REPORT OF

CATARACT, OCULOPLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY MISSION

At Oudomxay, Xayabuly Provinces and Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR.

June 2018

Oudomxay, Xayabuly, Mahosot and 103 Hospitals
In Cooperation with:

Bumrungrad International Hospital, Thailand.

And

Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF), USA.
This mission was the second cataract surgery and the 4th oculoplastic surgery in Laos. The mission was funded by Lao Rehabilitation Foundation from USA in association with doctors from Bumrungrad International Hospital of Thailand.

I. OBJECTIVE

- To reduce avoidable blindness in Lao PDR
- To increase access to high quality eye care services for the people of the two Northern provinces of Oudomxay and Xayabuly.
- To save and rehabilitate vision for a better quality of life.
- To develop the skills of Lao medical personnel

II. LOCATION AND DURATION

This mission took place at 4 locations
- At Oudomxay hospital for cataract surgery (June 2-8, 2018)
- At two districts hospital of Xayabuly province for cataract surgery (June 11-16, 2018)
- At Mahosot hospital for oculoplastic surgery (June 28, 2018)
- At 103 Military hospital for oculoplastic surgery (June 29, 2018)

III. TEAM WORK

There were 15 team members:

1. OUDOMXAY PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL (6):
   - Ophthalmologists 2
   - Ophthalmic Nurses 4

2. Xayabuly Provincial Hospital (4)
   - Ophthalmologist 1
   - Ophthalmology Residency 1
   - Ophthalmic Nurses 2

3. THAI TEAM (4):
   - Oculoplastic Surgeon 1
   - Oculoplastic surgeon Fellow 1
   - Student Volunteers 2

4. LAO REHABILITATION FOUNDATION (1):
   - Coordinator 1

IV. MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

This mission was performed with the use of quality automated equipment
1. Surgery equipment and medicine for cataracts were imported from USA
2. Surgery equipment and medicine for oculoplastics were imported from Thailand

V. RESPONSIBLE UNIT

1. OUDOMXAY, XAYABULY, MAHOSOT AND 103 MILITARY HOSPITALS
   - Secured official agreements and approvals
   - Provided leadership to register patients and make appointments.
   - Provided location to examine and operate patients.
2. BUMRUNGRAD INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL, THAILAND
   - Provided expert oculoplastic surgeons.
   - Provided instrument and some medicines for surgery
   - Provided funding for medical equipment, medicine needed for anesthesia and post-surgery medicine.

3. LAO REHABILITATION FOUNDATION
   - Provided medical equipment and medicine for cataract surgery
   - Provided funding for medical equipment, medicine needed for anesthesia and post-surgery medicine.

VI. METHODOLOGY
   - 6 months to prepare the mission, to find and register patients and make necessary appointments for pre-surgery and surgery.
   - Oudomxay ophthalmology team to do cataract surgery in Oudomxay provincial hospital by phaco and MSICS techniques.
   - Oudomxay ophthalmologist joined Xayabuly team to do cataract surgery in 2 districts (KeanThao and Paklay) of Xayabury province by Phaco and MSICS techniques.
   - The Lao team and local staff from Oudomxay, Mahosot and 103 Military hospitals (ophthalmologist, anesthesiologists, assistant nurses) worked together with Thai experts, LRF coordinator to treat severe patients with total eyelid loss and retraction ectropion.
   - Cataract surgery cases were performed under local anesthesia
   - Severe eyelid correction cases were performed under general anesthesia
   - Treatment was provided with the best medicine available and proper operating procedures.
     - Most cataract cases were performed by Phaco and fewer cases by MSICS techniques.
     - Severe eyelid correction or reconstruction surgery as well as 2 additional cases were provided with proper operating procedure and quality medicine.
   - Lao ophthalmologists and basic eye doctors were instructed through observation.

VII. RESULTS

1. Training
   For cataract surgery, this was a basic short term training for Xayabuly ophthalmologist and basic eye doctor in surgical practice by phacoemulsification and MSICS. Teaching and advising by Dr. Phetsamone

2. Cataract Surgery Outcome
   A total of 567 patients were examined and surgery was performed on 100 cases, as follow:
   - By Phacoemulsification: 69 cases
   - By SICS: 31 cases
   - Complication intra-operative: 02 cases
   - Complication post-operative: 01 cases
3. Oculoplastic Surgery Outcome

2 severe eyelid cases who otherwise would not have access to treatment in Laos have received treatment:
- 1 little girl with retraction ectropion, surgery was performed by Z-plasty technique
- 1 severe burn with eyelid loss, surgery was performed by repairing with full thickness skin graft + Tarsolaphy on both eyes.

All operations were successful

VIII. EXPENDITURE

The total expenditure for this mission was 26,550 USD (twenty six thousand five hundred and fifty dollar). Supported by:
1. Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. $23,220
2. Thai doctors from Bumrungrad International of Thailand: $3,330

Costs included:
- Medical supplies / medicine pre-intra and post surgery $20,130
- Transportation of teamwork $4,950
- Hotel/guesthouse $450
- Food and drink $820
- Other $200

(Details on attached file)

IX. ACCOMPLISHMENTS, WEAKNESSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Good cooperation between Oudomxay, Mahosot, 103 Military, Bumrungrad International hospitals and Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, USA.
- Patients with severe eyelid conditions who otherwise would not have access to treatment in Laos have received treatment.
- This mission was important for the treatment and prevention of blindness for Lao people, particularly for those living in poverty.
- Thai experts provided education and hands-on experience to Lao doctors.

2. WEAKNESSES
- Many locations for this mission were difficult of access, transportation and preparing the mission was difficult.
- Xayabuly ophthalmologist had only limited training in phacoemulsification.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS
- Continue to help the poor who have no access to treatment in Laos.

X. NEXT MISSION PLANNING

1. ACTIVITIES:
   1.1 Cataract surgery by Phacoemulsification
   1.2 Oculoplastic surgery
   1.3 Provide education and hands-on experience to Lao ophthalmologists
2. LOCATION:
   – At Oudomxay or Xayabuly Eye Hospitals, Lao PDR.

3. DATES:
   – A repeat of this mission by the end of 2018 is under consideration.