



Annual Review

April 2022-2023



Donated CPAP equipment is saving the lives of premature babies at Mbale Hospital, Uganda (Photo: Born on the Edge)

Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide's mission is to ensure safe, affordable anaesthesia is available to every patient in need.

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Overview

It has been another busy year for SAWW providing anaesthesia equipment and training around the world. Safe anaesthesia is crucial for treatments to save lives and prevent disability from complications in labour, injuries, birth deformities, and many more conditions. Surgical treatment also restores patients' dignity and their ability to contribute to society. Many hospitals in poor countries lack adequate resources, equipment and trained staff to ensure safe anaesthesia is available for every patient in need.

SAWW works to improve anaesthesia services by supporting training and donating appropriate equipment that is suitable for use in low-resourced hospitals. We only donate robust equipment, that is simple to operate and maintain, and will function even in the most basic situations. This includes hospitals where supplies of electricity, oxygen and other medical gases are unreliable or even non-existent. An unthinkable scenario in the UK.

During this year we donated equipment to hospitals in need in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somaliland, Uganda and Zambia. We also sent equipment to help anaesthetists working in difficult and dangerous situations in Ukraine and Yemen. Furthermore, we funded ground-breaking virtual reality training for nurse anaesthetists in Uganda.

Help to Ukraine

February 2022 saw the outbreak of war in Ukraine and almost immediately SAWW received appeals from Ukrainian doctors for anaesthesia equipment that would work in emergency situations. There was also an enormous response from the public wanting to help those caught up in the conflict. Hence much of SAWW's focus this year was on the supply of equipment to Ukraine.

Thanks to tremendous fundraising by SAWW supporters, three portable anaesthesia machines, a ventilator and oxygen supply equipment were sent to mobile hospitals in Odessa. There were reports of hospitals running low on supplies of oxygen and many hospital facilities in Ukraine have been damaged or destroyed in the war. SAWW supplied equipment that can deliver anaesthesia anywhere, in the most basic emergency conditions, such as field hospitals and mobile intensive care units. This equipment is now in use on a daily basis by anaesthetists who risk their lives to treat patients.

The efficient dispatch of this equipment to Ukraine was enabled by Dr Andrey Varvinskiy of Torbay Hospital, Scott Cheadle of Help Ukraine and Diamedica (UK) Ltd.

Thank you to everyone who donated and fundraised for Ukraine, including Lauren Allen & Mary Jane Stevens, Duncan Petrie, Marden Medical Centre Team and Shaun Rowden.



Anaesthesia equipment donated by SAWW was put to use immediately in mobile hospitals in Odessa.

Innovative Training



Live recording of Dr. Arthur Polela demonstrating the ultrasound-guided nerve block on Dr. Jan Man Wong, Lead Organiser (GASOC).

This year SAWW began an exciting new collaboration with the organisation GASOC (Global Anaesthesia, Surgery and Obstetric Collaborative) to apply the latest virtual reality training techniques to anaesthesia.

Virtual Reality in Medicine and Surgery (VRiMS) uses 360° videos and virtual reality to live-stream medical training to delegates in low and middle income countries. Training is accessed remotely via low-cost cardboard viewing devices and basic Android phones.

SAWW helped to fund the GASOC workshop using virtual reality to teach ultrasound-guided regional anaesthesia and advanced airway techniques to 43 anaesthetic officers from six regions in Uganda.

The 360° virtual reality training videos are posted on the VRiMS website (vrims.net) where they are freely accessible to learners across the world. This technology has the potential to improve anaesthesia skills worldwide, especially for anaesthetic providers in remote regions who lack opportunities for further education. The ever growing VR library of videos will allow them to continue to learn.

The workshop was a great success and lead organiser, Dr Jan Man Wong, presented this work at the 6th World Congress of Region Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine in Sept 2023. It was the first time VR had been used to teach anaesthesia and it has enormous potential to improve training and patient safety in remote locations. Further workshops are now being planned for Cameroon and Zambia.

Responding to Appeals for Equipment

This year SAWW helped to provide anaesthesia equipment to eight different hospitals ranging from full hospital anaesthesia machines and ventilators, to basic monitors and intubation equipment needed to deliver safe anaesthesia.

Vital Ventilators

Following surgery some patients need their breathing assisted by a ventilator, without which they may die. Not all low-resourced hospitals have a ventilator or can afford to run one. SAWW helped Nkwen Baptist Hospital in Cameroon to establish two new intensive care and theatre recovery beds by donating a ventilator to add to the single ventilator they had purchased, thus doubling the number of patients that can be treated. Both ventilators run from a single oxygen concentrator making them affordable to run. The hospital is now planning a further six to eight beds in 2024.



