Global Missions Health Conference

Allied Health Unleashed

Gathering at the crossroads of Calling and Care in Rehabilitation Care and Education

Presenters

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- Skip Roy, PT, MHA

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Many Communities have limited or absent access to Rehabilitation Services. Rehab professionals traveling to communities or mission hospitals can:

- **Provide direct patient care to community or hospital children and adults who would benefit from rehab services**
- **Provide education and mentoring to rehab and non rehab professionals**
- **Provide education and mentoring where no rehab services are available**
- **Encourage and support full time missionaries serving in communities visited/served**
- **Use the platform of Rehab Services to share the Gospel and God's Love**

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SESSION OBJECTIVES

This presentation will help equip Rehab Professionals to be clinically effective in caring for patients in mission hospitals and clinics during short term trips

This presentation will help equip Rehab Professionals to mentor and teach rehab and non-rehab staff to be more clinically effective in meeting the rehab needs of patients in mission hospitals and short term, pop up clinics

This presentation will help equip Rehab Professionals to serve and encourage the full time missionary staff in mission hospitals, clinics and communities

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HAVE YOU BEEN CALLED?

- **The enemy of God's best is sometimes that which seems good**
  - **Good ideas are sometimes not God's ideas**
    - **Example of Sarah and Hagar**
- **Is your call consistent with God's Word?**
- **Is your motivation consistent with God's Word?**

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PRACTICE WITH EXCELLENCE

- **Colossians 3:23–24 “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving”.**

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GOD'S PROVISION FOR EXCELLENT PRACTICE

Exodus 35:30-31 "Then Moses said to the people of Israel, "See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and he has filled him with the Spirit of God , with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftmanship……"

God is indeed able to equip you beyond your training and skillset to meet the needs of patients and staff you'll encounter in a mission hospital or clinic

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This patient had an infection which essentially destroyed his upper, middle and lower trapezius musculature, making it impossible for him to hold his head up when sitting or standing. The HALO stabilized his neck so he could sit, stand and eat sitting up

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WHAT ARE THE REHABILITATON NEEDS - 30,000' VIEW -

According to the UN, and the WHO 15% of the world's population, or over 1 billion people, live with some sort of disability

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WHAT ARE THE REHABILITATION NEEDS - GLOBAL VIEW - HOW TO IDENTIFY?

- **According to the WHO, the needs for rehab are rising at a rate more than global warming**
  - https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/sconcerns/disability/statistics/#!/countries
- **Per United Nation's reports, therapy can solve all the world's problems???**
  - https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/resources/factsheet-on-persons-with-disabilities.html
- **Data from the World Bank clearly states that OTs are the most important profession in the world**
  - https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/disability

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WHAT ARE THE REHABILITATION NEEDS ? - ON THE GROUND VIEW, CONTINUED

What information does the sending agency, if any, have

Contact the hospital or clinic or community directly

- **Does the hospital, clinic or community already have some rehabilitation services in place?**

Contact the Medical Director or Medical staff

- **What kind of patients/diagnosis do they see?**
- **What do they see as the biggest rehab need?**

Contact any Rehabilitation staff in the hospital, clinic or community to hear about what they see and where they might need help

Contact any rehabilitation professionals who have traveled there in the past

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PREPARE YOURSELF

- What skills and experience do you have?
  - Have a reasonable estimation of your own abilities
    - Romans 12:3, “As God’s messenger I give each of you God’s warning: Be honest in your estimate of yourselves”…….Living bible
- What skills do you need to acquire/strengthen?
  - Teaching and mentoring
  - CE courses-online if time before travel is limited
  - Other

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HOW WILL YOU GO?

- Pick a sending agency you'll partner with
  - Many represented at GMHC
  - Don't just assume there is no need for rehab professionals
    - Example of MD in Togo
  - How does the agency's mission/vision/values and statement of faith mesh with yours
    - Decide how important the "small stuff" (girls in ministry, baptism, how communion is served etc) is

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HOW WILL YOU GO?

