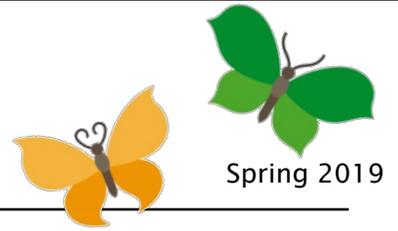




HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti



Surgery Tables



January Surgery Team Dr. Twidwell

HBS receives as many as eight surgery teams on rotation each year who volunteer their time. Each team is made up of surgeons with different specialties, anesthesiologists, nurses and other surgical support staff. Most teams perform between 50 and 60 of elective and emergency surgeries in a week.

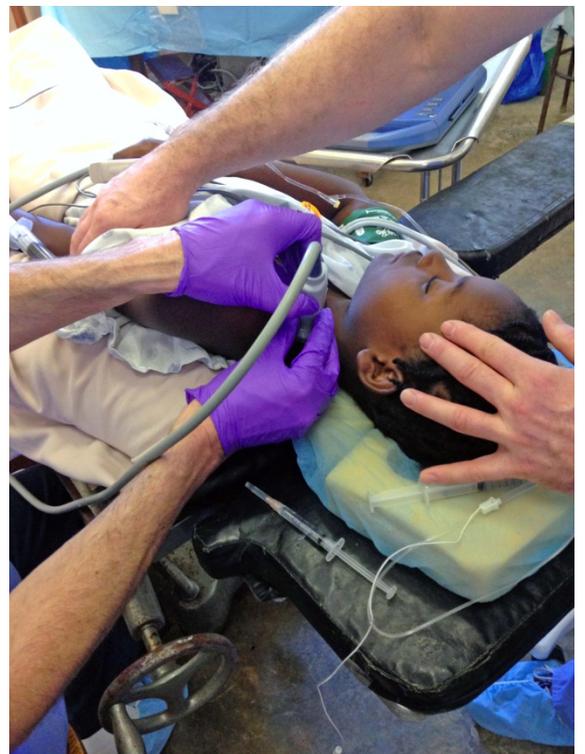
The HBS surgery unit built in 1985 has two operating rooms and recovery rooms with 24 beds. Surgery is continually updated with various equipment donated by interested parties on a regular basis.

At present, the surgery tables are in desperate need of replacement as they have been in use for over 30 years. We are looking for funds to purchase and ship two new manual surgery tables to HBS.

If interested in donating towards this project, please put surgery tables in the memo.

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Patients treated at HBS



Neurofibromatosis

Mme E, a local, most likely has neurofibromatosis as an inherited condition. The large right cheek neurofibroma was affecting her vision by pulling her right upper eyelid down over her field of vision.

Neurofibromatosis is a rare genetic disorder of the nervous system. It affects how nerve cells form and grow. It causes benign tumors on the nerve tissue and growths in other parts of the body. Neurofibromatosis is usually diagnosed in childhood or early adulthood.

She needed surgery to remove the neurofibroma and to restore her vision. The following day she developed a large hematoma, which needed to be evacuated in the operating room. A stylish pink compression bandage was placed over a small drain.

She was discharged with a good prognosis.

Impetigo

Eolas Wensley, from Limbé is a 23-day old infant boy who was seen in the clinic with widespread impetigo, a bacterial skin disease. Impetigo is a common skin infection that is highly contagious and mainly affects infants and children.

Symptoms and signs of impetigo are red sores that quickly rupture, ooze for a few days and then form yellow-brown crust scabs. The sores usually start as red sores around the nose and mouth but can quickly be spread to other areas of the body by scratching, contaminated clothing or towels.

Eolas had a fever, was initially assessed and referred to the clinic for further evaluation. He was treated with IV antibiotics along with topical skin care.

He was admitted to the pediatric ward where he responded very well to his treatment. His mother and aunt stayed with him the entire time that he was in the hospital.

He was able to be discharged after a week in the hospital doing much better.



Lupus

Jean Marlene, from Limbé, is 47 years old and came to HBS with Discoid (circular) Lupus, a chronic autoimmune skin disease. This condition causes a severe rash which mainly affects skin that is exposed to sunlight.

Jean Marlene had been having 17 months of itchy eruption, especially on face, chest and arms. Jean was given potent topical steroid, advised to wear a hat and was given a container of our newly made sunscreen.

Jean returned one week later, wearing a hat and smiling as she was feeling better.

This year, while in Haiti, Dr. Gail Nield continued to work on compounding topical medicines for the pharmacy. She was able to develop an easy to prepare sunscreen with an SPF of 20.

Sunscreen does not seem to be readily available in Limbé, and it is very expensive.

