

## **The Kudjip Experience Residents / Students**



### **The Hospital**

Kudjip Nazarene Hospital functions as the referral hospital for most of Jiwaka Province, a mountainous region of Papua New Guinea home to nearly half a million people. Although situated on the national highway, many of the people who come to Kudjip make difficult journeys from rural and remote parts of the country.

The hospital has about 120 inpatient beds with roughly 30 on each of four wards: Adult Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery and Obstetrics. The outpatient department consists of 8 physician exam rooms, an emergency room with 7 beds and a 2-bed orthopedic suite. We have a pharmacy to dispense our own medications. We recently added a dental clinic.

In 2015 the hospital provided:

~58,000 outpatient visits

~6,300 admissions

~2,200 deliveries

~250 C-sections

~600 major surgeries

~1000 minor surgeries

diagnosis of ~700 new TB cases

ongoing care of ~1000 HIV patients (including adult, pediatric, newborn and maternal)

nearly 10,000 childhood immunizations

and preventive health services including STI clinics, cervical cancer screening and antenatal care

The current full-time physician staff includes: 4 family practice doctors, 1 pediatrician, 2 general surgeons and a Rural Medicine specialist from PNG.

The hospital can perform most X-rays and basic laboratory examinations that you might find at an Urgent Care setting in the U.S. We have a blood bank.

### **The “Rotation”**

Students and residents who come here are usually exposed to a variety of full-spectrum tropical medicine experiences in a limited-resource setting.

A typical day will be spent first rounding on one of the wards with a preceptor, and then working under supervision in the outpatient department. There may be some protected time on the labor ward or in the operating theatre.

Trainees are commonly able to perform more procedures here than they would in their home country. These include thoracentesis, paracentesis, lumbar puncture, suturing of lacerations, incision and drainage, ultrasound, vaginal deliveries, dilatation and curettage, and manual extraction of a retained placenta.

Trainees may assist in the operating theatre. Depending upon their interest, level of training and aptitude, they may perform individual steps of operations under the direct supervision of a staff doctor and may perform cesarean sections with staff supervision.

## The Community

Kudjip practices whole-person care following the model of Jesus, including spiritual care and ministry to the vulnerable and needy. Trainees are expected to participate in the spiritual care of patients. Residents and students are encouraged to pray with and for their patients.

Trainees will be exposed to medical missions and what it means to live as a medical missionary. Those considering careers in medical missions will have the opportunity to ask questions of missionaries who have worked here for just a few years up to those with decades of experience. The families serving here will include students and residents in prayer meetings, visits to PNG “bush” churches, dinners, swimming, sports, and hikes around our beautiful Waghi valley.

Trainees will also interact with national staff in and out of the hospital. Serving alongside Papua New Guinean nurses and resident physicians (registrars) brings the culture of PNG into the hospital. Chapel devotions, nursing student fellowships and visits to local villages are excellent ways to get to know some of our Papua New Guinean neighbors outside of work.

There are a few basic restaurants in nearby (1 hour) Mount Hagen and one just 20 minutes away in the town of Banz. Trainees will have the opportunity to shop for groceries at the beginning of their time here, but other trips to town for shopping or recreation may be arranged without too much difficulty.

## The Expectations

We ask that students and residents plan to spend a minimum of 4 weeks with us. Trainees will work hard, roughly a 40-hour week plus taking hospital call with staff physician supervision. Students and residents will manage complicated tropical medicine illnesses, refine physical exam skills in a resource-limited setting, encounter obstetric and trauma cases, hone cross-cultural communication skills, document care appropriately and be expected to read and discuss topics with a preceptor.

## The Rewards

Trainees at Kudjip have spoken of their time here as being a life changing experience. Many are interested in medical missions, but want to know what it looks like “in the trenches” and find that Kudjip gives them just that. They gain a new perspective on the practice of medicine, ministry, global health and serving the poor and needy in sometimes difficult circumstances. For those who embrace the unique challenges here, the rewards are often equally great.



Student doctor Michael with translator and patient