



INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN SURGERY

The Society of
International
Humanitarian Surgeons

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Hello from Headquarters

Dear SIHS members and supporters,
Congratulations on being part of one of the fastest growing international groups concerned with saving lives in the developing world by improving surgical care. To date we have nearly 120 member from 23 countries.

Aside from a growing membership, research articles have been published in the past few months, in *Archives of Surgery*, *World Journal of Surgery*, *the Journal of Surgical Education* and the *Scandinavian Journal of Surgery*; and our on-going commitment to Sierra Leone has seen additional members work with the local surgeons to assist patients and train junior doctors.

Two training workshops are being organized in Malawi in June and local surgeons and doctors will be trained in the placement of expandable esophageal stents for inoperable esophageal cancer. In July, SIHS will facilitate a disaster management course at Connaught Hospital in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Our ongoing commitment to assisting local surgeons continues to grow! As many of you know, our work is just beginning and we look forward to your continued involvement and support.

T. Peter Kingham, MD

Adam L. Kushner, MD, MPH



Surgeons OverSeas (SOS) is the flagship program for the Society of International Humanitarian Surgeons

SOS
SURGEONS OVERSEAS

New SIHS Members

Omar Azoui, Batna University Hospital (Algeria)

Susan Brundage, Stanford University (USA)

Adam Fox, University of Pennsylvania (USA)

Claire Grove, Orlando Regional Medical Center (USA)

Andre Ilbawi, University of Washington (USA)

Nicole Jarrett, New York-Presbyterian/Cornell (USA)

Soyoung Lee, Catholic University of Korea (South Korea)

Jeffrey Leow, Monash University (Australia)

James Mezhir, Memorial Sloan Kettering (USA)

Wakisa Mulwafu, Malawi College of Medicine (Malawi)

Jamila Mwidau, Johns Hopkins University, (USA)

Eileen Natuzzi, Scripps Memorial Hospital (USA)

Carlos Emilio Restrepo Rubio, Universidad el Bosque, (Colombia)

Umut Sarpel, New York University (USA)

Kumar Singh, Memorial Sloan Kettering (USA)

Stephen Sullivan, Harvard University, (USA)

Kari Thompson, UC San Diego, (USA)

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For information on becoming a member or recommending a facility please refer to our website :

www.humanitariansurgery.org

Or email:

peter@humanitariansurgery.org



Surgical Opportunities

Facilities interested in surgical assistance include:

Asia:

- Afghanistan: General, Ortho
- Cambodia: General, Ortho
- China: Laparoscopic
- Nepal: Laparoscopic, Ortho
- India: (20 hospitals) General, Ortho, OB/GYN

Africa:

- East Africa: (120 hospitals) Plastics, Urology, Ortho

- Ghana: General, Trauma, Ortho
- Kenya: VVF, Pediatric, Urology, Ortho
- Liberia: General, OB/GYN
- Malawi: (3 hospitals) General, Urology, OB/GYN, Ortho, Neuro
- Nigeria: Endoscopic, Laparoscopic, Urology
- Sierra Leone: General, Ortho
- Tanzania: General, Ortho
- Uganda: General



For more information on surgical facilities and mission opportunities contact:

peter@humanitariansurgery.org

“SURGICAL FACILITY DATABASE” is available:
email peter@humanitariansurgery.org

WHO Global Initiative for Emergency and Essential Surgical Care (GIEESC)

On June 5 and 6, 2009, over 100 surgeons, anesthesiologists, physicians, nurses and global health specialists assembled in Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia for the 3rd WHO Global Initiative for Emergency and Essential Surgical Care (GIEESC) meeting. The Mongolian Ministry of Health and local WHO office hosted the event which was held in the Mongolian Government House. Updates from progress since the previous GIEESC meeting in 2007 highlighted how the IMEESC tool kit is being implemented and progress in documenting the surgical capacity of various low and middle income counties.

In attendance were SIHS members: **Sandro Con-
tini, Lundeg Gandbold, Richard Gosselin,
Adam Kushner, Ray Price, Peter Reemst,
and David Spiegel.**

Recommendations and a final report of the proceeding will soon be available on the GIEESC website at www.who.int/surgery





Journal Club

Surgery and Refugee Populations

AL Kushner, RS Groen, TP Kingham, Scand J Surg, 98: 18-24, 2009

Although infectious diseases, malnutrition and diarrhea account for the vast majority of deaths in many crisis situations, many individuals also suffer from traumatic injuries and other surgically treatable conditions. Understanding the determinants involved in surgical interventions is facilitated by defining baseline, emergent and chronic phases for refugees and internally displaced populations. International aid organizations often expend vast resources on surgical interventions. More detailed assessments and further study may help provide insight into optimizing the success and minimizing the cost of such interventions. This article is a review of the surgical and disaster literature and defines issues for further study.

<http://www.fimnet.fi/sjs/articles/SJS12009-18.pdf>

Congratulations

We wish to congratulate **Dr. Glen Geelhoed**, for winning the 2009 American College of Surgeons/Pfizer Volunteerism and Humanitarian: International Award.

“Dr. Geelhoed is developing an international health center and international medical education program as the George Washington University Professor of International Medicine. Each year, he leads six to eight surgical missions with teams of physicians, residents and medical students that provide clinical care and education around the world.”

