



Project Report

Summary

Project leader	Thomas van Gulik
Project Title	Outreach to Chitwan Medical Center (CMC), Bharatpur, Nepal
Place and dates, if applicable	Bharatpur (Nepal), January 16-18, 2020

Details of Personnel

Individuals involved in the project and their roles.

Speakers at the meeting at CMC:

1. Prof Avinash Supe (India)
2. Dr Takehiro Noji (Japan)
3. Dr Glenn Bonney (Singapore)
4. Dr Hans Tuynman (The Netherlands)
5. Prof Thomas van Gulik (The Netherlands)
6. Prof Paleswan Lakhey (Nepal)
7. Prof Ramesh Bhandari (Nepal)
8. Dr Tseten Yonjen (Nepal)
9. Dr Abhishek Bhattarai (Nepal)

Faculty:

Prof Ramesh Bhandari (Nepal)
Dr Abhishek Bhattarai (Nepal)
Dr Glenn Bonney (Singapore)
Prof Paleswan Lakhey (Nepal)
Prof Harish Chandra Neupane (Nepal)
Dr Takehiro Noji (Japan)
Prof Avinash Supe (India)
Prof Kishore Tamrakar (Nepal)
Dr Binay Thakur (Nepal)
Dr Hans Tuynman (The Netherlands)
Prof Thomas Van Gulik (The Netherlands)
Dr Tseten Yonjen (Nepal)



Details of Local Coordinators

Details of the local key individuals supporting in the project and their roles, if applicable.

1. Prof Dr Harish Chandra Neupane, Chairman and Managing Director, Prof of Surgery, Chitwan Medical College
2. Dr Tseten Yonjen Tamang, MS, Fellow Hepatobiliary Surgery and liver transplantation, Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Chitwan Medical College
3. Prof Dr Kishore Tamrakar, MS, Professor of Surgery, Head of the department, Department of Surgery, Chitwan Medical College
4. Dr Abhishek Bhattarai, MS, MCh (GI surgery) Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Chitwan Medical College

Nepalese IHPBA Chapter; Nepalese Association of Surgical Gastroenterology (IHPBA- Nepal Chapter) Represented by Prof Dr Paleswan Joshi Lakhey (President)
Professor of Surgery, Head of the Department, Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital

Details of Planning Phase

May include fact-finding, identification and selection of suppliers, development of specifications or protocols, environmental/capacity assessment etc

Thomas van Gulik travelled to Nepal from October 22-26, 2019, to prepare the outreach project:
October 22; Meeting with the Nepalese Association of Surgical Gastroenterology (IHPBA- Nepal Chapter, hosted by Prof Dr Paleswan Joshi Lakhey of Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital) in Kathmandu.
October 23-26; Visit CMC to discuss the program and view the meeting hall and facilities.

Details of Delivery Phase

A symposium was held at Chitwan Medical Center (CMC), Bharatpur (Nepal), from January 17-18, 2020, entitled 'Benign and Malignant Diseases of the Liver, Pancreas and Biliary tract'. The program was devised in collaboration with the local hosts at CMC and the Nepalese Association of Surgical Gastroenterology (IHPBA- Nepal Chapter). See program attached.

An international faculty joined from India, Japan, Singapore and The Netherlands, as well as national delegates from the IHPBA- Nepal Chapter. The faculty consisted of 4 international surgeons, 1 international gastroenterologist, 7 local surgeons.

The gastroenterologist in our faculty helped his colleague with the first patient successfully treated by ERCP and shincterotomy at CMC for an obstructing CBD stone and cholangitis.

Besides CMC, the BP Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital at Bharatpur was visited.

Use of Funding

Including budget for the different elements of the project and details of other funding secured

The total funding received from the IHPBA Foundation was USD 4700.-

In accordance with the proposed budget,

USD 3000 was spent for support of travel expenses of 5 international speakers (USD 550 each) and 2 local speakers from Kathmandu (USD 125 each).

USD 1700 is on hold, pending the invoice for updating the skills-lab in CMC.

The local hosts at CMC provided the meeting facilities, all catering during the meeting, hotel costs for the faculty, a dinner for the faculty and an evening for all participants.

Assessment of Impact

There were 87 participants registered (consultants, fellows, residents, medical officers, nurses, organizing staff). Together with the faculty, the total number of participants was 99.

The two-day meeting was considered a great success according to the feedback received.

