

Operation Smile

Plastic Surgery resident **Dr. Colin White** joined Operation Smile and Operation Rainbow Canada (ORC) in China for 10 days in October. The organizations provide reconstructive cleft-lip and cleft-palate surgery for children in developing countries.

During the visit to Linyi, in Shandong China, Colin and the team screened 84 patients in clinic and completed 100 surgical procedures on 60 patients, including 48 cleft lip and/or palate operations and reconstruction surgery for 12 burn patients.

The young patients and their families often travel days from their homes in order to receive treatment. Without corrective surgery, children born with cleft lip and cleft palate deformities are shunned, ostracized, denied schooling, and eventually succumb to a solitary life lived in the protection of their homes. ORC transforms the life of each child and their family. It offers them new hope, and opens the door to

many opportunities they would have been denied throughout their lives.

As part of each mission, ORC also trains local medical practitioners in state-of-the-art medical techniques, further enhancing the quality of patient care as well as promoting medical self-sufficiency. Vancouver plastic surgeon Dr. Kimit Rai established Operation Rainbow Canada in 1998 and to date has helped nearly 1800 children in Mexico, Lebanon, the Philippines, Cambodia, and India. In addition to the surgical services ORC performs, they also offer an educational program for Canadian plastic surgery residents, pediatric residents, and anesthesiology residents.

贫困“兔唇”患者有望重绽笑容



See the video: http://www.globaltycalgary.com/video/index.html?releasePID=o5atls8yi7l1fo53_govSwvtYerlme13

For more information on Operation Rainbow Canada visit <http://operationrainbowcanada.com>.

Department of Surgery

March 2011

Upcoming Events

May 30-31st: CIHR sponsored Canada-Guyana Research Conference (McMaster)

May 31st: McMaster International Surgery Dinner (University Club)

June 1st: CNIS Structured Hernia Repair Instructor Course (McMaster)

June 3-4th: Bethune Round Table meeting (Montreal) www.cnis.ca/what-we-do/public-engagement-in-canada/bethune-round-table/

BOOK REVIEW: Global Surgery and Public Health: A New Paradigm by Catherine R. deVries and Raymond R. Price



This first textbook on Global Surgery incorporates many of the initiatives of the past decade to illustrate how public health principles can drive improvements in surgical services and address the overwhelming unmet global burden of surgical disease. Volunteer international surgery initiatives have often focused on delivering excellent but expensive care to a limited number of patients, and measured success by the number of operations performed. The authors challenge that model by advocating that the expanding burden of surgical disease can only be treated by making primary surgical care affordable, acceptable, appropriate and accessible universally. This well edited book should be read by surgeons who plan to incorporate a global health focus into their careers. Full review: <http://www.cnis.ca/2011/01/book-review-global-surgery-public-health/>

Send us your international experiences for our next newsletter.

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Research:

The ISD has joined the **Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research** and a nascent McMaster Global Health Research group and hopes to develop more international surgery research collaborations.



CNIS STRUCTURED HERNIA REPAIR INSTRUCTOR'S COURSE: JUNE 1st at McMaster

Objective: "To teach surgeons how to train general physicians in the diagnosis, triage, and surgical management of inguinal hernias safely."

The surgeon will learn and practice the lectures, exercises and hands on simulations that each learner will use when



taking this course.

The course is useful for all surgical teachers who want to improve their operative teaching skills.

REGISTRATION: contact Kathy Wilson kawilso@mcmaster.ca

Partnership: Guyana

A surgical team from **McMaster Children's Hospital** visited Guyana for 3 weeks in November to provide free surgical assessment and care, teach local surgical trainees, and conduct a Trauma Team Training (TTT) course for 20 Guyanese medical officers.

Surgeons **Dr. Karen Bailey, Dr. Luis Braga, Dr. Brian Cameron** and Fellow **Dr. Abdul-**

lah Ali saw over 50 children in consultation and performed 9 major abdominal and urological operations. One young patient's family had been trying to save \$75,000 to take her to the USA for complex bowel surgery that was successfully undertaken by the McMaster team.

Dr. Dave Musson, Director of the McMaster Centre for Simulation Based Learning, and Fellow **Dr. Rob Gowing**, brought a high-fidelity manikin



to teach simulated trauma resuscitation using scenarios developed specifically to reflect the challenges faced by Guyana's resource limitations.

