

La Paz Training Center - WGO Info Package

Name: La Paz WGO/JICA Training Center

Location: La Paz, Bolivia

Center Director: Dr. Guido Villa-Gomez

Introduction:

The Bolivian-Japanese Gastroenterology Institute (IGBJ) established the WGO Training Center with the mission to carry out yearly courses designed to complement and improve specialists' training in gastroenterology, as acquired in their home countries. The course program is defined in conjunction by the WGO Education and Training Committee, the Bolivian Society of Gastroenterology (SBG) and the IGBJ, according to regional needs in training and an ethical approach to patient care.



The academic program includes basic sciences relevant to gastroenterology, as well as the latest concepts of gastrointestinal disease, with emphasis in diagnosis and treatment of digestive diseases, given through formal lectures and interactive seminars.

Practical instruction in endoscopy, radiology, echography, echoendoscopy, TAC, motility studies etc. are provided through interactive programs, as well as live patient demonstrations.

Aims / Goals:

A) Main Objective:

To promote the highest standards for the development of the Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy in Latin American countries.

B) Specific Objectives:

- To upgrade, deepen and/or acquire knowledge about the specialty with its base in programs fundamentally directed to young specialists.
- To develop a curriculum for training in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy, appropriate to the local and regional necessities of medical care, by means of the use of innovative instruments of education and medicine, based on evidence, and sustained in ethics and scientific advances.
- To establish programs of training that allow interaction in each training process.
- To promote guidelines for better practice in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy.

- To stimulate a favourable atmosphere for appropriate relationship among trainees, national and foreign experts.

Facilities:

The training center is located in the Bolivian-Japanese Gastroenterology Institute in La Paz, which is situated in a University General Hospital. The following department units are located in the hospital:

- Department of Gastroenterology
 - Outpatient Clinic
 - Inpatient Clinic
 - Endoscopy Unit; diagnostic and therapeutic
 - EUS Unit
 - Motility Unit
 - Radiology and TAC
 - Ultrasonography
- Department of Surgical Gastroenterology
- ICU
- Clinical Laboratory
- Pathology Laboratory



Teaching Facilities:

- A) For International Course of Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy (march every year), 35 trainees.
- B) For "Hands on" training in therapeutic endoscopy: 4 trainees, separated in two groups of five months each.
- Number of courses which could held per year, given that proper funding were available:
 - A) One International Course of Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy.
 - B) One "Hands on" training course in Therapeutic Endoscopy, divided in two periods.
- Months in which courses could be organized:
 - A) March every year.
 - B) From February to July and from July to December.
- Number of trainees / faculty for which accommodations are available:
 - A) Twenty (scholarship)
 - B) Four (scholarship)



Faculty and Staff:

There are currently 9 Endoscopists performing procedures at the Center.

- IGBJ Director – Modesto Valle, MD
- LP TC Director – Guido Villa-Gómez, MD
- Oscar Calderón, MD
- Javier Pabón, MD
- Jose Luis Laserna, MD
- Virginia Berdeja
- Luís Uría, MD
- Rafael Ortuño, MD
- James Koller, MD
- Ernesto Loza, MD
- Blanca Careaga, MD
- Amparo Rejas, MD
- Nicolás Mitru, MD
- Modesto Valle, MD
- Miora Ibarguen, MD
- Javier Peres, MD
- Gustavo Vidales, MD
- Ariel Tapia

Areas of Training:

- Endoscopy
- Therapeutic Endoscopy
- Radiology
- Echography
- Echoendoscopy
- Motility studies

Courses Offered:

International Course on Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy –The course takes place annually in March and can accommodate 34 trainees. Hotel accommodations are available for foreign trainees as well as those Bolivian trainees coming from outside of La Paz.

Dates: March 9 – 23, 2009



Training in Therapeutic Endoscopy – 5 months
2 trainees per training period. Course curriculum includes hands-on training in the following areas:

- GI Bleeding Treatment
- Endoscopic Dilation Procedures

- Endoscopic Stents
- Endoscopic Gastrostomy
- Polypectomies EMR, ESD
- Chromoscopy, NBI
- ERCP and Associated Therapeutic Procedures
- EUS

Dates: two annual training periods

- February to July
- July to December

Trainee Requirements and Application Process:

The 2 week course is offered to gastroenterologists from the South American region, up to 45 years of age. International nomination through National Societies of Gastroenterology in Latin America and via the website (<http://www.lapaztrainingcenter.org/>).

Applicants to the individual 5 month training program must have previous training in diagnostic endoscopy.

Certifications:

Certificate details the training time in hours and indicates the partnership between the Bolivian Institute, La Paz Training Center, WGO and JICA.

Further Academic Activities:

- International Course on Innovations and New Trends in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy – Annual three day course held during the annual 2 week training course. Open registration – 200 attendees

Endorsements:

The La Paz Training Center has been endorsed by

- the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO)
- the Bolivian Society of Gastroenterology (SBG)
- the Bolivian-Japanese Institute of Gastroenterology (IGBJ)
- the Ministry of Health of Bolivia

Funding / Sponsorship:

Funding and/or sponsorship is currently received from the following sources:

- World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO)
- Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

- the Bolivian-Japanese Institute of Gastroenterology (IGBJ)
- Canadian Gastroenterology Association (CGA)
- Sociedad Espanola de Gastroenterologia (AEG)
- American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE)
- Olympus Japan and Latin America

Further Information

The La Paz Center has an agreement with Bolivian Customs. All medical equipment and/or pharmaceuticals for use in La Paz courses and addressed to the Institute will not be subject to taxation.

Philanthropic Endeavors:

Program of Projection in Health to the Community

The program takes place annually in Copacabana over a period of 2 days during the annual 2-week training course, with the participation of all trainees and numerous Professors.

Copacabana is a small and picturesque town on the shores of Titicaca Lake, 3 hours from La Paz, with a predominant Indian Aymara population and descendents of Inca Culture.



In Copacabana Hospital, medical activities are offered free of any charge: outpatient consultation, ultrasonography and endoscopies, and laparoscopic surgery. Three hundred and nineteen patients benefited from the program in 2008.

Site-Seeing Experiences

There are beautiful sites in and around La Paz, including

- The Presidential Palace
- The Cathedral
- Casa de Pedro Domingo Murillo
- Museo Nacional Arqueologia
- Museo de Etnografia y Folklore
- Museo Nacional de Arte
- Valle de la Luna
- Tiahuanaco
- Lake Titikaka
- Copacabana

Training Center Needs:

- Enteroscope
- Endoscopic Capsule
- Endoscopic Tower Exera180 w/ upper, lower and duodenscope
- Impedance pHmetry equipment.

La Paz Training Center Scholarship Amount:

Please contact the WGO Executive Secretariat for further details:

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