# SETTING UP AN ENDOSCOPY UNIT IN NORTHERN MALAWI

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### Introduction

- Malawi is a low resource country with a population of 16 million
- It has a high incidence of schistosomiasis induced variceal bleeding and oesophageal malignancy (SCC)
- Endoscopic equipment and skills to perform variceal band ligation (VBL) & oesophageal stent insertion would be of great benefit
- Development of an Endoscopy service at the four Central Hospitals in Malawi has been identified by clinicians and managers as a clinical priority

#### **Methods**

- Four on-site training visits by a UK endoscopist and nurse trainers were planned
- Endoscopic equipment was donated from Glasgow & Clyde Health Board and shipped out by Glasgow City Council
- Attendance by staff at regional training courses was planned
- Adapted DOPS, GRS and audits were undertaken at MCH

#### **Results III**

- Four separate weeks of on-site training were undertaken
- Attendance of MCH staff at five regional training courses (at QECH Blantyre)
- 20 DOPS on local staff undertaken revealing improved endoscopic VBL skills & introduction to stenting
- Improved GRS at MCH for consent, monitoring, reporting & audit
- Nine month prospective audit of all endoscopies at MCH revealed in 28% patients, varices requiring VBL or upper GI cancer were identified



On-site endoscopic training at MCH 2013

#### Aim

 To set up an endoscopy unit at Mzuzu Central Hospital (MCH), the main hospital in the northern region of Malawi

### Results I

Annual number of endoscopies performed at MCH

400

300

200

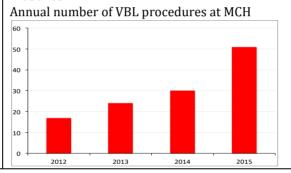
2012

2013

2014

2015

## **Results II**



## Conclusions

- A functioning endoscopy unit has been set-up at MCH with training provided to several local endoscopists and nurses
- Further therapeutic endoscopy training and equipment is required to make the unit sustainable



MCH Endoscopy team 2015

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