Plans for ongoing project development or capacity building and support

If applicable

As pointed out in the submitted project proposal, it is important for the country of Nepal to deliver state-of-the-art HPB surgical care in hospitals outside the region of Kathmandu. CMC has been designated as specialized center in the region of Chitwan. The aim of this outreach project is to establish a sustainable relationship with CMC. In view of the success of the recent outreach program, a follow-up meeting is planned in 2021.

Payments already made

The total funding granted by the IHPBA Foundation of USD 4700.- was received on a business bank account of the program leader (Thomas van Gulik, Amsterdam, The Netherlands).
All travel reimbursements have been remitted to the faculty.
USD 1700 is still on hold, pending the invoice for updating the skills-lab.

Reporting Schedule

N.a.

Application for Further Funding

If applicable

Meeting in 2021 in preparation.

News and Photos

NARRATIVE REPORT



Background

There have previously been two IHPBA outreach projects in Nepal, in October 2017 and February 2019, respectively, both in Kathmandu. Both were successful and for HPB diseases the situation now is that the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu has become completely self-sufficient, performing the full scope of complex HPB procedures. Now is the time to reach out to other regions in Nepal as Kathmandu is overflowed by patients sent in from from all parts of Nepal.

Nepal has a population of appr. 30milj of whom 3milj live in Kathmandu. Patients needing any special care have to be referred to Kathmandu from all over the country, because that is the only place where specialized interventions can be offered. Many patients cannot pay for the travel and therefore do not get the treatment they need. This is the more so a problem since patients during admission depend on their family for their meals etc and their relatives cannot afford to travel along with them. It is therefore of vital importance for the country that specialized centers are established outside the region of Kathmandu. This is also part of governmental health care policy.

Chitwan Medical Center (CMC) is a 700-bed teaching-hospital in Bharatpur in the Chitwan area, in south Nepal. CMC has been designated as specialized center in the region of Chitwan. The aim of the hospital is to deliver state-of-the-art HPB surgical care in the near future. This outreach project was set-up to help them achieve this goal.

Dr van Gulik has visited CMC for two times and discussed this outreach project with the local team, taking into account the needs of the team at CMC and of the colleagues in the hospitals of the region.

Program of the outreach project

A two-day program has been devised entitled 'Benign and Malignant Diseases of the Liver, Pancreas and Biliary tract'. Acute pancreatitis, cystic lesions of the liver, gallbladder carcinoma and perihilar cholangiocarcinoma were identified as areas of priority. We also consulted Dr Paleswan Lakhey of the Nepalese HPB chapter and have asked local surgeons to talk about conditions with which they have specific experience such as surgical management of hydatid disease or choledochal cysts. Case-presentations by residents were included in the program for discussion. This has resulted in an interesting program, both for the local surgeons as for the international faculty (program flyer attached). The Dept. of Surgery of CMC offers a skills-lab in which several modules are available for laparoscopic training such as video-endo trainers. The skills-lab is used by trainees and fellows. The addition of certain devices for training would greatly extend the existing facilities of the skills-lab.

Two-day meeting at CMC.

The Outreach meeting at CMC took place on January 17/18, 2020. Our local hosts were Prof Harish Chandra Neupane, surgeon and Chairman at CMC and Dr Tseten Yonjen Tamang, Fellow Hepatobiliary Surgery at CMC. An international faculty joined from India, Japan, Singapore and The Netherlands, as well as national delegates from the IHPBA-Nepal Chapter. The meeting was a great success according to the feedback received. There were 87 participants registered (consultants, fellows, residents, medical officers, nurses, organizing staff). Faculty consisted of 4 international surgeons, 1 international gastroenterologist and 7 local surgeons. Total number of participants was 99.

The gastroenterologist in our team (Dr. Tuynman from the Netherlands) helped his colleague at CMC with setting-up the clinical equipment for ERCP in the days preceding the meeting. A patient with cholangitis due to an obstructing CBD stone was successfully treated with shincterotomy and stone extraction. This was first patient treated with ERCP and shincterotomy at CMC!

Future plans

Our aim is to maintain a sustained relationship with CMC and to continue to support the HPB unit. A follow-up meeting is planned in 2021 and several surgeons from the membership of IHPBA have already expressed interest to join at that time.

In addition, a research project has been set-up to investigate risk factors for perihilar cholangiocarcinoma in a secluded population in the Chitwan-Indian territory in which an unusually high incidence of this tumor has been identified. This project will be conducted by the Dept. of Surgery and the Dept. of Public Health of CMC.