Nurses at Nkwen Hospital are delighted with the new ventilators in the intensive care unit.

Anaesthesia Machines for Emergency Surgery

SAWW often donates portable anaesthesia machines that are a reliable device for delivering anaesthesia in remote hospitals where there are limited resources. Such hospitals often have to deal with emergency surgical cases in order to save lives, as any delay in treatment, by referral to larger medical centres, may prove fatal. Enabling anaesthesia for emergency surgery prevents pain, suffering and saves lives. This year, portable anaesthesia machines were donated to rural hospitals in Kenya, Cameroon and Ethiopia.



Anaesthetists in Yemen received basic supplies to deliver safe anaesthesia in the difficult conditions.

When the backup generator at Jamma Primary Hospital in northern Ethiopia was stolen during the ongoing conflict, it left the hospital unable to provide emergency surgery at all times. SAWW donated an anaesthesia machine that runs without electricity and an oxygen concentrator to ensure emergency cases can now always be treated.

Basic Essentials

Eight years of civil war have left Yemeni anaesthetists without basic equipment in operating theatres. SAWW sent ten laryngoscope sets, boxes of intubation equipment, and medical reference books, at the request of the newly formed Yemeni Society of Anaesthetists, to make anaesthesia safer for patients in Yemen.

Fighting for Breath

SAWW continued to donate oxygen concentrators and respiratory devices called CPAP that help premature babies to breathe and thrive. Preterm babies have immature lungs and find it very difficult to breathe. Without the CPAP supporting them these babies would simply not survive.



Training in Zambia in the use of respiratory CPAP equipment donated by SAWW.

This year SAWW helped to supply CPAP devices to expanding neonatal intensive care units at Mbale Hospital, Uganda and at Kapiri Hospital, Zambia. These CPAP devices are in constant use 24/7 and contributing to saving the lives of hundreds of sick and premature babies 365 days a year.

Financial Summary

These figures are for the financial year 6 April 2022 to 5 April 2023.

Funds at the start of the year: £8,654

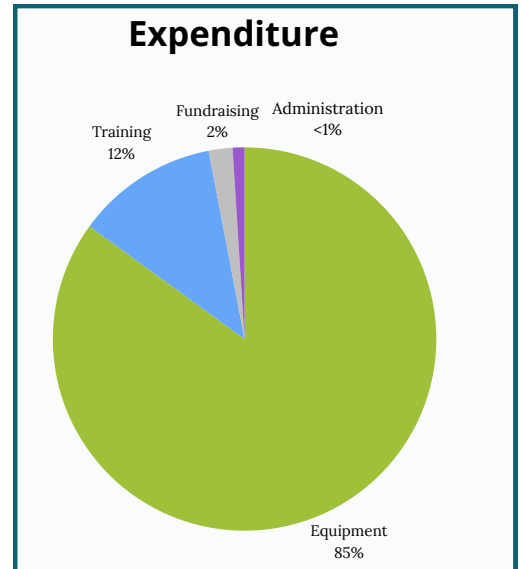
Income: £46,320

The charity's principal sources of funding have been donations from charitable trusts, groups and individuals. We are extremely grateful for significant donations received this year from the Hillier Trust, the Fulmer Trust and the Kathleen Beryl Sleigh Charitable Foundation.

Expenditure: £41,129

Over 97% of expenditure was on our primary objectives to preserve and protect good health by the provision of suitable anaesthetic equipment and training. We strive to keep overheads to an absolute minimum and spend less than 1% on administration.

Funds at the end of the year: £13,845



Please Support Our Work

Worldwide, five billion people lack access to affordable surgery and anaesthesia. As a result, there are 16 million avoidable deaths and countless disabilities each year. A donation to Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide will help ensure anaesthesia is available for surgical treatment for those in need.

We focus on anaesthesia, pain relief, and oxygen provision for:

- Women in labor to prevent deaths and injuries in childbirth;
- Babies and children to prevent neonatal and infant deaths;
- Patients in need of essential surgery for life-threatening or disabling conditions such as injuries, tumors, hernias, obstetric fistulas, burns, infections, and birth deformities;
- Emergency response for those injured in natural disasters and conflicts.



There are many patients still waiting for help so please give what you can. THANK YOU

To donate online visit www.safe4all.org.uk

Or scan the QR code to donate

Cheques payable to **Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide** may be sent to White Lyon House, Marden, Kent, TN12 9DR, UK

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