



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS (RACS)
TEAM VISIT

BACAU AND DILI, TIMOR LESTE

November 15 - 23, 2013

Team Leader's Report

Mr. Yugesh Caplash
Plastic Surgeon

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The visit started in the customary fashion.

We flew to Darwin after a very busy week of teaching and operating to relax by the pool and enjoy a half day off.



An early start next day saw us in Dili by 7 am. We were joined by Dr Raakhi Mistry who is a junior registrar at the RAH. A quick breakfast and were in Dili hospital to see a few patients in the ward.

Child at clinic in Dili

Most distressing was a 7 year old boy with severe neck contracture graft screaming in agony with the dressing change. His chin was almost touching his chest and multiple raw areas on his body were only partially covered with a skin. He needed surgery. Investigations were planned which could be reviewed while we went to Baucau and surgery was planned for our return to Dili hospital.



Pre op burn contracture

OSSAA TEAM

Anaesthetist
Surgeon
Assistant Surgeon
Theatre RN

Pat Moran
Yugesh Caplash
Raakhi Mistry
Liz Mazzei

BACAU HOSPITAL TEAM

Nurse Anaesthetists

Enfermeiru Anesthetista
Valerio C B
Francisco A C (Cisco)
Alcino T Gaio
Ancelmo Alves
Antonio Boss-(holidays 2013)

Instrument Nurses

Enfermeiru instrumentista
John M Jesus
Mateus d Costa
Regina J
Battista Antonio
Thomas



The team

The journey to Baucau was uneventful until we took the wrong way through a very badly pot holed section of road. Fortunately we got back to the correct road which has undergone repairs and was a much more comfortable drive.



It was a busy out-patients clinic at the hospital and we were able to organise our lists for the week.



Assistant Surgeon Raakhi Mistry

The patient mix consisted of cleft lips and palates, a cancer of the cheek, thyroglossal fistula, post burn contractures, amniotic bands, etc. All operations went off well. The food at Vittoria restaurant was cheap, fresh and good and our tummies stayed trouble free during the visit, not to forget Tiger beer was a good cleanser at the end of the day.



Another happy customer



A grateful and happy father with child in Baucau

We drove back a day early on Thursday to operate on the burn child at Dili hospital. The operation went well and we were happy at the end, the neck released completely and all the raw areas were covered.



Yugesh Caplash in action on the Dili burns contracture

A visit to the local museum showing the freedom struggle and fight for independence completed our visit to Timor Leste.

The only disappointment was that Dr Jao Xemenes could not be with us due to family commitments.

Pat Moran continued to teach the local male anaesthetic nurses and was delighted with their progress. His anaesthesia was flawless.



A happy mum with Pat Moran



Local anaesthetic nurse Alcino with patient in recovery

Liz Mazzei had some technical difficulties, with the autoclave melting some of our trays, but she soldiered on and efficiently managed the instruments so surgery was not interrupted.

Rakhi Mistri worked well within the team and learnt a lot (hopefully) about surgical approaches and managing patients with limited resources. Well done team.

ANAESTHETIST'S REPORT

Theatres air con just ok
Anaesthetic machine adequate-no change
Ventilator Ulco EV500 needs repair or replacement
Monitor SaO2 ECG NIBP good
EtCO2 with datex added 2013
Laryngoscopes ok
Need some organisation and maintenance
Halothane supplied
Oxygen supplied
Suction ok
All other drugs taken but there is some supply available if required e.g. Fentanyl.

L/M mostly available but take one of each size.
ETT RAE mostly available but take one of each size you need.
All masks and guedels ok/

Syringes 2, 5, 10x 50, 20x20
Cannulae 24g, 22g, 20g all available
IV fluids available
Giving sets available but I add x30 Baxter interlink extension sets and take x100 green interlink cannulae to limit needle use
25g, 23g needles available
Alcohol spirit available for topical cleaning.

Local nurse anaesthetists helpful and useful and got better as went through week.

Recovery ok with the help of the nurse anaesthetists, oximetry, oxygen and suction available.

All in all a busy effective safe and enjoyable visit. Finished by midday Thursday in Baucau.

DILI Fri morning to release a neck contracture and graft burns for a 17kg 7yr old boy
I was grateful to receive help from Dili RACS anaesthetist, Dr Eric Vreede with this case.

We then combined for a neurosurgical case with another small boy who had a depressed skull fracture after falling from a mango tree.

There was no local ETCO2 monitoring available
Nurse anaesthetist was good.
Recovery ok.

THEATRE NURSE'S REPORT

Liz Mazzei AM provided the following statistics:

Consultations:

Baucau – 37

Dili – 4

Operations:

Dili – 1 burn contracture

Baucau – 24

Of these 24, the majority (namely 16) were for cleft lip/palate – a variety of lesions were also fixed.



Baby recovering after a successful op