

Making good progress at Sanglah Hospital, Bali

ANGELA BORELLA HAS BEEN WORKING IN BALI WITH AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL.

In March 2010, I commenced my role as advisor and mentor to the radiology department at Sanglah Hospital in Denpasar, Bali. I have been very grateful to the many people and organisations that have contributed donations and provided invaluable advice to me and to the department, since my arrival here.

Donating used equipment to a developing country is a fantastic thing to do, but thought must be given as to what equipment is given and how it is sent, as many developing countries have different systems which can often render the donations useless. There are many stories of generous donations of radiological equipment that are left to rust due to the fact that there is no one to install or maintain the equipment or perhaps the consumables used for that equipment are too expensive. When donating equipment overseas, consideration needs to be given to all these other factors.

I received a sizeable grant of \$8000 from the Planet Wheeler Foundation. Maureen and Tony Wheeler, the founders of the Lonely Planet publications, started their foundation in 2008 to give back to the communities, many of which they had written about in their highly successful travel books.

The grant application process involved writing a proposal for a project that could bring about sustainable change. The project we chose was to introduce a comprehensive infection control programme in to the radiology department. The money was spent on sending three key staff to Jakarta for training in infection control, the purchase of training tools, such as hand hygiene and cross contamination kits, plus educational posters, t-shirts and the renovation of existing hand washing facilities. So far, the results of the programme have been pleasing. Changes in practices are evident, particularly hand washing and the use of antiseptic hand rub



Radiology staff having fun in the infection control workshop



Radiographers attend one of the in-house education sessions

throughout the department.

The AIR, the World Health Organisation and the World Radiography Educational Trust Fund have all kindly contributed to the successful start-up of a radiology department library. Receiving over 100 kg of books from the UK, Australia and Switzerland was no mean feat. Books were sent in small packages of less than 10 kg bundles to ensure safe entry in to Indonesia.

The AIR, together with Philips Medical, also contributed to Sanglah Hospital being able to celebrate its first ever World

Radiography Day, through donations of posters, pens, mouse pads and balloons. Monetary assistance from Philips Medical provided lunch for 80 staff. The day was a huge success and will continue annually.

The Medical Imaging Department and Central Melbourne Medical Imaging at St Vincent's Hospital held a morning tea event that raised \$1200. This generous donation from staff has assisted in many areas. It enabled us to buy a new electric typewriter for the reception area, to help improve the quality of the patient name on the ID card (used for naming the films in the darkroom). The print from the very old manual typewriter was barely legible and there were many complaints that doctors and ward staff could not read the patient names on the films, leading to mix-ups on the wards. This small change has had a significant impact on patient outcomes. The rest of the money was spent assisting the newly developed Radiology Education Committee with the purchase of an LCD projector and laptop to be used for in-house educational presentations on patient positioning, interesting cases and

pathology for radiographers and radiologists.

RAI Medical, a radiology medical engineering company based in Melbourne, also donated an actinic film marker for the darkroom. These are rare items to find now, due to the cessation of darkroom processing, so this donation was gratefully received by Sanglah Hospital.

Other support was received by a group of very enthusiastic radiology nurses and radiographers from Nambour Hospital on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. Left over funds from a radiology conference were donated and were used to purchase a much-needed textbook on multi-slice CT and MRI. Sanglah Hospital has just installed a multi-slice CT scanner and has made the quantum leap in technology from single slice to 64 slice. These books have been extremely helpful to the radiologists, who are now seeing more pathology than they ever have before.

Lightbox Radiology Education provides educational courses for physicians, surgeons, gps, residents, registrars and radiographers. They have many intensive courses in the clinical areas of CT, chest x-ray interpretation and trauma x-ray interpretation, within



The main department hand washing facilities, before and after renovation

Australia and overseas. Lightbox Radiology Education held an acute medical and surgical CT interpretation course in Bali and donated two placements in their course for radiology staff from Sanglah Hospital. The course covered acquisition, normal variations and patterns of disease in CT imaging of the head, neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis and extremities and the two attendees found the course highly beneficial for their clinical practice.

I would like to thank friends and

colleagues from St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, Monash University, Imaging for Developing Countries, the AIR, Nambour Hospital, the World Health Organisation, Rad-AID, Lightbox Radiology Education, the World Radiography Educational Trust Fund, RAI Medical, Philips Medical and the Planet Wheeler Foundation for all of their support. It has been gratefully received by the staff at Sanglah Hospital and has improved the outcomes for many patients in Bali. s

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