



RESEARCH

First OTC Workshop on Functional Assessment of Fracture Healing

Date: October 21-22, 2011
Location: Barcelona, Spain

Contact Richard.Helmer@otcfoundation.org for registration.

Dr. Ashish Diwan Appointed to OTC Research Committee (RECO)



With the assignment of Peter Patka to EXCO a vacancy in RECO needed to be filled. This was widely advertised within the OTC community and highly qualified candidates from all three regions applied. The choice was difficult and finally fell on Dr. Ashish Diwan, Director of Bone Biology at St. George Hospital and Clinical School, UNSW, Australia.

Dr. Diwan has a long and distinguished history in clinical research and teaching assignments. He has been involved with OTC South Pacific for many years. He has also assisted colleagues in setting up and running research projects in various areas, including osteoporosis research. Diwan brings both an extensive amount of experience and expertise to RECO and the OTC research grant program. Ted Miclau, the RECO Chair, warmly welcomed him.

HUMANITARIAN

Humanitarian Surgical Program Undertaken in Laos by Volker Alt, MD, PhD

This mission, running May 15 - 18, 2011, provided on-site medical support to the Department of Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery of the "Hôpital de l'Amitié" in Vientiane, Laos and was conducted under the OTCF principle for humanitarian programs, "Improving patient outcome for trauma patients in difficult socio-economic situations."

The program's main intention was to provide direct surgical patient care, as well as training and theoretical education to the hospital's surgeons.

Seven surgeons from provincial hospitals (invited by "Santé France Laos") were also trained, allowing for important knowledge transfer into several smaller provinces of Laos.

In Laos, trauma is a major cause of death and disability. Local conditions for the treatment of trauma patients are poor due to the lack of adequate implants for fracture fixation, difficult hygienic conditions and limited knowledge of specific principles in fracture care. Therefore, surgical treatment with different techniques of open and closed reduction with internal and external fixation, mainly for long bone fractures, was carried out.

Overall, the mission helped to improve the understanding of principles of fracture treatment and surgical techniques, which both will have a positive influence on the care of trauma patients in Laos in the future.

INSIGHTS

2011 OTCF Annual General Meeting Held in Madrid, Spain - June 23, 2011



Chapter presidents and representatives from 20 countries attended this year's event. OTCF Board of Trustees Chairman, Emanuel Zloczower (Switzerland); Host Chapter President, Daniel Vaquero (Spain); and OTCF Executive Committee Chairman, Melvin Rosenwasser (USA and pictured on the left), opened the meeting. Themes

addressed included past and future plans surrounding Education, Research and Humanitarian activities, interactive group discussions as well as update presentations on OTC Chapters in Spain, USA and Japan. Three new OTC Chapters were inaugurated: Sweden, Denmark (represented by Ole Brink pictured on the right) and United Kingdom. The Global OTC Alliance now encompasses 21 Country Chapters with more than 2400 members. In 2010 more than 3100 Surgeons and Scientists were trained at over 60 courses & events worldwide.

The Leadership Forum (LF) entitled, "Osteoporotic Fractures" followed the AGM and brought together more than 60 health care professionals, surgeons, scientists, and managers. The sessions ended with five presentations of Grantees of OTCF Research Grants. The presentation rated best will be published in the 2012 JOT Supplement.