

## **Five Year Report – Outreach Program Eva Perón Teaching Hospital**

### **What the Outreach Program means for the hospital**

After the donation was received a Surgical Endoscopy Unit was created. The hospital finished the redesign of a wing of the building and allocated 4 rooms to the Unit; one room to receive patients, one for endoscopy, another to clean the endoscopes and finally, one room for patient recuperation.

For the official donation the hospital had reconstructed the main room, which was previously in very bad condition. Now the room is perfect and used for educational purposes.

Two nurses were sent to Buenos Aires for training by Olympus in the disinfection and management of the endoscopes. A few months later a further nurse was brought on and 3 years later another nurse was added to the staff. The hospital also received 4 nurses at the hospital for training in endoscope disinfection, two from the state of Enter Rios and two from the state of Cordoba.

The Cooperative Association has purchased for the Unit a pulse oximeter, ECG monitor, a computer, video recorder, and recently a DVD recorder and data projector for sharing videos.

### **What the Outreach program means for the doctors**

For the doctors the Outreach Program has been very convenient as it allows us to do a large number of the procedures we have learned, especially therapeutics procedures we were unable to perform previously. The government has also incorporated us as staff; Dr Huanambal as a Gastroenterologist and Endoscopist and me as Chief of the Surgical Endoscopy Section.

Dr Luis Nanini, Professor of Neumonology of the Rosario National University and members of the American Society of Neumonology, has benefited as well, as he now has an endoscopy unit for the bronchoscopes with all the necessary elements. It has also improved our ability to teach because we have created a program for the PC in which we can capture photos and transmit live video endoscopy to another room, limiting the number of residents around the patient, thus considering patient integrity.

The Otorrinolaringologist, Dr Jorge Martinez, also has also used our unit and equipment to do some procedures.

In April 2004, at which time the Unit had been running for 6 months, we had the pleasure of a visit from Dr Roque Saenz (Vice Chair of the WGO Santiago

Training Center), who evaluated our unit, discussed difficult cases with us during a morning meeting and did procedures with us.

In September 2005 we performed the first Master Classes with Dr Navarrete (Chair of the WGO Santiago Training Center), an Actualization Meeting for Surgical Endoscopy. The meeting enjoyed great success, with attendance by a number of surgeons and gastroenterologists. The course was organized under the auspices of the Rosario National University with the assistance of Professor Acosta and the Health Minister of the state of Sante Fe, Dr Sylvestre Begnis.

### **What the Outreach Program means for academics**

Dr Nanini is a Professor of Neumonology and I am a Professor Clinical Surgery for the undergraduate students. The program has allowed them to see live endoscopy in our unit. In 2006, I taught four Endoscopic Surgery and Digestive Endoscopy courses to post graduate surgical students.

To date, two gastroenterologists and one surgeon have completed their training in endoscopy with us and are now working in other centers.

With the ICU we have created a protocol for the treatment of GI bleeding for the hospital. We currently have three doctors doing endoscopy training in our unit, two of which are surgeons and the other a future gastroenterologist. Our hospital's surgery residents also do rotations for in our unit.

A further doctor who would like to specialize in gastroenterology visits our unit once a week for observational purposes and another surgeon has requested to train with us next year.

### **What the Outreach Program means for medical services**

The Outreach Program has meant improvement in all fields. We now perform a higher number of endoscopies than before and have also experienced an improvement in quality. Previous to the Outreach Program, we had only been able to reach the cecum in 50% of colonoscopies, which today that percent has reached over 95%. We now perform various therapeutic procedures, polypectomies, gastrostomies, dilations, banding, esclerosis, mucosectomies, endoprotesis, stone extraction, lithotripsy, etc. We now also do come procedures such as paediatric endoscopy, ERCP, and the treatment of gastrointestinal bleeding, which had never before been performed in our hospital. Not only do we now have the ability to resolve the endoscopy problems of our own hospital, but we also receive patients from other hospitals and are growing as a referral endoscopy center. In five years we have done 4098 procedures, 181 bronchoscopies, 372 ERCP, 1126 colonoscopies and 2454 UGE, both diagnostic and therapeutic.

In the case of ERCP, our unit has 98.6% of cannulation, 20.4% of precut, 4.5% of complications, 2.7% pancreatitis, two cases of Bilroth II and with success. We feel that these numbers are quite good and demonstrate that the WGO Santiago Training Center is an excellent place to learn endoscopy.

We have done two experimental transgastric procedures in the experimental lab with pigs using old endoscopes and it is quite exciting to have the opportunity to prove how much further we can go as doctors.

We show our videos weekly in the surgeon service meeting. At these meetings gastroenterologists, surgeons, internal medical doctors and oncologists work together as a team, which from my point of view is very important.

I also find it important that in the endoscopy unit we have created a very good team with excellent people who enjoy what they are doing.

We receive gratitude from our patients everyday for our work and we want to share this with the people who made this possible.

My congratulations to the WGO and OMED because it is important that organizations like this work to help people around the work and do not only serve as membership organizations.

My further congratulations to Olympus. It is important that successful companies like this play a social role because they have the possibility to help a wide number of people and should be seen as an example for other corporations.

And of course my congratulations to Dr DiSario and Dr Saenz. In the beginning only a few people believed in the Outreach Program, but you did it, and now your program is a success.

After five years we believe that we are headed in the right direction and, with passion and hard work, will transform our Endoscopy Surgical Section into a Center of Excellence.

Eva Perón Teaching Hospital; doctors, nurses, patients; we all wish to say thank you very much for your help. We will always be indebted to you and hope you continue with programs such as this.

Kind regards,  
Dr. Diego Murature