- **Talk to Mission hospital, clinic staff or rehab professionals in the community about what they need, both for rehab and personally**
  - **What supplies or equipment do they need?**
  - **What additional training or skills do they need?**

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- Get to know as much as you can about the customs system in country
  - Can you get a letter or document indicating that the items you are bringing are donated and not for sale?
  - Can you purchase items in a major city in the country before traveling to a perhaps more remote mission hospital?
  - For any electrical items remember voltage differences around the world

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WORLD MEDICAL MISSION®

A MINISTRY OF SAMARITAN'S PURSE®

September 11, 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mr. Skip Roy of Raleigh, NC will be visiting Tenwek Hospital in Kenya and will be carrying in his accompanying baggage some supplies that will be used at the hospital. They are gifts for patient care and for use in the work of the hospital and are not intended for resale or profit.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Heather Travers
Logistic Coordinator

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this the 7th day of September, 2023

Sandra C. Leonard
Notary Public
My commission expires October 30, 2023

FRANKLIN GRAHAM, PRESIDENT

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- Visa
  - The sending agency, if one, may assist with this
- Passport with blank pages
  - The sending agency, if one, may assist with this
  - Check the country's immigration website for requirements
- Immunizations
  - CDC guidelines
    - https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/travel-vaccines

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WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED?

- Immunizations, cont'
  - US Department of Health and Human Services
    - https://www.hhs.gov/immunization/who-and-when/travel/index.html
  - WHO
    - https://www.who.int/travel-advice/vaccines
  - Passport Health
    - https://www.passporthealthusa.com/vaccinations/

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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Flexibility is key and extremely important
- Self Care
  - Don’t substitute “ministry” for personal time with the Lord
  - Remember time differences and “jet lag”
    - You will need perhaps a day per time zone difference to be fully acclimated to the new time zone

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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Self Care-Cont’
  - Don’t be embarrassed if you need periodic time off or a day off
  - Food may be different
    - Cipro, antacid, diarrhea meds, etc

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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Come prepared to teach with a humble spirit
  - Romans 15:1-2 “We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. 2 Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up”
  - Be aware that there are often several ways to achieve a desired rehabilitation outcome
    - Consider phrases like “Here is another way to do that” rather than “Here is the best way to do that”

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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Come prepared to serve, Mark 10:45 “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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Equipping people.
Sharing the gospel.
Strengthening relationships.

Education, mentoring, gospel witness, and an invitation to serve

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The need is vast



In many low- and middle-income countries, more than half of those who need rehabilitation do not receive it.

The gap is not solved by more treatment days alone. It requires local knowledge, confident caregivers, referral pathways, and people who can teach others.

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Listen before choosing what to teach

1	Priority	What functional problems matter most here?
2	People	Who already provides care, advice, or referral?
3	Pathway	What happens before and after this encounter?
4	Reality	What time, equipment, language, and follow-up are available?

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Keep a posture of HUMILITY

1	Ask	How do you approach/manage/treat currently?
2	Offer	Could we share a few ideas and explore them together?
3	Adapt	How might these ideas fit local priorities, resources, and culture?
4	Learn	What should we carry home and do differently?

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Teach for function, safety, and transfer

FUNCTION

Tie every lesson to a meaningful daily activity.

SAFETY

Include red flags, precautions, and referral thresholds.

PRACTICE

Use demonstration, return-demonstration, and feedback.

TRANSFER

Give simple tools the learner can teach to someone else.

Watch on, do one, teach one

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Equip the whole circle of care

REHAB PROFESSIONALS

Clinical reasoning • progression • specialty skills • mentoring others

OTHER HEALTH WORKERS

Screening • basic functional care • red flags • referral

FAMILIES & COMMUNITY

Daily practice • prevention • participation • advocacy

Different roles need different depth—but everyone needs clear boundaries and a shared referral pathway.

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Rehabilitation can make HOPE visible

PRESENCE — **We slow down and see the person.**

DIGNITY — **We recognize image bearers, not diagnoses.**

— **We work toward meaningful participation.**

WITNESS

— **We explain the source of our hope with gentleness and respect**

"But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."-1 Peter 3:15

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A Respectful spiritual conversation is simple

1	ASK	Would it be okay if I prayed with you?
2	LISTEN	What gives you strength or hope?
3	CONNECT	Reflect what you heard; do not rush.
4	SHARE	Offer the reason for your hope in Christ.
5	INVITE	Ask if they want prayer, Scripture, or follow-up.

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Short-term teams need educators, not only clinicians

PT / OT

Mobility, self-care, positioning, caregiver training

SLP / AUDIOLOGY

Communication, swallowing, hearing, participation

ORTHOTICS / PROSTHETICS

Fit, function, skin protection, follow-up

OTHER ALLIED HEALTH

Respiratory, nutrition, imaging, behavioral health

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An invitation…

PRAY	EXPLORE	PREPARE	GO	MULTIPLY
Discern your role	Join an interest call	Learn culture + teaching	Serve on a team	Mentor and recruit

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Questions?

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