



Report of
Mobile Health Care in Remote Area
Dental, E.N.T and Eye Diseases
Serving Oudomxay Province
LAO P.D.R.

September 2008

A Cooperation between:
Oudomxay Hospital
Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF)
Women for World Health Organization (WFWH)





Report of Mobile Health Care for Dental, E.N.T and Eye Diseases in Remote Areas of Oudomxay Province, September 2008 A Cooperation between Oudomxay Hospital - Lao Rehabilitation Foundation and Women for World Health Organizations

I. Background

We knew that Oudomxay province is home to many poor people living in remote areas with limited access to health care. The province's population of 272,297 (2007) includes 60% Kamu, 25% Lao Loum and 15% Hmong ethnic minorities. The mobile health care for dental, E.N.T and eye diseases project is a cooperation between Oudomxay Hospital and Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. it is a large mission that combines an ENT doctor, dentists, ophthalmologists and nurses equipped with modern mobile equipment and all necessary medicine to treat E.N.T., dental and eye diseases.

II. Objective

1. General objective

- To decrease the prevalence of blindness, deafness and cavitas dentis.
- To broaden coverage of health services for people in remote area, ethnic minority groups and the urban poor.

2. Special objective

- Treatment of the main cause of blindness by cataract surgery.
- Treatment and prevention of deafness.
- Treatment and prevention of cavitas dentitis.

III. Methodology

1. Preparation

- Good cooperation between Oudomxay Hospital and LRF by Phetsamone Indara, M.D. and Dr. Luc Janssens in developing a plan and acquiring equipment and supplies during the 3 months that preceded the mission.
- Introduce the plan to the director of Oudomxay provincial hospital and the chief of provincial public health department.
- Inform district hospitals of the plan and activities so that villages are aware of the date and location of arrival of mobile team.
- Dr. Luc Janssens brought all equipment and medicine from USA and Vientiane for donation and taught the Lao team at Oudomxay hospital how to use the new and modern equipment (E.N.T., Dental and Eye).



Dr. Luc Janssens
donates E.N.T., Dental and Eye
surgery equipment to Oudomxay (1)



Dr. Luc Janssens
teaches the dentists how to use
the new dental equipment

2. Duration and Location

8 days Sept 14-21, 2008

La district	Sept 14-15
Beng district	Sept 16-17
Houn district	Sept 18-19
Pakbeng district	Sept 20-21



3. Team Work

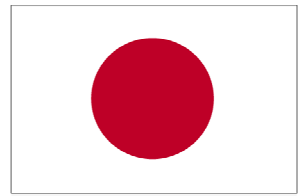
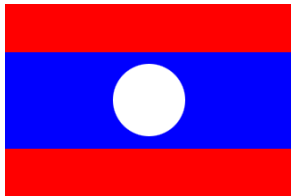
18 partners from 4 countries joined together for this mission:

Lao team: (2 dentists, 1 E.N.T doctor, 2 ophthalmologists, 5 nurses) and 3 or 4 assistants in each districts

USA team: (1 leader, 1 dentist, 1 ophthalmologist, 1 coordinator)

Thai team: 3 nurses

Japanese team: 1 volunteer nurse



4. Activities in each district hospital

- Patients registered with districts' local staff (E.N.T., Dental and Eye)
- Patients were sent to one of the 3 teams: eye, dental or E.N.T, each team having doctors and nurses.
- Patients were examined, treated and given health care education.
Eye: Visual acuity test, examined for eye diseases, operated cataract with IOL, operated Pterygium, Trichiasis and others.
Ear, Nose and Throat: Examined and treated for Otitis Medium Acute or Chronic, Rhenitis, Amygdalis and nose polyp.
Dental: Treated cavitas dentitis, clean calciferous and extraction cavitas dentitis.
- Medicine for treatment by doctor advice was provided.
- Health care education about eye, dental and E.N.T avoidable and treatable diseases was provided.



E.N.T.



Dental



Eye



III. Result

Patients registered, examined and treated:

District	Population	Target cases	Registered	Examined and treated
La	16,225	300	588	513
Beng	33,384	700	813	776
Houn	61,960	800	1441	1185
Pakbeng	26,623	300	852	724
TOTAL	138,192	2,100	3,694	3,198

E.N.T: **1,218 cases**

- Deaf 314 cases
- Otitis Medium Acuite 208 cases
- Otitis Medium Chronic 379 cases
- Rhinitis 107 cases
- Tonsilitis 87 cases
- Polyp nose 123 cases

Dental: **870 cases**

- Extraction cavitas dentitis 740 cases
- Cavity treatment 117 cases
- Other 13 cases

