

Namaste from Nepal,

I was at Patan Hospital yesterday and spoke with Dr Nabis (an orthopod). As you can imagine ortho injuries are the most common. He told me locally available splints for limbs and implants such as nails and plates are what are needed. I also spoke with the heads of department and VC of Patan Academy of Health Sciences under which is Patan Hospital. They told me that patients and their relatives just show up with no money or food with severe injuries and they have to deal with them. Remember hardly anyone in Nepal has health insurance.

Dr Nabis the orthopod told me that funds to buy these orthosis at present are more important than doctors from abroad. He is doing a great job.He told me that the other day while operating there was a tremor in the OR and to calm the nurses (who naturally wanted to flee) he told them that it was him sawing off a part of a limb vigorously at that time that caused the table to shake!!!

So if you wish to help out Patan Hospital (where I also work and do my typhoid research with Oxford University) a possible option is to send money is to Patan Hospital Earthquake Disaster Fund. The name of the Bank is Nabil Bank Limited and the name of the account is Patan Academy of Health Sciences. Account number is 0203217500593. The Swift code is NARBNPKA. Address: Kupundole, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal

The authorities have announced that they do not encourage any kind of doctors just to show up in Nepal. An orthopod or anaesthesia docs may be more useful they said at present.

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