

Guatemala 2009

International Eye Institute

Spring 2009

Eye Institute Team Exceeds Expectations

Members of the North Idaho community and others from throughout the United States came together to serve the needy in Guatemala during a mission trip in March. The 31 member team travelled to Nuevo

Progreso to work in the Hospital de la Familia facility providing not just eye care and surgery, but dental care as well. This is the first time a dental team has accompanied the predominantly

northern Idaho team to this facility in Guatemala.

Eye surgery is routinely performed on patients with a variety of eye disorders, but predominantly cataract surgery is done. In this environment, the surgeries typically take longer to perform for many reasons, primarily the advanced state of cataracts and the lack of modern equipment.

(continued on page 2)



Dr. Alison Granier does a postoperative check on one of her surgical patients.

North Idaho Dentist Joins the Team

Dr. Vince Rossi led the dental charge and saw approximately 160 patients over the course of 6 days. He performed work on

sixty seriously diseased dental patients. Not knowing what to expect only added to the anticipation for the

dental team. They met with the team coordinator in advance of the trip and had to plan for every possible

Thanks to the Following Donors for our March Mission Trip:

Alcon Medical Missions Program

Americares

BD Medical Ophthalmics

Bausch & Lomb Surgical

Bausch & Lomb Medical

Leiters Rx

Alcon Pharmaceuticals

Allergan/AMO

Dr. Michael Bloom

Dr. Cheri Bloom

Dr. Jim Robson

Burkart Dental Supply

Kootenai Health

And Special Thanks to the following people who made our trip easier through their donation of time, talent or extra caring!

**RaNae Case
Denise Buettner
KMC Pharmacy**

Team Exceeds Expectations *(continued from page 1)*

In third world countries, patients may have to wait longer to be treated and may be exposed to more severe living conditions that aggravate the development of cataracts.

But, not all surgical cases are cataract extraction's. Often children with strabismus (crossed eyes) are brought by their families to be corrected. These cases present the challenge of requiring general anesthesia and recovery teams to care for them. Pedia-



Volunteers help to screen vision in patients waiting to see the doctors in the clinic at Hospital de la Familia



The OR team sets up for surgery

tricians, RNs and assistants work to evaluate and treat all anesthesia cases both preoperatively and postoperatively to ensure safe, high quality medical care.

Anesthesia care of patients in underdevel-

oped countries has its own risks and the providers work diligently to be certain that the same level of attention to detail is used



regardless of the environment.

Dental Team *(continued from page 1)*



The team borrowed supplies from area dental practices and suppliers. Basic supplies included cases of toothbrushes that were handed out and were among the supplies obtained for treating a variety of dental ailments. For many patients living in poverty, dental care consists exclusively of extractions as prevention is not an option.



Mike Oswald, CRNA watches Dr. Vince Rossi and Connie Burkhart working in the Dental Clinic

Guatemala Mission Team 2009 - Thanks to the Volunteers Who Make it all Possible!

Many doctors and team volunteers have donated countless hours doing eye surgery and providing medical care. This year was no exception. A team is only as great as it's volunteers, and this year our volunteers were awesome! They included the following:

- ★ Dr. Patrick J. Parden— Team Leader and Ophthalmologist/ Surgeon (Idaho)
- ★ Dr. Justin StormoGipson— Pediatric and Adult Ophthalmology Surgeon (Idaho)
- ★ Dr. Pulin Shah—Corneal Specialist and Ophthalmology Surgeon (Louisiana)
- ★ Dr. Vincent Rossi—Oral and Dental Surgeon (Idaho)
- ★ Dr. Allison Granier— Ophthalmology Resident (California)
- ★ Dr. Maj StormoGipson— Pediatrician (Idaho)
- ★ Dr. Simone Fogarasi— Pediatrician (Louisiana)
- ★ Mike Oswald, CRNA Anesthetist (Idaho)
- ★ Dr. Rupert Chowins, Optometrist (California)
- ★ Mary Sibulsky, RN Team Coordinator (Idaho)
- ★ Marie Bell, RN Pre-op (Idaho)
- ★ Evelyn Hyman, RN Pre-op (California)
- ★ Barb Baker, RN, Surgery (Washington)
- ★ Niki Roberts, RN RecoveryRoom (California)
- ★ Debbie Parkins, COT Cataract Scrub (Idaho)
- ★ Sohheun Chau, COT Cataract Scrub (Louisiana)
- ★ Karen Sines, OR Circulator (Idaho)
- ★ Elisabeth Sibulsky, OR Circulator (Idaho)
- ★ Bonnie Parden, Instrument Tech (Idaho)
- ★ Aaron Howard, Prescott Microsurgical Equipment Technician (Washington)
- ★ Connie Burkhart, Dental Assistant (Idaho)
- « Kathy Teall, COT, Eye Clinic Coordinator (Idaho)
- « Tiffany Lopez, Eye Clinic Assistant (Idaho)
- « Kristin Parden, Patient Care Assistant (Idaho)
- « Bill Bell, Translator/Screening (Idaho)
- « Maryellen Johnson, Screening Volunteer (Washington)
- « Anna Miller, Screening Volunteer (Washington)
- « Jean Johnson, Screening Volunteer (Washington)
- « Natasha Loncar Shah, Screening Volunteer (Louisiana)
- « Sally Paquin, Therapist (Idaho)
- « Kate StormoGipson, Patient Care Assistant (Idaho)

Some of the Mission Team members gather for a photo at the HDLF



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How You Can Help....

Volunteers and mission sponsors are the driving force behind making these trips a possibility. But not everyone can take two weeks from work and travel to a foreign country to be a part of the team. You can help by becoming a part of the sponsoring team! Make a tax deductible donation to

the International Eye institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing vision care and services to impoverished peoples throughout the world.

Call 208-667-2531 or visit us on the web at
www.EYEGIVE.org



This newsletter is made possible by the North Idaho Eye Institute and the International Eye Institute. For more information about what you have seen in this newsletter, you may contact Mary Sibulsky by e-mail at: surgery@NorthIdahoEye.com

