Training Course on Inpatient Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition

Children 6–59 Months with SAM and Medical Complications
The course teaches procedures found in:

a. World Health Organization (WHO) manual on *Management of severe malnutrition: a manual for physicians and other senior health workers*

b. *Interim National Guidelines for CMAM in Ghana*

The training course was developed in 2002 by WHO. Since then new evidence and innovations, such as Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) have come up. This course has been adapted for Ghana and includes latest evidence in the management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Procedures are shown to reduce case fatality from over 30% to less than 5%.

Training is for doctors and senior nurses in hospitals that contain Inpatient Care. Dieticians and nutritionists will also benefit from this training course.
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- Participants are doctors, senior nurses, nutritionists, and dieticians who manage children with SAM in Inpatient Care

- 2-3 facilitators and 12-15 participants

- Facilitators assist participants to learn the procedures

- Facilitator training is 3½ days

- Facilitators work in pairs

- Each pair (or three facilitators) is assigned to a group of about 15 participants
Materials:

- Set of seven modules
- Photographs booklet
- Facilitator Guide
- Answer sheets
- Set of laminated job aids
- Set of Inpatient Care forms and checklists
- Videos
- Slide presentation
- For reference, *Interim National Guidelines for CMAM in Ghana*
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Objectives of facilitator training:

- Learn the course content.
- Practice teaching techniques.
- Become familiar with the ward (Inpatient Care) and plans for clinical practice.
- Learn to work with a co-facilitator.
- Practice supportive communication to reinforce learning.
- Plan how to handle problems.
Teaching methods are based on assumptions about learning.

- Instruction should be performance based.
- Active participation increases learning.
- Immediate feedback increases learning.
- Learning is increased when instruction is individualised.
- Positive motivation is essential if learning is to take place.
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Schedule:

- Facilitator training is 3½ days.

- Case management training course is 6 days.

- The facilitator training will:
  - Move quickly through the modules
  - Focus mainly on teaching techniques
  - Include one clinical session
Duties of a facilitator:

- Introduce each module.
- Answer questions and assist participants while they work.
- Provide individual feedback on completed exercises.
- Do demonstrations and give explanations.
- Conduct oral drills.
- Lead and summarise video exercises and group discussions.
- Coordinate role plays.
- Summarise the modules.
- Assist with clinical practice, as requested.
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The *Facilitator Guide* contains:

- Checklist of instructional materials and supplies
- Guidelines for teaching each module:
  - Procedures table
  - Notes for each step of the procedures
  - Grey boxes with special notes for nurses groups
  - Blank box at end of section for additional notes
- ‘Guidelines for all modules’ at the end of the Guide
- Answer sheets in separate packet