

The Surgical Services Initiative (SSI)



Surgical Services Initiative – What Is It?

The Surgical Services Initiative (SSI) is a group of Doctors, who have come together as a non-profit organization started by charitable organization called SEESHA [a sister concern of Jesus Calls ministries]. The common goal is to provide quality multispecialty cost effective surgical services to rural based Christian Hospitals and other charitable hospitals in India / any part of the World as deemed appropriate so that patients in these regions may benefit from low cost surgical services and local Doctors trained in these fields.

AIMS

- Cost effective multispecialty surgical services
- Reaching out to rural based hospitals
- Onsite Training of local Doctors
- Networking with charitable Christian and other rural hospitals
- Sharing of resources with networking hospitals
- Research projects related to providing low cost surgical services
- Networking with other institutions to provide training [like CEMAST, KU, Lancet commission on Global health, Harvard University, University of Leeds, etc]

ACTIVITIES

- Diagnostic camps
- Surgical camps
- Surgical camp exposure for medical students, interns and volunteers
- Training programme
- Working holidays
- Resource sharing between hospitals
- Promotional activities newsletters, subscriptions
- Upgrading of local operation theatres depending on criteria described by the board
- Research work related to low cost equipment
- Friends of SSI

The Concept

The Lancet estimates that one third of global disease burden is surgical and World Health Organization has estimated that 11% of the global disease burden can be treated with simple surgical procedures, but there are 5 billion people who have no access to basic surgical care. Out of the 234 million surgeries carried out each year, the World's poorest third gets only 3.5%.



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The Opportunities

- For Learning
- For Teaching
- For Upgrading Facilities
- For Serving

How To Get Involve

- Volunteering for the surgical and diagnostic camps in remote and rural areas
- Helping with the research program
- Donating to the program
- Joining as full time staff
- Carrying donated medical supplies to the surgical camps
- Funding research projects

The Current Research

- SSI is working on a low cost abdominal lift device for gas less laparoscopic surgeries that has the potential of taking laparoscopic surgeries to the poor. It is sturdy, low cost equipment and the learning curve is not steep. The procedure is closer to the familiar open surgeries and is physiologically superior and can be performed under regional anaesthesia
- SSI is also working on instruments for Single incision Lift laparoscopic surgeries
- SSI has a Hospital Management software that is compliant with the NABH standards
- SSI has endoscopic surgeries for renal stone and easy to learn vaporization surgeries

Affiliations

SSI is a part of the Hope for People International registered as a charitable trust in USA. The Indian component is managed through Project India compassion Trust. The Anava foundation in Switzerland also supports one of its projects. It is also affiliated to SEESHA in India and implementing Lancet commission on global surgery in India.



Benefits of membership

By becoming a member of SSI, you join hands with others with similar vision to take the modern surgical facilities to the poor and the needy in rural and remote areas. You can make sure that the valuable contribution that you make in terms of money, time and talent reaches the target population. Thanks to your involvement you would be the recipient of God's blessings and the gratefulness of the beneficiaries.

The following are the other tangible benefits of membership

- A. You can participate and enjoy the “ Working holidays program of SSI”
- B. You can use the services of those who come for the working holiday program
- C. You will benefit from the CME programs arranged by SSI
- D. You will receive information about Diagnostic and surgical camps if you are registered as surgeon member
- E. You could make use of the surgical camps of SSI for treatment of your patients at a considerably lower cost compared to the market rate
- F. You could make use of the equipment of SSI at a nominal rent.
- G. Later on when sufficient donations are available with SSI you can include your facility for upgrading by SSI



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