



**EMPACT Northwest/Port Au Prince Medic One  
Emergency Medical Technician Class 2  
2012**

*"An Ayisyen Rezo Medikal Consortium Project"*

**"Field Notes: A Course Update"**

Prepared by Armadeus Davidson, EMT-P, HCA-F  
Executive Director, EMPACT Northwest

In September of 2011, EMPACT Northwest graduated Haiti's first US standard Emergency Medical Technician Basic level providers. In 2012, EMPACT and other organizations dedicated to Haitian comprehensive Emergency Medical Services formed a working consortium Rezo Medikal Ayisyen (R.M.A.).

April 2012, EMPACT NW organized and is hosting the second EMT class at the EMPACT Haiti House. The focus of this course is utilization of current Haitian EMT's from the previous EMPACT/PAPMO course, as well as EMT's from the Haitian Organization Gwoup Ayisyen pou Ijans (G.A.I.). GAI is an all Haitian organization established following the 2010 Earthquake. GAI continues to receive support from the EMS community of New York State, including FDNY EMS via the Banshee/Alliance01 Organization.

The goal of the EMPACT NW/PAPMO program is not only to educate additional EMT's for the city of Port Au Prince, but also to promote and educate Haitian EMT instructors. As the Haitian EMS capacity grows, the need for experienced and educated EMS providers will also grow. All R.M.A. consortium members are committed to producing an effective, sustainable all-Haitian EMS system. Education is the first step.

R.M.A. Consortium is currently working with the above partnerships and in collaboration with the Haitian Ministry of Health (MSPP), Haitian National Police, various city hospitals, and seeking partnerships with the newly established 116 Haitian Ambulance communication center.

Below are photos and notes from the field as this year's first EMT course progresses.



Haiti's first graduating class of EMT's 2010, these EMT's are now employed at various port Au Prince hospital's and some learning to become EMT-B Master Instructors this year.

April 5, 2012

Hello project partners!

I am happy to report that our school is going very well. The students are all active and eager learners. We have most of our logistical issues figured out. The students have completed Week 1, in which they learned about:

Being an EMT

Performing a patient exam and assessing vital signs

Anatomy & Physiology

Shock

Moving and lifting patients

They have been learning many practical skills as well as medical knowledge. On Wednesday they spent time at various clinics and hospital locations - JP1, JP2, and Medishare - to practice their patient exam and vital signs assessment skills. Those clinical visits were all productive and successful as well.

Tomorrow I leave the country but I will still be overseeing the course. I was sorry to leave the students, as they have been fantastic, but I am planning to return for graduation.

Thanks again for your participation. I think this is a great class. These students and your organizations will really benefit from this training.

Eric Adman,  
EMPACT/PAPMO  
EMT Program Division Manager





April 10, 2012

Friends,

Hello all from Port Au Prince. We all owe Eric Adman very loud round of applause for laying down such a strong base. The 29 students are wonderful and attentive, as well as highly skilled in particular areas that are a pre-requisite for aspiring EMTs. Before Eric left he and the Haiti EMPACT staff turned over an ever evolving and highly functional EMS program that most importantly is being taught 85% in French and Creole.

Haitian EMT Instructors Gerard Prevot, Pierre Duckens, and Claudel Gedeon are dynamic and each day translate more EMT power points into French prior to class. Our roles as American instructors are largely to back up our Haitian counterparts, supply a body of medical experience from the field, and supervise practical skill drilling. This modality allows them to gain great experience and allows us to provide supplemental data while largely letting them teach. A very important aspect for us remember is that most of the 29 students have been exposed to many BLS principles as CFR instructors, medical transporters- interpreters, oxygen techs as well as volunteer fire fighters.



RN Dave York and EMT Walter Adler have been thoroughly briefed by EMT-P Eric Adman prior to turn over, although administrative duties are both intuitive and limited. Not only do EMPACT Haiti organizers have the compound running smoothly, but the overall the training blue print for this deployment is both flexible to change and accommodating to local conditions, IE Haitian unpredictabilities. Which speaks volumes to backend planning carried out by EMPACT Northwest and other allies.

Classes being at roughly 0900 each day and run to 1700 with a one hour lunch break, and liberal use of ten to fifteen minute breaks. Food is delicious. Transport as Eric Adman has identified is logistically

difficult, as has been said public tap tap and moto based transport is unpredictable, road conditions due to the rains (and neglect) are poor. Many students do in fact travel 2 ½ hours and it is unclear what we can do to aid this situation except lobbying agencies to give more complete transports or subsidize a larger percentage of the ride, however no students are excessively late and they are Haitians so they are of course very tough and adaptive.

Today we had a visit from William Black and a small delegation from St. John's Ambulance running the FAITH initiative to train 6,000 Haitian police as CFRs. So far they have trained 2,000. Mr. Black and his delegates seemed very impressed with the class and pledged to supply us with CFR Mannequins and first aid kits to each student.

We have begun patient assessment medical and trauma with built in practical's. Tomorrow they go on clinical and can get a chance to try out their new assessment skills. We will keep you all updated.

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Group02 Staff:

EMT Walter Adler  
Delegate  
Banshee Association





April 10, 2012

Eric ,

I am now on leave in North Carolina till April 29 and before I left Haiti, I stop by to visit the EMT class that was being taught by Walter Adler. I was impressed by the professionalism of Walter and the whole class. You could tell that the students were really into the course and wanting to learn. My HNP students have only good comments about the training and the SJA-HNP FAITH Program donated 10 adult manikins and 35 student 1st aid training packs to the class.

Keep up the great work and again thank EMPACT and the Instructors for the support of an EMT/EMS in HAITI.

Best Regards,  
William Black  
SJA-FAITH Program Manager  
St John Ambulance Canada



April 14, 2012

Friends,

"So it seemed like a short but highly productive deployment. Yesterday afternoon we finished the cardiology lecture section taught by Instructor Gideon and administered a 43 question written exam on PT assessment and airway. The first rather obvious thing about this test was that it was not multiple choice (like those given to GAI and American EMS), the second was that it was graded with a liberal curve, assigning up to 7 extra points for punctual and flawless attendance, outstanding clinicals, and "non-collaborative test taking".

"It was pleasure to work with EMT Instructors Gerard, Pierre, Claudel, and Dave York. I wish the deployment had been longer. I think the EMPACT Haiti staff are great to work with, and the students will

make great EMTs. Increasingly I feel that our two years of efforts for EMS in Haiti are beginning to bear serious fruit.”

“If we remain united, if we remain systematic, organized and ever attentive to the leadership of the Haitian people; then I do believe that the efforts of the RMA Alliance will result in a modern EMS system in the nation of Haiti, controlled and operated by the Haitian people.”

“Brothers and sisters, pray for the safety of the incoming crews and our brave students. Wish us luck, and from East Coast to West Coast, shore to shore, lets keep on grinding towards victory. EMS as a reality in Haiti.”

EMT Walter Adler  
Delegate  
Banshee Association

