

BECOMING A SURGEON IN LOW RESOURCE REGION

DR.EMANUEL Q. NUWASS
GENERAL SURGEON



Tanzania

- Population 46 mil
- Health budget 8.5%
- 14 \$ per person vs WHO 54 \$
- One national hospital, one cancer center, all in Dar Es Salaam
- Consulting hospitals 3
- Regional Referral hospitals 10



Surgeons in Tanzania

- Surgeons 72 (2010)
- Distribution = 51 in Dar es Salaam
- How about the rural Tanzanian population?

SOURCE: MAT 2010



The beginning for me...

- Datoga family-pastoralist
- Appointed to present Gastrointestinal system how it works in simple language....
- Standard 7- 1993
- On Graduation day on 1993



Inspired

- The invited guests were impressed by the presentation and among them surgeon Dr. Olsen from Haydom Hospital...
- The beginning of thinking of becoming a doctor
- Statement “this that I can make a good doctor”
- Sponsored training in secondary school
- Hospital sponsored my training in medical school

Learning Surgery

- Medical school 2001 (assist in many surgical procedures)
- Registrar at Haydom Hospital 3yrs
 - Culture of reading every procedure
 - Need to be able to work at every ward: (medicine, paediatrics, obstetrics & gyn, surgery, ICU)
- Learning from local doctors at Haydom and role of visiting specialists-neurosurgeons, general surgeons, urologists, reconstructive surgeons
- 2010-2014: Registrar surgery in KCMC, Kilimanjaro

Training for surgery in Tanzania

- Limited admission per year 2-5 residents on average
- Private sponsor and few Government sponsorship
- Not paid unless employed by government and worked for > 3yrs
- Few consultants/supervisors
- Lack of learning tools (access to literature)
- Lack of materials and drugs
- Much work with minimal supervision and less time for teaching and private studying

CONTAINER FOR CLEAN WATER

Back as a surgeon at Haydom

- **General surgery** (appendectomies, colectomies, thyroidectomies, etc)
- **Neurosurgery** (VP shunts, meningocele, burr holes, craniotomies, etc)
- **Urology** (bouginage, TVP, etc)
- **Reconstructive surgery** (cleft lip, contracture release, etc.)
- **Pediatric surgery and ENTs** (hernia, omphalocele, foreign body removal, etc)
- **Administrative activities**
(Assistant Managing Medical Director)





Two Sisters

Marketplace

HSN

Staff houses
Tanzanian staff

Lutheran Church

Lena ward

Relatives house

Maternity

Garage

TB ward Lab

ICU

Old ward

Research

New canteen

Reception

Eye

Administration

Staff houses

Library

X-ray

Sala

OPD

Dental

CCU

MMD house

ATM

Post office

Main gate

Food shops

Guesthouse

Haydom Lutheran hospital

- Level II Regional Referral hospital in Rural area
- Catchment area immediate 600000 and at large 2.2mil
- Bed capacity 420
- Number of surgeons from September 2014
 - 3 general surgeons, 1 orthopedic surgeon.
- Number on patients: 16000
- Number of outpatients: 80000
- Number of surgery: 4000

How to ensure the hospitals future?

- Donor dependent
- Annual budget =9bill Tsh (in dollars?)
- Donors =52%
- Government =20%
- Patients fee=20%
- Other sources =8%

Capacity building

- On job training by visiting doctors
- Workshops-Tanzania surgical associations
- Send doctors for specialization to teaching hospitals
- Exchange programmes with like minded institutions





Challenges

- Shortage of qualified manpower
- Shortage of supplies and diagnostic facilities
- High staff turnover in private hospitals
- Demotivation
- Organizations issues

Role of foreign doctors?

- Inspire
- Teach relevant knowledge and skills proportional to local resources
- Supportive supervision
- Transfer of locally maintainable and sustainable technology
- Enhance collaboration and exchange aiming at transfer of required knowledge, skills and technology

Challenges with visiting doctors

- Cultural differences
- Too much demand in short time and irrespective of available limited resources
- Too short time
- Demand for quick changes
- Easily frustrated

What is my role

- Inspire young doctors
- Teaching to be trainers for others
- Motivate despite of challenges
- Save lives and improved quality of lives outcomes be our motivation
- Advocate for public private partnership



Thank you

Welcome to Haydom-Tanzania

Karibu Haydom –Tanzania

www.haydom.com

SYMPOSIUM
SURGERY IN LOW RESOURCE SETTINGS
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