



Doctors Worldwide Improving Care in Health Emergencies

As a result of our DICE programme implemented from 2020-21 in response to the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh:

- 115 doctors, medical assistants, midwives and nurses enrolled and trained
- 19 Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs) generated by participants
- 33 medical experts contributed to the DICE teaching programme
- 74 doctors, midwives, nurses & clinical managers attended 2 conferences on obstetric emergencies

Goal: The DICE programme aims to bridge the gap between primary care and secondary care by providing hands-on clinical supervision training for doctors, nurses and medical assistants who are regularly managing acute or life-threatening conditions within primary care facilities.

Designed for: Medically trained doctors (MD, MBBS, or equivalent), medical assistants (or equivalent), nurses, midwives

About: The DICE programme aims to improve the current health systems by providing hands-on clinical supervision training for health workers who are regularly managing acute or life-threatening conditions within primary care facilities. The DICE programme introduces emergency care and implements its delivery through health systems development and training with a focus on patient management at the primary healthcare level, particularly in humanitarian response. Timely and critical interventions can help enable and build emergency care systems in communities and save lives.

Structure:

Table 1: DICE Overview

Block 1	Clinical Governance modules, eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clinical decision making and judgement ● Safeguarding and the vulnerable patient
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communication with colleagues ● Time and workload management
Block 2	<p>Core Emergency Care Modules, eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A to E assessments and scenarios ●
Block 3	<p>Acute Presentation Modules, eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Acute cardiac, respiratory, and abdominal presentations ● Acute presentations involving self-harm and toxins ● Dermatological presentations ● Obstetric & gynaecological presentations
Block 4	Other Emergency Care Presentation Modules
Block 5	<p>Life Support Skills Sessions (5)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic Life Support (BLS) & Advanced Life Support (ALS) 2. Obstetrics Emergencies 3. Neonatal Life Support (NLS) & Pediatrics Life Support (PLS) 4. Trauma Life Support (TLS) 1 5. Trauma Life Support (TLS) 2
Facility Improvement Plan (FIP Book)	<p>Domains of the FIP book include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health Service Delivery ● Health workforce ● Health information ● Medical products, vaccines & technologies ● Health financing ● Leadership & Governance

Emergency Skills Assessments:

Participants are assessed on their life skills assessment (see Block 5). Including:

Life Support Skills Sessions (5)

1. Basic Life Support (BLS) & Advanced Life Support (ALS)
2. Obstetrics Emergencies
3. Neonatal Life Support (NLS) & Pediatrics Life Support (PLS)
4. Trauma Life Support (TLS) 1
5. Trauma Life Support (TLS) 2

Facility Improvement Plans: Each assigned DICE facility receives a **Facility Improvement Plan (FIP) book** that is monitored weekly by our expert medical faculty to improve the Emergency Unit structure and human resource capacity of the entire clinic. Facilities are graded against Emergency Medicine international standards through the DICE score and targets are identified to be achieved by DICE facility staff with the support of DWW medical faculty. This is accomplished by:

- Each facility will be assessed on the emergency infrastructure available, from ambulance services to the emergency room; resources and expertise available to deal with emergency presentations; and the overall standard of care provided.
- Over a period of 16 weeks (approximately), DWW will train the clinical staff from each facility, provide daily mentoring/shadowing supervision, and support the development of the emergency unit infrastructure. Based on successful completion, following assessments and evidence of the ability to sustain a good level of basic emergency care, each site will receive a DICE score of 1-4, with DICE 4 representing a fully functioning and high standard of basic emergency care.
- The facility DICE score is to be renewed every 12 months following an audit, to ensure the facility is continuing to achieve the same high standard.

Quality Improvement Plans: To successfully complete the DICE Programme, participants are required to carry out a small, Quality Improvement Project (QIP) in their clinic. A QIP can involve a variety of areas that require quality improvement in a clinic. This can range from a better equipped emergency trolley, to a revised room layout, or even a newly presented protocol poster. DWW will be on hand throughout to support our participants to successfully carry out a QIP. The QIP process will consist of:

- **Step 1: Diagnose** - assess the area of your practice or organisation that requires improvement.
- **Step 2: Plan and test** – decide the aims, methods and monitoring of your change.
- **Step 3: Implement and embed** - make any successes part of your systems or processes.
- **Step 4: Sustain and spread** - consider how your aims or intervention can continue to be implemented on a larger scale, if appropriate, and how the conclusions can be made more widely available.

Final projects are presented at our DICE Scientific Conference at the end of the project.

Participant Testimonials:

- “The DICE programme’s features, and perspective has helped me to improve my knowledge and skills mainly in emergency management. The DICE programme has also developed my confidence and thinking power and taught me how to be a good leader and work well in a team. Before DICE, I was usually the only one managing emergency cases, but now in my facility I am able to make a team and divide the work, which makes the emergency management smooth and leads to positive outcomes.” - **DICE Participant (Dr Topon Deb Nath)**

- “DICE has taught me how to deal with health emergencies in low resource settings. Serving in health emergencies with the available assets has become easier after receiving training from the DICE course” - **DICE Participant (Dr Jubayer Mumin)**
- “As a Clinic Manager, I have noticed a significant positive change within my other clinical staff who also participated in the DICE program that is highly beneficial for our services.” - **DICE Participant (Dr Sydos Salman)**

To find out more or to discuss bringing DICE to your country, please contact Doctors Worldwide at info@doctorsworldwide.org