The award will officially be presented at the Board of Governors' black tie dinner gala on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 and Dr. Geelhoed will speak as part of a plenary session: Humanitarian Outreach at Home and Abroad: Lessons from the 2009 ACS/Pfizer Volunteerism and Humanitarian Award Winners to be held on Monday October 12, 2009 from 9:45 am —1:00 pm at the 95th Annual ACS Clinical Congress to be held in Chicago, IL. More information is available through the ACS website at www.facs.org or the Operation Giving Back website at www.operationgivingback.org



Glen Geelhoed

Glen Geelhoed continues his multiple surgical mission throughout the world. He has posted photos of his latest missions online. Photos are available [here](http://www.yorkphoto.com/share/p=403211242939534073/l=899501002/g=34395895/cobrandOid=1002/otsc=SYE/otsi=SALB).

<http://www.yorkphoto.com/share/p=403211242939534073/l=899501002/g=34395895/cobrandOid=1002/otsc=SYE/otsi=SALB>

BoSD: Burden of Surgical Disease Working Group

The 2nd annual meeting of the Global Burden of Surgical Disease Working Group was held May 20-22 in Chicago, IL at the headquarters of the American College of Surgeons. This meeting was sponsored by Operation Giving Back, the volunteerism arm of the American College of Surgeons. Topics included surgical data collection, surgical prioritization, the role of NGO's in global surgical delivery, and the global anesthesia crisis. Several small group sessions were used to update the group on last years work and to plan for new projects. These sessions were titled *global anesthesia*, *assessing burden of surgical and obstetrical disease*, *NGO surgical delivery*, and *academic partnerships for improved surgical delivery*. SIHS members present at the meeting included **Peter Kingham, Kathleen Casey, Fiemu Nwariaku, Sherrie Wren, Susan Brundage, David Spiegel, Anthea Powell, Richard Gosselin, and Serene Perkins**. An upcoming issue of the World Journal of Surgery will publish the proceedings from this meeting.

**The Society of International
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www.humanitariansurgery.org

For additional information

E-mail:

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The Society of International Humanitarian Surgeons (SIHS) saves lives in developing countries by improving surgical care. SIHS achieves this through collaborative training, funding, and research initiatives.

Downloadable Surgery Texts:

Primary Surgery: Volume One - Non-Trauma

(www.meb.uni-bonn.de/dtc/primsurg/index.html)

Primary Surgery: Volume Two - Trauma

(www.primary-surgery.org/ps/vol2/html/index.html)

WHO: Surgical Care at the District Hospital

(www.who.int/surgery/publications/scdh_manual/en/index.html)

Manual of Surgery

(www.gutenberg.org/files/17921/17921-h/17921-h.htm)

ICRC: Surgery for Victims of War

(www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/html/p0446)

Surgery and Healing in the Developing World

(<http://www.landesbioscience.com/handbooks/Geelhoed.pdf>)

Global-HEALTH Texts

(<http://www.global-help.org/>)

Combined IFRS/ARSI Conference: November 6-8, 2009

"Reaching the Unreached"

Combined
3rd International Conference of
International Federation of Rural Surgeons (IFRS)
&
17th Annual Conference of
Association of Rural Surgeons of India (ARSI)
6th, 7th, 8th November, 2009

Nanesh PG Memorial Hospital,
Pipalia Kalan, District Pali, Rajasthan, INDIA

Conference Secretariate

President: Dr. Swarn Arora | Organizing Secretary: Dr. Ram Prabhoo

Address: 403/C, Guru Krupa, Samarth Nagar,
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+ 91 9820053583 (Dr. Ram Prabhoo)
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Email : ifrs.arsi.con2009@gmail.com

Dear Colleagues and friends,

The Association of Rural Surgeons of India was formed in 1992 with the main objective of delivering healthcare to needy rural poor, hence "reaching the unreached". Primary health centers conceived after the independence, as a pillar of the system providing medical care in the countryside, have become totally defunct in majority of the places.

The supreme court recently remarked (comprising CJI K.G. Balakrishnan, Justice Ashok Bhan & P.S. Athsivan) " in rural areas, there are no doctors, PHCs are functioning only on paper. There are no facilities at the PHCs.". It is heartening to learn that some members of ARSI have made inroads into rural health care and have succeeded in delivering quality health care at affordable cost to rural poor. Even in far flung places, difficult to reach tribal areas, our members have set up health centers with a consideration to total approach towards health - preventive, curative and even advising for better agriculture and overall improvement in living conditions.

Our friends from other developing countries, face similar problems hence this year's combined meeting of the 17th Annual Conference of ARSI and the 3rd IFRS (International Federation of Rural Surgeons). IFRS is a federation of rural surgeons' associations of different countries. If any country not having an association of rural surgeons and yet the surgeons of that country wish to participate in the activities of IFRS, they may do so as associate members of IFRS. The primary aim of the IFRS is to promote good, affordable and safe rural health care in each country by sharing knowledge. It aims to encourage exchange of information by networking, and by participation in meetings and conferences in other countries. We hope to work together to achieve the goal in taking us nearer to the Alma Ata declaration "Health for all".

The combined IFRS/ARSI meeting will be held in the historic state of Rajasthan in true rural surroundings at Pali District, an appropriate venue for rural surgeons. We intend to keep the tradition of scientific deliberations high, opportunity to renew friendships, make new ones and exchange our experiences in a memorable setting. Such an exchange will benefit both our societies.

I assure you of an unforgettable, memorable experience full of academic, cultural and social activities. A live operative session on day one followed by enriching symposia and interactive sessions. Your evenings will be filled with cultural activities with true rural Indian spirit.

I humbly request you to not only participate yourself in the Combined IFRS ARSI Meeting, but to persuade by emotionally bribing your colleagues, members and non members of the association from all corners of the world to come in large numbers. It will be an experience that you will not forget, a chance you will not like to miss!

Dr. Swarn Arora
President Organising Committee