



US medics voice support for throat surgery in Oudomxay

Medical teams from the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation from the United States joined with mobile teams of Oudomxay Provincial Hospital and Setthathirath Hospital to provide free surgery for people afflicted by goiter.

The teams undertook medical assessments and provided free surgery last week in Houn, Beng and Pakbeng districts of Oudomxay, treating patients suffering from goiter, the abnormal enlargement of the thyroid gland in the neck.

In addition, the activities were also aimed at developing doctors' skills in relation to ear, nose and throat surgery.

Lao Rehabilitation Foundation Coordinator, Dr. Phetsamone Indara, said that the service would not only help rehabilitate the health of poor people in rural areas, but also give local medical staff invaluable knowledge and experience.

During the week-long trip, Lao and American medical staff provided 126 medical checkups, and 14 patients were required to receive surgery.

During the visit, President of the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Dr. Luc Janssens also presented medical clothing for use in the surgical room and some anaesthetic equipment for Houn, Beng and Pakbeng district hospitals.

Dr. Phetsamone said that the equipment would help improve the medical service in these areas in the years to come.

The Lao Rehabilitation Foundation provided funding support of more than US\$53,000 to improve the health of rural people in Oudomxay province.

**By Times Reporters
(Latest Update June 21, 2013)**