



SWINFEN CHARITABLE TRUST NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 4

Registered Charity Number 1077879

Autumn 2004

Saving lives with telemedicine

Linking the remotest regions of the earth with the world's finest medical minds

WILL YOU HELP?

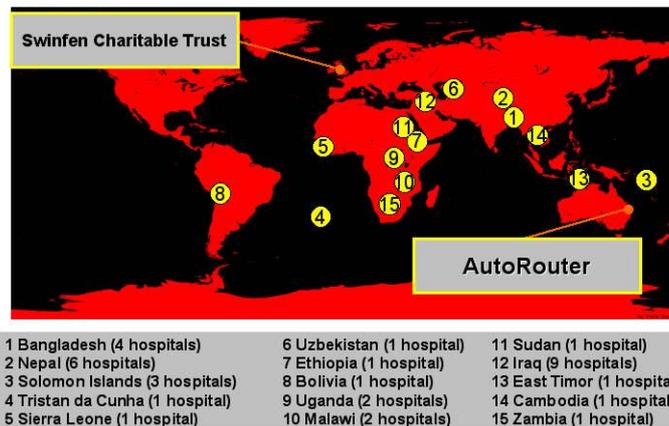
The Trust has experienced phenomenal growth over the first five years of its existence and has been able to sustain this growth through the dedication of those most closely involved and with the financial support that has been given by generous donors.

Going forward over the next three to five years, the Trust faces an enormous challenge to meet the almost never-ending demands from those most in need to establish a Link between a hospital and our dedicated Consultants.

The number of Consultants, without whom the Trust would be unable to function and who give their time entirely free, continues to grow and we currently have 132 on our books. The number of specialties and sub-specialties with which we are now able to deal increases likewise to the benefit of those whom we try to help.

Our international status grows with the attendance at international conferences, submission of papers and requests for advice on our systems.

Referring sites - June 2004



Quote from a Hospital in Nepal:

"We are grateful to have used Patan hospital as a processing point for telemedicine up until now. We have gained invaluable help from the consultations, with more than one LIFE saved because of good timely advice.

I actually coordinate a network of 12 "mission" hospitals ("NCHA"), of which Patan is one. I believe every one of these hospitals would benefit from this amazing service you offer (at least one other is already connected)."

Aims of the Trust

To assist poor, sick and disabled people in the developing world by establishing Telemedicine links between hospitals in remote places and medical specialists around the globe

LION'S EYE INSTITUTE

Pat and Georgina met Professor Yogesan of the Lion's Eye Institute, at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Western Australia in Perth.

Research at the LEI investigates the major causes of blindness and examines possible new treatments. Professor Yogesan has generously offered his expert help to SCT, and will work closely with the Trust on Ophthalmological referrals from remote hospitals in SCT Telemedical links.

SCT has been approached by St John's Eye Hospital, Jerusalem to ask if SCT could assist with links for their outlying clinics in Palestine. SCT has also been asked by Basra Teaching Hospital in Iraq to assist with ophthalmology referrals. The help being offered to SCT by The Lion's Eye Institute, of the University of Western Australia is therefore most welcome.

One of the leading Ophthalmological Consultants in the world, Professor Ian Constable, Director of the Lion's Eye Institute is willing to provide his services to SCT.

CASE STUDY

REGIONAL UPDATE

5 new remote links

Starting with August, Al-Hilla Hospital, Babylon, Rizgary Hospital, Erbil, both in Iraq, Emergency Hospital, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and St Francis Hospital, Katete, Zambia. At the beginning of September, the Cancer Day Hospital, Rajshahi, Bangladesh also joined the links. This brings the total number of links to 37.



SCT welcomes Dr Jarmo Reponen of Raahel hospital, Finland as a Radiology Consultant

Dr Reponen won a prize for his presentation at SFT 04 in Brisbane, his paper was on "Extending a multimedia medical record to a regional service".

Donations

Anyone who is reading this Newsletter is urged to consider making a donation and perhaps support on a continuing basis. These can be made by cheque to Swinfen Charitable Trust, FREEPOST NAT 18663, Canterbury, Kent CT3 1BR

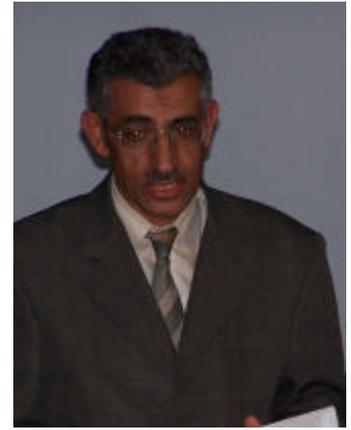
Report from a Kathmandu hospital using SCT telemedicine links:

An 11 year old boy was bitten on the lower leg by a snake in the remote far western region of Nepal.

After 25 days during which he was treated by the local village priest, undergoing various traditional healing rituals, he arrived at the hospital.

On arrival, he received proper medical treatment but it was too late to save his leg.

The question then was how and where best to carry out an amputation. Expert advice was sought from an SCT Consultant to confirm the doctor's opinion and appropriate surgery applied as a result.



The Trust welcomes Professor Thamer Hamdan, Dean of Basra Medical University, Iraq, who has kindly agreed to provide consultant advice in Orthopaedic Trauma.



Pat and Georgina gave a sandwich lunch for members of the Centre for OnLine Health who all do a considerable amount of valuable work (unpaid) for SCT.

Prof Wootton, Anthony Smith, Karen Youngberry amongst others are shown in the photograph.

Professor Richard Wootton recently visited the Solomon Islands (South Pacific) to begin planning with S.Is Ministry of Health to adopt SCT's Telemedicine Links for 10 hospitals and a community clinic. Referrals will be sent to Honiara Tertiary Hospital on Guadalcanal, and onwards to SCT should further specialist advice be needed.



SCT congratulates Prof. Bashar and Mrs Fatoohi of Baghdad on their recent marriage

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