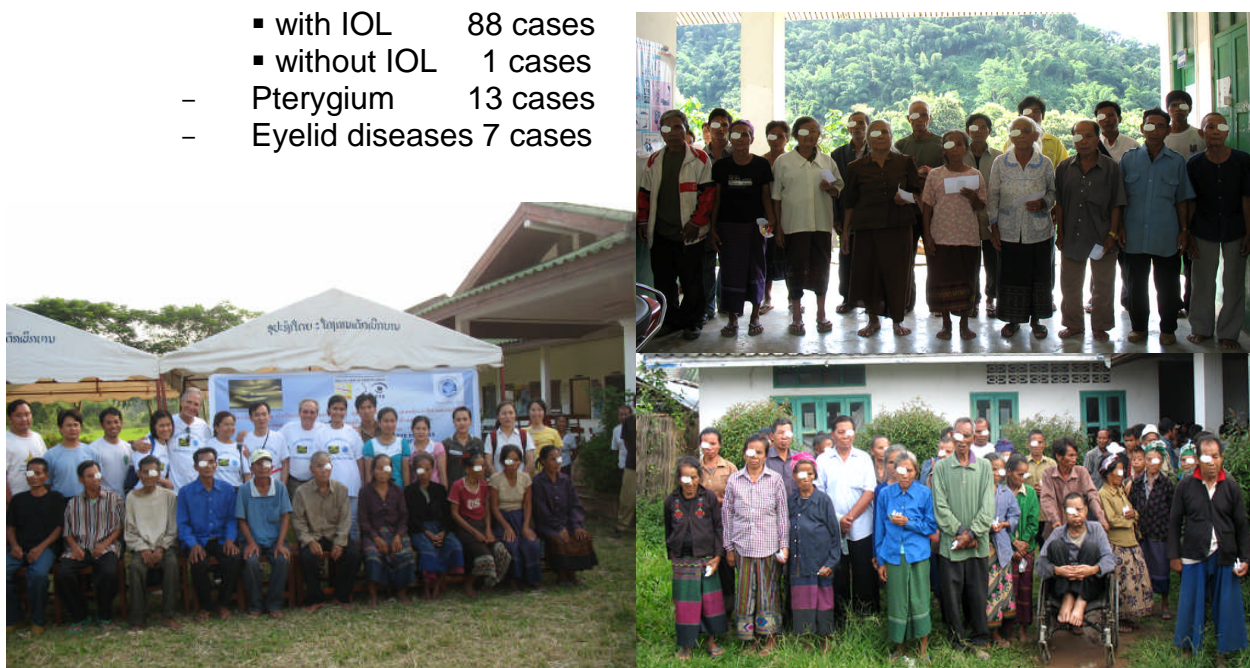
Eye: **1,110 cases**

- Cataract 118 cases
- Corneal scar 85 cases
- Pterygium 78 cases
- Glaucoma 5 cases
- Trichiasis and entropion 6 cases
- Trachoma 1 cases
- Other 817 cases

(Other: Presbyopia, Pinguelculitis, Retinal diseases,...)

Operated:

- Cataract 89 cases
 - with IOL 88 cases
 - without IOL 1 cases
- Pterygium 13 cases
- Eyelid diseases 7 cases



IV. Expense

The total expense of **37,205 USD**, funded by Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. and Women for World Health organizations, includes:

No	Item	Amount (USD)
1	Equipment purchased in and brought from USA	13,050
2	Medicine purchased in and brought from USA	1,922
3	Equipment purchased in Laos	2,863
4	Medicine purchased in Laos	3,122
5	Transport of equipment and medicine	1,500
6	Transport & Accommodation of US team	10,770
7	Per diem for Lao team	1,176
8	Food and lodging for Lao team	904
9	Drinking water	455
10	Fuel (Gasoline) for generator	82
11	Fuel (Diesel) for van and pick up	354
12	Pick up microscope + Pheng in Luang Namtha	273
13	Banner 1mx3m (2)	55
14	T-shirt with printed Logo (30)	180
15	Other	500
	TOTAL	37,205

V. Outcome

- It is positive that we have helped poor patients in the remote areas of Oudomxay province who had been waiting long for ENT, eye or dental treatment.
- The number of patients significantly exceeded our target.
- We have impacted health care development for vision, ENT and dental care in remote areas although much remains to be done.
- The Lao team had an opportunity to learn new techniques from USA doctors for oral and eye surgeries.
- Very good cooperation between Oudomxay hospital and Lao Rehabilitation Foundation.

IV. Some problems

- The expense was greater than budgeted (medicine and Lao team expenses).
- A shortage of doctors to care for such a large population.
- Some problems of compatibility between generators, transformers and new diagnostic equipment.
- Insufficient time to cover the needs of all patients.
- Insufficient participation of district hospitals' staff.

V. Plan and location for next mobile service in 2009

- To prepare a new budget.
- To prepare new and returning teams.
- To improve management of all activities

Place	Population	Target No. patients	Used time (day)
Namor district hospital	32,794	500	1 ½ days
Beng district hospital	33,384	700	2
Houn district hospital	61,960	1,200	2
Total		2,400	5 1/2 days

VI. Requests

- To provincial public health department, to continue providing administrative and logistical support for mobile team when going to remote areas.
- To NGOs, especially Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. to continue cooperation and support with funds, medicine and equipment for mobile team to service patients in remote areas.

ສ/ Director of Provincial Hospital

Oudomxay, September 27, 2008
Presenter



Phetsamone Indara, M.D.

ດຣ. ດົງ ເກດເຮືອງສີ
Dr. Douang KETHUANGSY

Vientiane Times
www.vientianetimes.org.la

Oudomxay residents receive free medical checks

Doctors from the Eye Unit of Oudomxay Provincial Hospital say a mobile health care project is essential in improving the health of rural people who do not have access to hospital services.

Dr Phetsamone Indara from the unit said hospital staff and the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation of the Vientiane Health Department provided free medical check-ups for more than 3,000 people in relation to dental, ear, nose, throat and eye problems in the four districts of Pakbaeng, Houn, Baeng and La between September 14 and 21.

The medical teams found many people needed medical treatment. Many cannot access medical services because they are too poor or they live in isolated areas.

By VIENTIANE TIMES
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