



# 2018 Panna, India

## Trip Report

OUR STORY: BY CHERYL PECK

### Encore: District Hospital Panna January 21 - 25, 2018

In January, 2016, Operation Medical conducted its first Surgical Mission Camp at District Hospital Panna. The results were so successful that Operation Medical was invited to return for another camp.



### Waiting

#### The Place:

District Hospital Panna is located in Panna, Madhya Pradesh, India. Madhya Pradesh, a large state in central India, retains landmarks from eras throughout Indian history. Begun in the 10th century, its Hindu and Jain temples at

Khajuraho are renowned for their carvings, most prominently Kandariya Mahadeva, a temple with more than 800 sculptures. Traveling to Panna, one generally flies into Khajuraho where in the past year they have opened a beautiful modern airport. The often-hair-raising ride to Panna takes you through narrow and winding roads through the Kanha Tiger preserve, an Indian National Park. Arriving in Panna, one finds them self in a rural setting of rolling meadows dotted with evergreen trees, rocks, hills and forests.

Legend says that Panna was once the resting place of Pandavas. It is also the area where princes used to hunt. The diamond mines in Panna are the largest diamond producing mines in India and all diamond mines are managed under the Diamond Mining Project of National Mineral Development Corporation of the Government of India.



Panna Team - Group Photo



Welcome Blessing

## The Story:

In 2016, many of the volunteers fought the travel challenges of the "Blizzard of 2016." Fortunately, 2018 brought mild weather, but that did not detract from the long journey, taking many of the team well over 39 hours from home to the Hotel Shanvi Landmark which would become the home-away-from-home for our 22 volunteers for the week. As is custom in this part of the world the welcome and greetings afforded to the team were humbling. Upon arrival at Khajuraho airport, the team was met with leis made from beautiful marigolds.

Once loaded up with all the gear, the procession to the hotel ensued. Upon arrival, the entire staff of the hotel as well as hospital officials greeted the group with more flowered leis, rose petals and many smiles and blessings.



## Arrival at the Hotel

Once hotel rooms were assigned, the team headed right to the hospital to get the lay of the land and start the process of unpacking and organizing supplies to be able to begin surgeries on Sunday morning. The items left in Valsad, India had arrived at the hospital, but the baggage brought by participants had to be transported to Panna by truck and would not arrive until Sunday morning.



## Bags, Bags and More Bags



## Organized Chaos

It was a quick evening with a meal at the hotel and everyone turned in for a fast sleep!



## Anesthesia Supplies head to OR



## The Line Up

## CASES BY GENDER

Female 55  
Male 108

The week sped by with mornings starting at 7:00am in the very chilly dawn of the day with an outdoor hot breakfast prepared by the hotel and then we were off to the hospital by 7:30 to start the day.



## The Day Begins

The team worked together as if they had been doing this all their lives in this very place. No obstacle was too tall or wide and the teamwork was astounding.



## Portable Ultrasound



## Father Comforting his Son in PACU



## Compassionate Care - PACU

And, with the blink of an eye, it was Friday and Panna 2018 surgical camp was over.

This camp is over, but the lasting effect of our presence will hopefully last for many years to come. It's time for these volunteers to go home to their families and loved ones and reflect on the week. The staff at the hotel, hospital and our hosts/sponsors were the best.

Operation Medical hopes to return to our Panna family in the coming years.



Over the course of 5 days, the group was able to perform 169 surgical procedures and over 100 dental procedures. The team used their skills to help patients, their families, co-volunteers and local hospital staff.

Volunteers continue to report that the gift of giving is returned many times over being blessed by the experience.

As always, there are so many more people to help, so many needy eyes looking at us when we leave the hospital on the final day, many hands to hearts in thanks and tears of gratefulness.

## PATIENT AGES

7 months  
to 77 years

## CASES BY TYPE

Anal Sphincterotomy	Excision & Closure of Mengomyelocele	Ovarian Cystectomy
Appendectomy	Excision of Mass	Parotidectomy
Burn Scar Release	Fistulotomy	Reconstruction Right Ear, Excision Left Preauricular tag
Cholecystectomy	Hemorrhoidectomy	Release Burn Contracture
Circumcision	Hernia Repair	Repair Earlobe
C-Section - Primary	Hydrocele Repair	Revision Scar
Cystocele Repair	Hysterectomy - Vaginal	Revision Syndactyly
EUA, No abnormality	Orchiectomy, Right	Tonsillectomy

## THE TEAM

Ancillary	Anesthesia	Dentist	Surgeons
Brigid Grode	Dr. Dan Farber	Dr. Dineshkumar Bhavsar	Dr. Adnan Alseidi
George Grode	Sue Miller, CRNA		Dr. Kenneth R. Arthur
Krishna S. Iyer	Dr. Mukul Parikh	Nurses	Dr. Clare French
KD Patel	Dr. Neelima Parikh	Ann Farber, ARNP	Dr. Parul Krishnamurthy Iyer
Cheryl A. Peck	Dr. Theresa Northern	Bonnie Peffer, RN	Dr. D. Marc Northern
Aditi Sanghavi	Brigitte Shelton, Cert. AT		Dr. Bipinchandra Patel
			Dr. Justin Rosenberger

Operation Medical is thankful to all the participants who are welcome to join in again for another camp. Please check our website on how you too can help provide global healthcare and get involved.

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