



Oudomxay goiter patients receive surgery

Medical teams from the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation from the United States joined together with the doctors and nurses of Oudomxay provincial hospital to provide free goiter surgery. They were joined by physicians from Setthathirath Hospital in Vientiane, who also rendered assistance with the free medical checkups and surgical procedures at Oudomxay provincial hospital.

The exercise was aimed at providing health rehabilitation for patients who are suffering from goiter. In addition, the activities also aimed at developing surgical skills in regards to ear, nose and throat surgery. Lao Rehabilitation Foundation Coordinator, Dr. Phetsamone Indara, said that the service would not only help improve the health of poor people in the province, but also contribute to upgrading medical services provided by local clinical staff.

This was the fourth such cooperation effort among medical teams from the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Setthathirath Hospital and Oudomxay provincial Hospital aiming to provide relief to people suffering from goiter. During the week-long trip, Lao and American medical staff provided 75 medical checkups, of which 12 cases were determined to require surgery. These included eight goiter surgeries and four cyst and tumor surgeries.

During the visit, President of Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Dr. Luc Janssens also presented monitoring equipment and some anaesthetic equipment for Oudomxay provincial hospital. Dr. Phetsamone said that the equipment would help improve the medical services in these areas in the years to come. During this campaign, the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation provided support funding of more than US\$30,000 to improve the health of people in Oudomxay province.

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