



# OSSAA

OVERSEAS SPECIALIST SURGICAL ASSOCIATION OF  
AUSTRALIA

## **O.S.S.A.A. E.N.T. TEAM VISIT - CANCAR NOVEMBER 27th – DECEMBER 3rd 2010**

### **TEAM MEMBERS**

**MR. SUREN KRISHNAN OAM - E.N.T. SURGEON**  
**MR. MICHAEL SWITAJEWSKI – E.N.T. SURGEON**  
**MR. DESMOND WEE – ENT SURGEON / INTERPRETER**  
**DR. SIMON MACKLIN - ANAESTHETIST**  
**MS. ZARA WILKINSON - NURSE**  
**MS. MEGAN WINTER – AUDIOMETRIST**

### **Assistant Staff at Saint Raphael**

**Dr. Sr. Natalia Maria**  
**Sr. Regi – Theatre Manager**  
**Mr. Mus - Anaesthetic Technician, Ruteng**  
**Ibu Erna – Theatre Nurse**  
**Ibu Sabina – Theatre Nurse**  
**Ferdi – Physiotherapist / Theatre assistant**  
**Bruder Tomy – Theatre Assistant**

### **SUMMARY**

**This is the fourth ENT team visit to Cancar, Dr. Krishnan's fourth visit and Dr. Michael Switajewski's second.**

**It was the first visit for our nurse Ms. Zara Wilkinson, our anaesthetist Dr. Simon Macklin, our ENT surgical colleague Dr. Desmond Wee (who also acted as interpreter) and our audiometrist Ms. Megan Winter.**

**The team was funded by contributions from the DREAMIN foundation and Drs. Krishnan, Switajewski and Wee. Ms Megan Winter funded her own airfares and accommodation.**

**The team worked hard and in a congenial and cooperative atmosphere together with the local theatre staff and the newly appointed medical officer Dr. Sr. Natalia Maria.**

The visit was generally successful with the team attending to some 240 patient consultations and some 45 surgical procedures. The majority of the surgeries were for patients with large thyroid goiters weighing between half to one kilogram, causing significant problems with swallowing and breathing. One patient with airway obstruction due to cancer of the larynx was on the verge of asphyxiation and had a total laryngectomy as an emergency with life saving results. We had a patient with critical nasal obstruction preventing her from swallowing and she too had significant benefit from an urgent resection of her large nasal polyps that were prolapsing into her oral cavity from behind the nose.

Ms. Megan Winter and Dr. Michael Switajewski visited a school for the deaf in Ruteng and screened about 50 children and identified perhaps two children who could benefit from hearing rehabilitation. Ms. Winter is making arrangements for one of these children to be fitted with hearing aids.

### **OSSAA ENT VISIT CANCAR 2010 SUMMARY OF SURGICAL PROCEDURES**

<b>OPERATION</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>COMPLICATIONS</b>
THYROIDECTOMY	20	1 return to theatre – no bleed
NECK SURGERY		
Total Laryngectomy Neck dissection	1	
Parotidectomy	2	
Neck Lipoma	3	
Thyroglossal Duct Cyst	2	
Dermoid	2	
Lip Cancer	1	
Floor of Mouth Cancer	1	
TONSILLECTOMY	2	
NASAL SURGERY		
Polypectomy	3	
Septoplasty	1	
Antral Washout	1	
Cautery Turbinates	1	
EAR SURGERY		
Myringoplasty	1	
Myringotomy	2	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43</b>	

There is a need for regular E.N.T. visits with a waiting list established by Dr. Sr. Natalia Maria in Cancar, for tonsillectomy, ear surgery, sino-nasal surgery and head and neck surgery.

Dr. Michael, the general practitioner who was previously in Cancar, has chosen to train in ENT, Head and neck surgery and is currently in Jakarta. He has maintained contact by phone and email and has indicated that he would have liked to have been in Cancar during the ENT Team visit. However, he was sitting exams the same week of the ENT visit.

**A general recommendation is made for at least an annual trip in June with the possibility of a second trip in January if funding and staff are available. There is significant benefit in providing support and training and developing the surgical skills of the local medical staff, in particular Dr. Michael. Dr. Sr. Natalia Maria is also keen to receive training and education to improve her ENT knowledge and skills. This will allow good aftercare that will meet the standards for outreach surgery recommended by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Two patients have been identified for possible treatment in Adelaide. Sr. Regi who leads the staff at Saint Raphaels is keen to increase the range and complexity of surgery to be undertaken , particularly as facilities decline at the public hospital at Ruteng . A ventilator was installed in the high dependency unit during our visit to the hospital. A sure sign of the vision of the nuns of SPSS, Cancar.**

**SUREN KRISHNAN**



**PATIENT WITH LIP CANCER FROM BETEL NUT CHEWING**



**PATIENT WITH THYROID GOITER**



**PATIENT WITH PAROTID AND THYROID TUMOURS**



**DR. SWITAJEWSKI (ENT SURGEON) EXAMINING PATIENT WITH ONE KILOGRAM THYROID GOITER, WITH DR. MACKLIN (ANAESTHETIST) AND FERDI OBSERVING.**



**PATIENT WITH ONE KILOGRAM THYROID GOITER**



**ZARA WILKINSON RECOVERING  
A PATIENT WITH BRUDER TOMY**



**DR. SIMON MACKLIN  
(ANAESTHETIST)**



**MEGAN WINTER WITH CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**



**THE TEAM – MEGAN WINTER (AUDIOMETRIST), ZARA WILKINSON (NURSE), DES WEE (ENT SURGEON), MICHAEL SWITAJEWSKI (ENT SURGEON)**