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SickKids-Caribbean Initiative

Enhancing Capacity for Care in
Paediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders

Capacity-Building Through Education: The SickKids-Caribbean Initiative Experience

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Enhancing Capacity for Care in
Paediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders

Overview

- **Landscape/Background on Health Workforce Needs in the Caribbean**
- **Medical Fellowships**
- **Nursing Education Program**
- **Facility-Based Initiatives**
- **Continuing Education/Mentorship**
- **Telemedicine Education Sessions**

Landscape/Background

- WHO recommends a minimum of 4.45 physicians, nurses and midwives per 1000 population
- Significant variation in the health workforce density across SCI countries

Country	Year	Physicians density (per 1000 population)	Nursing and midwifery personnel density (per 1000 population)	Total physician, nurse and midwife density (per 1000 population)
The Bahamas	2017	1.9	3.1	5.0
Barbados	2017	2.4	6.0	8.4
Jamaica	2017	1.3	1.1	2.4
St. Lucia	2009/2014	0.1	1.6	1.7
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	2010	0.6	2.6	3.2
Trinidad and Tobago	2015	2.6	3.5	6.1
Canada	2017	2.6	9.9	12.5

In the 40-year period between 1974 and 2015, the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) certified 3,027 pediatric hematologists/oncologists.¹ Today, the ABP estimates that there are between 2,100 and 2,300 active physicians in the specialty in the U.S., with an average of one pediatric hematologist/oncologist for every 38,300 individuals aged 20 or younger.³

<u>Source=</u> <u>Worldometer</u>	<u>Children</u> <u><14years</u>	<u>%age of</u> <u>population</u>	<u>Children</u> <u><20y</u>	<u>%age of</u> <u>population</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>population</u> <u>for 2020</u>
Bahamas	84947	21%	117449	29%	393000
Barbados	48165	17%	67130	23%	287,375
Jamaica	691671	23%	931389	32%	2,956,101
St. Lucia	32964	18%			183287
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	24302	22%			110798
Trinidad	280771	20%	370261	27%	1,399,488
TOTAL=	1162820		1486229		5330049
Ideal #/38300 pop	30				
Actual #	6 + 1				

Landscape/Background

- Based on a expected incidence rate of 16.5 per 100,000 approximately **200 new oncology** cases each year for the 6 countries
- Applying the C17 HR Committee ratio results in a recommendation of

13 Oncologists and 5 Haematologists

- This ratio is based on a Canadian healthcare context - does not take into account the amount of support that exists from nursing, diagnostics and other allied health professionals to achieve the desired outcomes
- **C¹⁷ Council** is an organization composed of the institutionally appointed heads of the sixteen **pediatric hematology, oncology**, and stem cell **transplant** programs across **Canada**.

Landscape/Background

- Target Cadres
- Burden of cases; Human health resources available
- Retention and recognition
- Succession planning
- Regional support and outreach to smaller islands

Medical Fellowships - Brief Overview

- Formal training of 4 physicians (1 – Barbados; 2 – Jamaica; 1 – Trinidad and Tobago) at SickKids through medical fellowships
- Additional fellow to begin training in 2020
- 100% retained in home countries at their onset facilities

Nursing Education Program - Brief Overview

- Full-time 40-credit competency-based, post registration program
- Three semester blended programme
 - Classroom
 - E-Learning
 - Internship
- Development and delivery in partnership with the University of the West Indies School of Nursing in Trinidad and Tobago

Nursing Education Program - Sponsorship

	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Total
The Bahamas - PMH	2	1 (+1 fp*)	1 (+1 fp)	4 (+2 fp)
Barbados - QEH	2	1	1	4
Jamaica - BHC	2	2	0	4
Jamaica - UHWI	2	2	2	6
Jamaica - Other	-	-	4	4
St. Lucia	0	0	0	0
St. Vincent and the Grenadines – Milton Cato & MCMH	1	1	1	3
Trinidad and Tobago - EWMSC	4	3	1	8
Trinidad and Tobago - Other	-	3	2 (+1 fp)	5 (+1 fp)
Total	13	13 (+1 fp)	12 (+2 fp)	38 (+3 fp)

96% (26/27) retained in home countries

92% (24/26) graduates still working at their 'onset' facility

1 re-deployed by Ministry, 1 changed facility for personal reasons

38% (10/26) changed clinical areas

**fp = fee paying*

Facility-Based Initiatives - Brief Overview

- Site identifies needs/clinical problems
- SCI assembles a team comprised of SickKids and Caribbean experts to provide education/on-site support for a 1-2 week period
- May be complemented with remote support
- Keeps staff within the clinical setting

The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago Perspective



1. Psychosocial session in Bahamas



2. SCD tracer debriefing in Bahamas



3. Hydroxyurea counselling in Trinidad



4. End of Life Care Rounds in Bahamas



5. Pop-up PPE teaching in Trinidad



6. Port training video in Trinidad

Continuing Education - Brief Overview

- 22 lab trainings completed
- Advocacy workshop delivered
- ASPHO Membership
- Support of participants at conferences and specialized meetings
- Mentorships
- Observerships
- 7 data managers trained

Telemedicine Education Sessions - Brief Overview

- Telemedicine education rounds are delivered monthly via Zoom and are recorded for access at a later date
- Topic areas are identified and prioritized by Caribbean partners



Thank You!

Questions?