

Health Talents International

Surgery Clinic Trip Report

February 8-15, 2020



Team Members:

Plastic Surgeons: Philip Strawther, Dwayne Fulks; **OB/GYN Surgeons:** Jud Allen, Mark Kellum, Roy Kellum, Jody Macey; **Neonatologist:** Katy Farrell; **Dental:** John Case; **Anesthesiologist:** Jason Buehler; **CRNA's:** Laurie Butler, Gordon Corder, Jordan Frenz; **Surgical PA:** Don Larson; **OR Nurses:** Cameron Freeman, Mindy Linvell, Susan Thomas, Misty Vance, Tammy Watkins; **Surgical Tech:** Doug Butler; **Lay Circulator:** Susan Kellum; **Recovery Room RNs:** Ashley Collins, Ann Cross, Susan Easterling, Emily Giboney, Michelle Gontko, Joy Kellum, Linda Osborne, Allie Osborne, Julie Plunkett, Christopher Radford, Brenda Robinson, Bailey Shelton, Molly Vandiver; **Medical Tech:** Shaylee Biedrzycki; **Harding Nursing Students:** Ally Davis, Madison Hope, Emily Michael, Addison Mouton, Zach Springman, Isaac Young; **Compassionate Caregivers:** Anna Gontko, Mallory Gipson, Brooks Pruitt, Broxton Robinson, Mikayla Stallings, Juanell Teague, John Vance;

Trip Overview

This past trip was very special in many ways. First and foremost, I was able to experience it with my parents, James and Juanell Teague from Richardson, TX. This was their first time to actually leave the country so it was especially experiential for them. I was also able to share this experience with one of my nieces, Emily Giboney. Emily is an HU alumni and practicing RN at Children's in LR. This was her fourth trip with HTI but our first together.

Our journey started pretty typical with one exception. While checking in luggage, Don Larson, a first-timer from Illinois, was explaining that his bag was full of supplies for a surgical mission trip to Guatemala. The managing agent said to him that he was from Nigeria and that he knew of Christian groups who had serviced people in his home country. Don then informed him of a trip he had taken to Nigeria for the same reason. At this, the manager then excused the \$200 charge for baggage and thanked Don for his service to Nigeria and his willingness to serve others.

Once at the clinic, all was pretty typical. We started Sunday with church and then a quick review from Dr. Walter on protocol and procedures. By the end of the day we had completed seven surgeries; two plastics and five GYN cases. All went well and it was a great start to a very productive week.

Monday we completed five plastic and nine GYN cases by the end of the day and everything went as planned. This was also about the time Katie Farrell began to not feel well. She felt as if she was coming down with the flu so her roommate was moved out and her room sanitized. She was taken good care of and segregated to keep it contained.

Tuesday morning started early with a plastic surgery as Dwayne Fulks was scheduled to return home. We ended up sending Katie home as well. Both made it safely to the airport and on to their homes without complications. By the end of the day we had completed five plastic, ten GYN and one dental case in the OR. Dr. John Case DDS was with us on this trip and he was able to complete five dental cases in the OR. He was assisted by our Ezell dental team, as well as some of our anesthesiologists and CRNA's. These surgeries were scheduled towards the end of days when the OR's had an opening. They were also cases in which the patients were young and needed extensive work.

Wednesday ended with an additional five plastic, six GYN, and two dental cases.

Thursday was a pretty typical day in that we began working towards releasing patients and only completing those surgeries which required less post-op time. We completed five minor plastic and two dental cases by the end of the day. We also sent twenty four to visit the chocolate farm that afternoon.

Friday morning was the typical send off, but not before our breakfast of pink valentines pancakes, a group picture, and a final farewell to our Ezell friends. Friday culminated with a wonderful Valentine's dinner with fantastic fellowship. The next morning we were all off to the airport by 10 am and many were on flights and on their way home by 1:30.

It was another fantastic trip with a group of loving, mission minded followers of Christ.



Special Interest and Pictures

Top Right Collage: Little nine month old Marvin, abandoned at birth by his mother due to his cleft lip and belief that he was cursed. He is being raised by his father and aunt who brought him in for surgery.

Middle Right: Now fifteen year old Yonni came in for his third cleft surgery. His first surgery was ten years earlier by our staff and this procedure repaired his lip.

Below: Bode's parents, James and Juanell Teague (left) and Doug Butler on their first Tuk tuk ride.



Middle Above: Harding University was well represented on this trip with six HU senior nursing students and ten HU alumni nursing graduates who are currently working in various hospitals and clinics in the states.



Left & Below: Yonni has had three surgeries to repair his Cleft lip & palate all by HTI

Above: Yonni (15), w/ Molly Vandiver, Philip Strawther and mom. Feb. 2020

Center Right: Yonni at age 2 w/ Molly

Far Right: Yonni (9) w/ Molly