McMaster alumnus **Dr. Bill Harris** joined the TTT course faculty. McMaster surgical resident **Dr. Sara Kalechstein**, Guyanese physician **Dr. Ahilya Pramaul**, and research

assistant **Blair Cameron MSc** produced a training video and conducted a randomized trial comparing two intraosseous needles, used to resuscitate small children in shock when intravenous efforts fail.

The ISD received a **\$25000 CIHR Planning Grant** for a workshop to be held May 30-31st with Guyanese colleagues and McMaster faculty to develop research proposals to teach surgical skills by web-conferencing in Guyana.

Partnership: Haiti

Thoracic surgeon **Dr. John Miller** and staff have negotiated a donation from Olympus America Inc that includes endoscopy equipment and a fiberoptic bronchoscope. The equipment will be used by University Hospital of Port-au-Prince and the **Hospital Universitaire La Paix** in Delmas in order to develop an airway thoracic surgery division in Haiti.

An innovative project that bridges McMaster University's departments of nursing, anaesthesia and surgery is helping Haiti rebuild its fractured health care system following last January's disastrous earthquake. **This inter-professional initiative is being coordinated by McMaster's Global Health Office with the ISD managing a \$20,000 grant from the Canadian-Haiti Academic Projects Scholarship.** The goal is to strengthen one of the most important public reference hospitals in Haiti: Hopital Universitaire La Paix in Port-au-Prince in collaboration with faculties of medicine from Universite 'etat,d'Haiti,



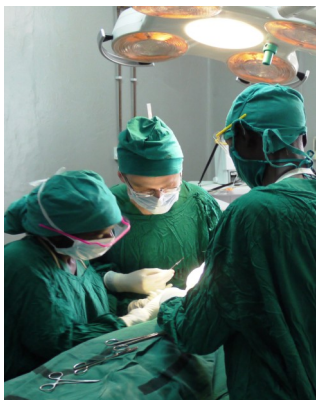
Dr. Carolyn Levis & Dr. Brad Weening operating in Haiti.

and the Universite Quisqueya.

Dr. Brad Petrisor who visited Haiti in October 2010 with **Dr. Carolyn Levis** observed that there is a definite need for orthopaedics to support the Emergency Room. Dr. Petrisor stressed the importance of establishing a collaborative educational environment to help with the training of orthopaedic residents but cautioned that they have identified barriers to providing orthopaedic care within Haiti which will also present challenges to a residency program. Read Dr. Petrisor's full report at <http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/surgery/>

Partnership: Uganda

Dr. Peter Lovrics and **Dr. Brian Cameron** joined the St. Joseph's International Outreach Program (SJIOP) team for a 2 week visit in January to the Kampala - Makerere, Mbarara and Gulu teaching hospitals.



Dr. Peter Lovrics assisting Ugandan surgical residents with a trauma splenectomy".

The SJIOP Uganda connection started 15 years ago, and many of us have met a Ugandan anesthesia or obstetrics resident while they were doing an elective in Hamilton. During this first surgical visit to Uganda, we met alumni of the program, heard how McMaster impacted their lives, and began to learn about some of their challenges. There is no doubt that, after security, education is the key component of development.

At **Gulu University**, 60 km from the Sudanese border in northern Uganda, we saw 55 new doctors graduate and watched the pride they shared with their families. The 20 year civil war ended just 5 years ago, but there is a remarkably optimistic spirit. We met surgical leaders, assisted in operations and

taught surgical residents.

We have been asked to develop a surgical component for the SJIOP partnership, which may include resident exchanges, faculty development and equipment support. **The SJIOP motto is 'working with you, not for you', building a sustainable partnership rather than providing itinerant patient care.** We think we can learn and contribute something in Uganda, with spinoffs for McMaster's own surgical education and research programs. SJIOP: <https://www.sjhcs-gpo.com/Outreach/default.aspx>



New graduate Dr. Godson Senyondo Don in Gulu

Ugandan trip blog: <http://internationaloutreach.wordpress.com/>

Education:



Participants in the "From EBM to the OR" course led by **Julia Pemberton MSc.**, held October 19-20, 2010 at McMaster University, included McMaster Fellows and visitors from the Middle East, Nigeria, and Guyana.

The course objective was to provide an introduction to research methods (e.g. locating and evaluating online articles, etc.) and the use of web-conferencing technology like Elluminate,