

## MOTEC TARGET HOSPITALS.

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Every Organisation has a mission, a purpose and a reason. Motec Life –UK aims at meeting humanitarian health needs of the underprivileged sub-Saharan part of the world.

- Our Mission is a mix of Passion, and Compassion.
- Our tool is the experience of the health professionals and their friends in the Diaspora.
- Our vision - a centre for Orthopaedic-Trauma Care in Ghana and Improvement in health care delivery services across the board in our target hospitals.
- Our working visits –aimed at capacity building, transfer of skills, filling service gaps, improving local human resources.

We are very much aware of the huge

Now a brief overview of who we are and how we behave and our target hospitals. We are charitable Medical Organisation comprising a strong force of dedicated volunteer health care professionals, medico-legal experts and technicians whose objective is to provide education, training and health care delivery to the under-privileged people of Ghana and the Sub- region of West Africa through a co-ordinated programme of visits. We realise a gap between our aspirations and capabilities but believe that the gap can be narrowed. Our organization established in September 2006, has a membership of about 85 with specialists from various departments and health care professionals in the hospital based health care services and other experts that matter in the logistics of healthcare delivery. Motec offers a unique holistic approach to the development of better hospital health care services in our target hospitals.

Target Hospitals:

Following requests from some hospitals in Ghana, Motec made fact finding visits and agreed with local medical administrators a program of working visits aimed at supporting the health care improvements requested by these hospitals. Starting with Koforidua St Joseph's Hospital, Motec paid its first working visit to Ghana in October 2006.

## **Why Consider Orthopaedic Trauma Care in Sub-Saharan Africa?**

Injuries and death from road traffic accidents is a global problem. Human resources to treat the injured vary according to the income of a nation. Injuries account for no less than five million deaths and over 100 million disabilities every year. Less formally trained tend to look after trauma patients in poorer countries. Road Traffic Accidents has become the number 4 killer of the population in Ghana. Data show about 0.5 Surgeons per 1000.000 in most parts of Africa. A review of trauma care in 11 hospitals along major roads in Ghana showed a humbling inadequacy of equipment including basic materials like chest tubes. Koforidua Hospital is located in the Eastern Region of Ghana and serves as the only referral centre for acute trauma and orthopaedic conditions not only for the country but also for neighbouring counties including Ivory-Coast Burkina –Faso Togo and Nigeria. The burden of work and the room for improvement presents a huge challenge and naturally a significant humanitarian issues arise in the prevention of death from injuries and efforts to return people back on their feet and to their homes and jobs.

### **Current Target Hospitals:**

Koforidua St Joseph's, Nkawkaw Holy Family, Gyekyi-Pramso St Michael's, Asafo-Sefwi and Akosombo Volta River Authority Hospitals.

### **Supporting Health institutions:**

Lister Hospital, Accra. Medlab, Accra

### **Koforidua Hospital.**

Motec has made five working visits in a 2week spells sending out teams of about 5 to 7 experts at a time between October 2006 and October 2007. During the short period of working visits Motec aimed at supporting the local health care workforce, providing educational sessions and transferring clinical, surgical, nursing, anaesthetic, diagnostic microbiology, physical therapy skills to the local workers and in turn obtaining the experience in tropical medical conditions. Our programme included early morning lecture for one hour and topics were chosen with our host through observations and local staff requests. We have also revamped the operating theatres with power tools, equipment and cleanliness (guided by microbiological studies performed by the organization.) identified shortfalls in the Laboratory, improved staining techniques, giving advise where necessary and held

regular feedback meetings with the local Administrator, Medical Director, Matron and Nursing Staff.

Motec has performed many trauma surgery, degenerative joint diseases and sickle cell diseases of the hip and long bones. Post traumatic conditions of the hip particularly in the elderly who are otherwise left into oblivion seem very rewarding. We have demonstrated the benefits of early treatment, mobilization, rehabilitation and discharge of patients, freeing beds up for several patients waiting in their homes or waiting in the periphery, some coming as far as from Nigeria, Ivory-Coast and Burkina –Faso and other neighbouring countries.

### **Holy Family Hospital, (Nkawkaw)**

The popularity of our drive for improvement attracted the attention of other hospitals including Nkawkaw hospital. In June the organization moved onto another phase of sending a second team to Nkawkaw hospital in the Eastern region of Ghana, after consultations with the hospital management and fact-finding mission trips to the hospitals. The team comprised of a general surgeon, microbiologist, a theatre scrub sister and two anaesthetic nurses. They performed a number of general surgical procedures including, hernias, removal of lumps and bumps and trauma cases. The surgeon also covered the out patients department on free theatre times. Specialist anaesthetic delivery, revamping of the anaesthetic machines and the recovery room were carried out.

