



Report Interplast mission to Kitgum in cooperation
with M.S.F.(Artsen Zonder Grenzen) Holland in Uganda, 24-28 April 2006.

Team: Dr. Rein J. Zeeman Plastic & Reconstructive surgeon
Deo Muyengy Anaesthetic Officer Burns Unit Mulago Hospital

Hospital: St. Josephs Hospital, Kitgum

Objectives

The main purpose of this mission was to operate as many as Rebel Victims as possible (Victims with mutilated lips, ears, noses and cut off fingers or hands).

MSFH identified and looked after transport of the patients from the IDP (Internal Displaced People) camps to St Josephs Hospital.

Special arrangements were made with the Medical superintendent about facilities of the Hospital, admissions, theatre use etc..

The team brought the Instrument sets, suture material, extra Halothane Vaporizer, halothane ketamine.

The previous mission was in December 2005, when 15 patients were operated on, mainly Rebel Victims.

This time after radio messages about 50 patients reported for screening. However, few new Rebel Victims were seen. The ones operated on last year were evaluated and were happy with the results and did not want further surgery.

All patients who turned up were seen and advised or referred, 25 patients were booked for Surgery In the **afternoon of the 24th** we started operating.

The local anaesthetist Irene, had gone to Kampala for a training course.

Replacement was found in Quintus.

We worked long days and managed to carry out 24 operations

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| cleft lip & palate | 11 |
| post burn contractures | 09 |
| rebel victims lips, GSW | 04 |
| Total | 24 |

On **Friday** morning we did our rounds: all operated patients were reviewed, and rehabilitation lined out (Sr. Rosemary).

No complications were seen.

We owed a lot to the theatre staff who worked long days and supported us in a great way.

The lunches organised by MSFH contributed a lot in maintaining our energy.

The administration by Lindsay was superb.

Remarks

We did not anticipate the many severe post burn contractures. Suture material was just sufficient but no special instruments were taken to insert K. wires. Also aftercare is more complicated and time consuming! Long periods of splinting and physiotherapy are necessary. On the provisional list just one PBC (post burn contracture) was mentioned.

Conclusion

A successful surgical camp, however the initial goal of just treating the Rebel Victims, in a sense was not realised.

Next Plastic surgery camp is planned for early December 2006.

Dr Rein J Zeeman
Interplast Holland



Gunshot wound face, pre & post operation



Sabina happy!!! feeling woman again (her own words - rebel victim).



Kitgum Trio (Family: father, daughter and son with cleft lips) before operation



Post burn contracture for 10 years



operated patients at St. Josephs Hospital