



*Thanks
To You*

OPERATION MEDICAL NEWSLETTER

Providing Global Healthcare

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My wife, Cheryl often shows me photos and videos that come up on Facebook that revisit what was happening or what we were doing one, two, five or however many years ago. Not surprisingly, most of the ones that we've seen in the past week or so have been from prior mission trips, as mid to late January has generally been our timeframe for travel to India. It's great to see the faces of colleagues and friends from these prior outreaches and it brings back many pleasant memories. However, it also seems very strange to not be in the process of packing and preparing, let alone traveling, for a new mission trip. This newsletter edition takes a look back on some of those memories and remembering what we do.

I know I am eager to get back to doing what Operation Medical was designed to do and many of our Op Med "teammates" feel the same. Obviously, COVID has been an unpredictable disease and we still do not know when it will be safe to resume missions for both our volunteers and our patients, but I already look forward to future Facebook memories of trips still to come! We will keep you updated on Op Med's plans and in the meantime we hope you stay healthy and enjoy a happy new year!

Ken Arthur MD

Ken Arthur, MD



HISTORY

A group of enthusiastic and eager volunteers who wanted to alleviate the surgical needs of the world met in the summer of 2013. The result – Operation Medical was born. In July of 2018, Operation Medical celebrated its five-year anniversary milestone.

To date our organization has touched the lives of over 2,500 medically underserved. Since our inception, there have been 15 successful missions on three continents performing over 1,600 surgical procedures with no major complications.

Medical Mission Locations to date:

- Pierre Payen, Haiti 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018
- Valsad, India 2014, 2017, 2019, 2020
- Malawi, Africa 2014
- Rwanda, Africa 2018
- Mehsana, India 2015
- Panna, India 2016, 2018
- Bharatpur, Nepal, 2017

Non-Surgical Services

- Breast Cancer screening mammography education
- Breast cancer clinic – Tamoxifen Study
- In-service education for clinical staff
- Dental Clinics, diagnostic screenings and more

ABOUT

Operation Medical is a not-for-profit organization comprised of volunteers who are trained medical professionals and other individuals committed to promoting and providing high quality medical care and education to communities that do not have adequate access to medical care.

The volunteers who are part of our team have provided charitable healthcare across the globe for over 46 years and in more than 50 locations.

Vision: To serve as a leading organization in Central Pennsylvania for supporting a strong and varied network of health care providers and other individuals dedicated to providing medical care and supplies to individuals for whom such care is problematic.

PROCEDURE TYPES

General Surgery

Endoscopy
Gallbladder removal (Cholecystectomy)
Hernia repair
Hemorrhoidectomy & other anorectal surgery
Hydrocele repair
Laparoscopy
Other abdominal procedures
Skin lesion and tumor excisions
Thyroidectomy

Obstetrics /Gynecology

Adnexal surgery,
(Management of ovarian disorders)
Hysterectomy
Infertility surgery
Management of vaginal & pelvic prolapse
Myomectomy (removal of fibroids)
Urinary incontinence surgery
Retropubic midurethral slings

Plastics

Burn scar release / repair
Cleft lip repair
Deformity corrections
Ear reconstruction
Hand surgery
Nasal surgery including septoplasty
Skin lesion and tumor excisions

SURGERY MISSION CAMP SCHEDULE

Typically, volunteers from Operation Medical arrive on Friday or Saturday preceding the surgery week. The team tours the hospital, identifies a secure supply room, and organizes their supplies, Anesthesia stations, Operating Rooms and Recovery Room (PACU) space. Introductions to local staff are made and a collaborative plan for the week is determined. Prospective patients are screened for surgery prior to and during the surgery camp. Surgeries begin around 7:30am on Sunday morning and continue to mid-day Friday. The team is present each day until the last scheduled patient has been moved from the recovery room.

The Operation Medical team consists of surgeons, anesthesia providers, operating room nurses, recovery room nurses, and ancillary/support staff. The team arrives with most of the medical supplies and pharmaceuticals that are needed throughout the mission.



Help us Provide Global Healthcare

None of our work would be possible without our dedicated volunteers. Operation Medical always needs doctors, nurses, technicians and support volunteers to make each mission trip a success.

Medical supply donations are also extremely crucial to our mission. Operation Medical gratefully accepts donations of medical supplies, equipment and pharmaceuticals from hospitals, nursing homes, doctor's offices, medical suppliers and pharmaceutical companies. We keep the supplies in our warehouse in Harrisburg, PA in preparation for upcoming missions.

Volunteers give of their time and are not compensated for their work. Most overseas camps have an association with local organizations / supporters that willingly and generously provide accommodations and meals for our mission participants. This is a huge help as it allows our professionals to focus on providing the medical attention necessary. Please contact us if you are an overseas organization willing to support our team's stay.

Lastly, conducting medical trips is expensive. Operation Medical must have finances to purchase, store and transport medical supplies, equipment and pharmaceuticals.

Monetary donations can be made in a variety of forms (PayPal, telephone, mail, etc.).



WHAT WE BRING

- A trained team of medical and support volunteers
- Medical supplies, equipment and pharmaceuticals some of which may be donated to the mission location at the end of the camp

WHAT WE NEED

- Local host to assist with trip planning for room/board and local ground transportation
- A hospital which has multiple operating theaters and an adequate number of beds for post-operative care.
- A local medical community interested in working with our team.



SPONSORING HOSPITAL'S ROLE

- Promote / Advertise the surgical camp
- Pre-screen patients prior to Operation Medical's arrival
- Communicate pre-camp with Operation Medical regarding facility, staff, Operating Room equipment available for use at the hospital.
- Provide a secure storage room for Operation Medical to store and access their supplies.
- Provide interpreters (English / Local Dialect) for OR/clinic
- Assign support personnel to work collaboratively with Operation Medical volunteers



WELCOME BOARD MEMBER ADAM WEIKERT



Mr. Weikert works with corporate and institutional clients in Central Pennsylvania to provide payment and treasury management services. He focuses on payment solutions to maximize cash flow while managing fraud and exchange rate risks for his clients.

Adam earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the St. Francis University and MBA from Mount St. Mary's University. He is a Certified Treasury Professional (CTP®) and a member of the Mid-Atlantic Association for Financial Professionals. Adam resides in Harrisburg with his wife and their two daughters. In his spare time, Adam enjoys traveling and fishing.

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DONATE AT:

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HOW TO SHARE | HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

You have received this issue of our newsletter because you shared your email with us at some point in the past. This newsletter aligns with our goal to provide an electronic communication platform which will hold down printing and mailing costs while keeping you informed of our current initiatives, upcoming mission trips and more.

Please consider sharing with friends and family. Know that we will never share your contact information with anyone outside of Operation Medical or any third-party advertiser or organization.

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2. Use your smartphone to scan the QR code here to be taken directly to the contact form



3. Email us at info@operationmedical.org

If you would like to speak with someone, you can reach us at 717-685-9199.

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