technologist should be involved in FNA; More details for specific groups; Get more local views because we have differences in healthcare; Need to create more public awareness; Slowing down a bit.

Direct quotes participant Comments and Suggestions Section of Survey

"Online refresher course to cover a larger audience; Each hospital should have nursing groups as advocates; Empower more nurses to do navigation; For the sake of civil society some of the medical terminologies should be explained; need to train more oncology nurses; Extend the course beyond 5 days to cover more material; Very well organized; It's been a good experience, broadened my knowledge and will improve my output; Course is very appropriate and timely; the course is excellent and practical to my needs and interest; develop a to-do list and check off at the end to serve as a guide and feedback for next training; Course has awoken my desire to set up multidisciplinary teams in management of breast cancer patients; I hope the course will be done again!"

HOPEXCHANGE GHANA HEALTH PROJECT
Ghana Breast Cancer Specialty Training Course
Accra: August 23-27, 2010
POST-COURSE SUMMARY REPORT

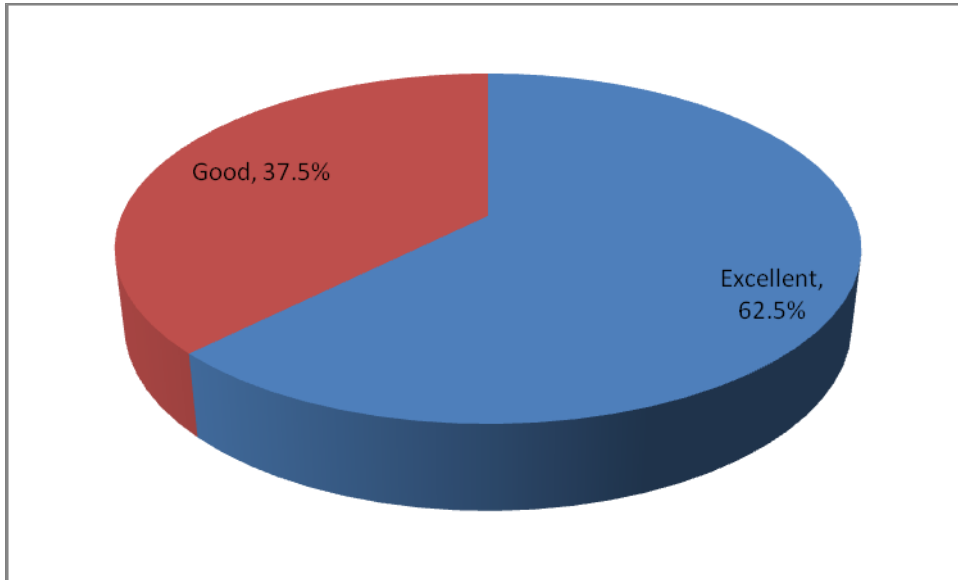


Figure 5: Respondents overall rating of the course after the training

The final question on the post course evaluation survey reads: "Overall, how would you evaluate the entire course?" and response choices were: **Excellent, Good, Fair and Poor**. Almost every respondent who took the survey rated either as **Excellent** or **Good**. No participant evaluated the course as either fair or poor!

Next Steps

- Validate the email addresses of participants prior to post course follow up survey.
- Design a follow up survey to explore more on these four key learning points: Multidisciplinary approach, Nurse Navigation, Pathology reporting and Biopsy specimen taking.
- Administer survey through email and phone calls by end of December or early January.
- Analyze survey results and write up an article for publication.

Recommendations

Following delivery of two 5-day breast cancer specialty training courses in Ghana:

- Develop and validate a survey instrument for international breast cancer education
- Set other non-educational benchmarks for evaluating other aspects of such trainings
- Devise appropriate tools or mechanism for engaging course participants after the training