We also embarked on training and education where lectures were given at the nurses training college. In October a second team comprising and led by a Dutch Consultant Obstetrician-Gynaecologist, a senior SpR Anaesthetist, Theatre scrub sister, microbiologist and two nurse anaesthetists. Number of abdominal hysterectomies and vaginal operations were done. There was also a teaching programme at the nurse's training school. Educational books were donated to the training school during the first visit. The team had a feedback meeting with the medical director of the hospital to discuss developmental progress and recommendations. Many areas for improvement were identified and joint efforts are being made to address the issues in the interest of maternal and child health.

## **Pramso (St Michael's Hospital)**

The demand keeps coming and the humanitarian needs are too strong to ignore. Our organization was approached by The Tropical Health for Education Trust in London (THET) with an appeal on behalf of Pramso Medical Administration to consider supporting improvement in Healthcare delivery in the hospital. We embraced the call and Pramso is now one of our target hospitals. The hospital is located in the Ashanti region of Ghana near Kumasi, the second city of Ghana. An initial maiden visit was made in June as part of fact finding and identification of health needs. Considering the capacity for surgery the team realized it was not enough to embark on the requested surgical services and we agreed to meet the training and educational needs that were demanded by the authorities. In October an observational visit to the theatre was made by one of Motec's executive to fully assess the theatre facilities and advise the necessary improvements at the request of the hospital. This was immediately followed-up by three member team visit to the hospital the 22/10/07 en route from Sefwi Asafo. Lectures were delivered to staff of the hospital on topical subjects like Tuberculosis and laboratory services. As a tradition, a feedback meeting was held with the Hospital administrator, the Matron, Medical Officer and the local anaesthetist, a mattress was donated by Motec for the theatre trolley for the transfer and movement of patients. Recommendations were made including manual handling, health and safety issues in theatre and the importance of aseptic techniques.

### **Asafo –Sefwi Hospital.**

The latest target hospital is in the Western region of Ghana. The request came from the Hospital through Mr. John Mitchell Dublin, one of the administrators of the Order of Hospitalier Brothers of St John of God Hospitals in Africa. He has a long track record of philanthropic work. In March Mr. Mitchell contacted Dr Ofori Atta (President Motec) who honoured an invitation to Dublin to discuss common issues of working for the underprivileged people especially in the area of health care improvement in the sub-Sahara Africa through hospitals established by the Hospitalier Brothers of St John of God in Ghana. The meeting set the grounds for an assessment visit by a Motec team of three in October, 2007, the President and Orthopaedic surgeon, Microbiologist (Mr. Raymond Yeboah) and Nurse operating department Anaesthetic Practitioner, (Mrs. Ofori Atta. An amazing report of the findings and recommendations has been made which is now

available on our website. Ladies and gentlemen, situated in the forest of Ghana, this hospital does offer hope for many.

**Volta River Authority Hospital, Akosombo.**

Akosombo hospital attracted a similar approach and the vision is to upgrade their trauma and orthopaedic Unit.

**Lister Hospital and Medlab, Accra.**

Motec was fortunate to have a professional Colleague and friend and a school mate running Lister hospital and supports quality healthcare delivery in Ghana. Motec established an artificial knee and hip replacement centre for those who can afford. This generated income to sponsor and indeed cover travel and hotel expenses including social activities for visiting Motec teams in the difficult starting days. The hospital potentially provides an excellent training facility for our rural target hospitals. The collaboration stays alive.

Medlab Accra offers laboratory and radiological services in Ghana in the private sector. There are plans under discussion to offer on the job training and improvements in diagnostics in our target hospitals.

Generally understanding the culture, traditional policies, religion and the economic activities of the people can be useful in addressing their healthcare needs, development and treatment options. Motec is now stretched to its limit and it has been envisaged that no new plans will be initiated other than those identified. Where local hospital needs are not being met, Motec intends to curtail its activities and to re-invest our strength in other identified target hospitals.

Conclusively, there are useful links between the organization and the Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). Our healthcare activities are supported by the government of Ghana through the High Commission in London and by responsible authorities within the Ministry of Health in Ghana. Motec is grateful to our supporters, notably Corin UK.

Enjoy your association with MOTEC LIFE.

Thank you very sincerely.