

Report on Cusco Outreach Mission

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Participants

Local surgeons: Eduardo Anchante (President of the Peruvian Chapter) and Victor Hugo Torres (Former President of the Peruvian Chapter)

Foreign surgeons: Oscar Imventarza and Octavio Gil (Argentina), Patricio Polanco (USA) and Daniel Figueroa (Mexico).

Leader: Mariano Gimenez (Argentina).

Location

Hospital Adolfo Guevara Velasco -EsSalud. Cusco's main teaching public hospital.

Medical activities

The team plus local surgeons at the hospital performed 9 surgeries of low, medium & high complexity. All surgeries were successful and represented real learning opportunities for the local surgeons. We also carried out medical rounds with doctors from the hospital, doctors from the surrounding region, including Bolivia, and nursing staff.

Every morning we engaged in discussion of clinical cases with the above mentioned groups. In the afternoons we ran an HPB update course which included lectures and extensive case discussions which were extremely well attended.

Impact

The outreach mission achieved a high level of interest and recognition. In addition, members of the Mission were interviewed in various radio and television media.

Moreover, the National Director of EsSalud (the network of public hospitals across the whole of Peru), who has the rank of Minister of State, came to Cusco to meet the members of the outreach mission. We discussed possible future educational activities, such as:

- Consider future Outreach Missions to other cities in Perú.
- Provide free advice and consultancy to help the Cusco Hospital achieve liver transplants.
- Offer, at the Universities and Institutions represented by the International members of the Outreach Mission, scholarships, fellowships and observerships to Peruvian doctors to supplement their training.