

2017 Amichi Medical Mission

We conducted two 8-hour days of free health screening and treatment. We served 256 unduplicated patients (demographics). Of these, 75% received **both** general medical care and eye screening. This means we provided 400 clinical services. Unfortunately, many patients are losing sights. Two in particular have lost complete sight and had walking sticks and young child guides. It is unclear why there is so many eye problems. Many needed reading glasses, a number obviously had cataract and need surgical repair. A number of patients also have glaucoma and cost of securing medications such as eye drops to treat this is astronomical. In many cases, the medications are not even available.

As is often the case, the most common diagnoses include high blood pressure, diabetes, and malaria. Here are a number of notable patient cases.

Patient Case #1

50 years old woman with fully extended abdomen; cachectic, emaciated, and looked 8 months pregnant. Onset of abdominal extension since March 2017. She shared that she sought treatment at a teaching hospital in the area. The provider ran tests. However, she did not provide us with a diagnosis nor described the treatment that she received. Our clinical impression – likely cancer. We encouraged her to return to the teaching hospital. Cost of treatment is likely prohibitive.

Patient Case #2

56 years old long term patient, known to us, who received kenalog shots for pain control. She now uses crutches because her leg structure is deformed. She told me her son built the crutches. There is a clear demonstration of the limitation of short-term treatment such as steroid shots for pain control. She needs surgery. The cost of a knee replacement surgery is 3 million naira, including rehabilitation, room and board. 3 million naira is equal to \$8,500 US dollars. Only 20% of Nigerian earn 3 million naira or \$8,500 a year.

Patient Case #3

55 years old woman with high blood pressure
Her blood pressure was 210/100. She shared that she had been under some stress lately. We administered medications stat and observed her for 2 hours. The medication was effective – reduced her blood pressure to 160/91. She was instructed to return to the clinic in 1 week.

Clonidine 0.1mg

Amlodipine 10mg

Hydrochlorothiazide 25mg

Patient case #4

65 years old man with a blood sugar level of 547mg/dl sugar.

Treated with Humulin 30IU in the clinic, observed and discharged with medications:

Metformin

Glipizide

Aspirin

He was instructed to return to the clinic in a couple of days.

The good news is that we were able to identify these patients, treat with medications and provided education for management. They have opportunity for follow-up care at our weekly clinic. Furthermore, we are thankful for many patients whose have achieved effective self-management of their chronic medical conditions. We had several testimonies –unsolicited! Many shared gratitude for lives saved as a result of our health service project; the hope that it provides to many underserved who otherwise will forego medical care. Many expressed gratitude that we take time to come and help!

Indeed we are grateful to serve! There is so much more work to do and we are committed to continue to do our best. Thanks so much for your continued support.

To our volunteer team – many have served with us since the inception of the health service project since 2004. Thank you!

Sincerely submitted

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