

The Philippine Healthcare Experience

Eileen M. Gable, OD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, Illinois

- Interdisciplinary focus

- Pediatrics / general medicine
- Dentistry / optometry
- Surgeons / pharmacist
- “those you can’t do without”
 - Construction workers, retired educators, equipment specialist, day care workers, makeup artists, interpreters



■ Local partnerships

- Hope Hospital – local non-for-profit
- My Father's House Orphanage
- Barrio outreach locations
- Host Church

■ Supplies

- Local meds
- Donated materials

THE NEED

Basic Needs:

food, shelter, safety

Secondary Needs:

*healthcare could be considered a luxury

*preventative care

The Pilipino System

- Designed after the US Medicare system
- Benefits not widely understood
- Waiting period after signing up
- Administered through government healthcare

The Pilipino Experience: 55 screenings at the orphanage



Orphanage Results:

- Screening Components
 - VA
 - Entrance Tests:
 - Pupils, Muscle evaluation, Cover test,
 - Loose Lens Refraction
 - Dilated Examination
 - Glasses sent back to orphanage

- 55 students

- 3 had spectacle correction

- 2 had refractive amblyopia and were only recently treated

- 13 needed correction

- Myopia
- Astigmatism
- hyperopia

- 2 days work in Hope Hospital

- No children
- Cataracts
- Small procedures



The Barrio

- Adult Screenings
 - Reading glasses needed
 - Children only referred from US pediatricians



Screening in the Barrio

- No electrical supplies
- Limited screening
 - VA
 - Handheld battery operated equipment while it lasted
 - Limited distribution of glasses

Barrio Set Up

- Pediatricians
- Internists
- Dentistry
- Pharmacy

First 100 Patients Seen

- Adults (98%) 2 children presented after seeing pediatrician
 - Frank corneal disease present
- Females outnumbered males 94:6
 - Influences
 - Timing
- Aging Trends:
 - 26-89 with average of 45 (excluding 2 children)

Refractive Trends

- 95% hyperopia (mild) with presbyopia
- When myopia was present, it was considerably high

Vision Needs relative to other services provided:

- Dentistry

- Pain

- Pharmacy

- Pain
- Monetary gain
- “need to get something”

- Pediatrics

- Parental concern for sick child
- Local education on the importance of vitamins

- General Medicine

- Pain
- Perceived need
- Expected outcomes

- Vision Care

- Need driven (reading, close work)
- Expectations – elderly have weak vision

- Hundreds vs. 4,300 patients seen over 4 days

Considerations

- Cultural changes needed to promote vision care
- Access to Care
- Cost of Care

*DON'T DRINK THE WATER,
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE
VEGETABLES?!*

Personal Experience with the Healthcare System

- Dependent on ability to pay
- Not HIPPA Compliant
- Competent

Lessons Learned

- New perspective
 - Public Health
 - Reaction to return to US patient care
- Flexibility
- Creativity
- Expect the Unexpected



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 - Department of Ophthalmology
- Rosen Optical
 - Children's frames for orphanage
- SVOSH
 - Illinois Chapter – donated glasses