

STOMA CARE PROJECT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN ASIA

Proposed and initiated by Professor Carlo Pezcoller, colo-rectal surgeon at the University of Modena, Emilia Romagna, North Italy, in collaboration with the Asian Ostomy Association.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

In early 1999 Prof Carlo Pezcoller found an announcement in the Ostomy International website that the 5th Asian Ostomy Association Conference was going to be held in Penang, Malaysia in September that year. He registered for the Conference, and offered to present a paper on "Peri-stomal Hernias".

During the Conference he spoke with Dato' John David Cardosa who was later elected president of AOA during the HOD Meeting, about the possibility of his helping Asian countries with little or no support services for ostomates. He proposed that he would train ET nurses in his University for three months, fully sponsored by his university and the Lions Clubs of his area. Cardosa discussed the proposal with the WCET Chair of Education, Ms. Elizabeth English, who was also present at 5AOA. She advised that surgeons should first be made aware of the need for stoma nurses, and for them to ask for nurses to be trained. Without the cooperation of the surgeons, the programme would die a natural death.

So it was decided that instead of sending nurses to Modena, selected surgeons would first be brought there for a workshop and to see at first hand the work being done in Modena for the rehabilitation of ostomates. Then later, nurses could be trained at their local level for a week and encouraged to work in surgical wards looking after ostomates. Prof. Pezcoller agreed to this plan. He agreed that it was better to train surgeons to WANT the assistance of stoma care nurses.

The project started with the first batch of two doctors from Indonesia and two from Pakistan being sponsored to come to Modena together with Dato' Cardosa, who acted as the coordinator for the

REACHING OUT TO COLLEAGUES

participants. The training workshop in Modena was held from 5 to 10 June 2000.

Next, from 9 to 14 October 2000, 25 key nurses from Jakarta and the Region of West Java were selected to attend an intensive 6-day course in Stoma Care. The faculty of three ET nurse Educators came from the Penang Stoma Care Society. Prof Carlo Pezcoller also came at his own expense to lecture at the workshop. Two local ETs from Jakarta also assisted on the Faculty, as did John Cardosa. BBraun very kindly paid the expenses in connection with the workshop, including the hotel charges for the visiting ET Nurse educators and the AOA president. The two Indonesian doctors who had earlier gone to Modena also helped with the training. Besides BBraun, the other sponsors were the Penang Stoma Care Society, the Indonesian Cancer Foundation, and the AOA, which paid the AOA President's air fare. The other sponsor was the Indonesian Cancer Foundation under whose auspices the workshop was conducted, and which sponsors the Indonesian Ostomy Association (InOA).

While in Indonesia, Prof Pezcoller contacted the Lions District Governor of District 307B Indonesia, to ask for his help and cooperation. The Governor of the Italian Lions District 108Tb, Governor Prof Giampiero Gardini is also in touch with the Indonesian Lions Clubs to encourage them to lend a helping hand to the InOA.

2001

From 14 to 19 May 2001, a second workshop was held in Modena for two

surgeons each from Iran and Sri Lanka, with a view to setting up Ostomy associations in these two countries in the near future. Again the workshop was most successful. The AOA President once again acted as coordinator for the participants. Cardosa was also fully sponsored by the Italian sponsors, as were the four surgeons. The next step will be to conduct stoma nursing one-week courses in Iran and Sri Lanka later this year, with the assistance of ET Nurse educators from Penang.

FUTURE PLANS

Next year, Prof Pezcoller plans to conduct yet another workshop for surgeons from Vietnam and Nepal, and possibly also from Cambodia and Laos.

Prof Carlo Pezcoller's initiative and consequent efforts to help develop and expand stoma care services in Asia is a fine example of what volunteerism can do. Prof. Pezcoller is not only a volunteer himself, but he has managed to persuade a large number of other people to volunteer to help him in the achievement of his objectives.

Financial support is provided by:

1. A.I.STOM. - O.N.L.U.S. di Modena e Provincia (Italian National Ostomy Association - Modena and Provinces)
2. B.BRAUN - ITALY
3. The Lions Clubs of 108 Tb District Italy:
= MODENA WILIGELMO
= CARPI ALBERTO PIO (MO)
= MODENA HOST
= CARPI HOST (MO)

.....continued on page 34

Photo, left to right: Dott. Saeed Derakshani (Iran), Dr. Nandadeva Samarasekera (Sri Lanka), Dr. Kemal Deen (Sri Lanka), Prof. Carlo Pezcoller, ET Nurse Luciana Arellaro, Dato John Cardosa, Prof. Francesco Tavoni (urologist and Vice Governor Lions District 108Tb of Italy), Dr. Sandra Maioli, Laura Zambelli and Mareno Barbieri (B. Braun)



IOA OPEN FORUM

Facilitated and reported by Marilyn A. Mau

Notes from the Open Forum conducted at the 10th IOA World Congress - The Netherlands, April 2000.

Those present included:

- IOA Officers and
- Candidates for office

The following comments were recorded based on the discussion held at this Open Forum, which was designed to elicit input from IOA Member Associations for the future direction of the leaders and Executive Council.

1. Is there a twinning program?
There is a need to have a data base on who is helping whom. The associations need to let the Contact Office know.
2. Many countries need information leaflets in their own language.
3. The IOA World Congress should be taken to countries who need it most.
4. IOA World Council meetings are all in English. Does this keep people away? Finances are always the pri-

mary problem in attendance. People should speak the English slowly and use simple sentences. They should have cards/slides with their main points.

5. There is a need to record all sessions. And make the tapes available to all countries.
6. Ensure that at all World Councils there are workshops relating to cancer and to leading a normal life after cancer.
7. All workshops should include discussion time.
8. A committee should be named to choose the best ideas from the publications and provide a condensed version to all associations.
9. IOA should promote the World Council more widely, using more advertisements.
10. IOA should promote the exchange of publications between all associations. The list is on the Website, but a review needs to be done.

