

Prosthodontic Associates and the Academy of Prosthodontics International Outreach Program were proud to support Bridge to Health Medical and Dental, in partnership with Kigezi Healthcare Foundation (KIHEFO) in their 4th annual humanitarian mission to Kabale, Uganda.”The prosthodontic team comprised of Drs. Izchak Barzilay, David Chvartzaid, Effrat Habsha, prosthodontists, as well as Dr. Elahe Behrooz (postgrad Prosthodontics U of T), Chetna Mistry and Sean St. Louis (undergrad U of T) and the dental team comprised of Dr. Avi Shelemay, Dr. Brian Leiptog, Dr. Mikhail Bouchan, Teri Robertson R.R.D.H., Lily Tran CDA II and Caroline Szymaniak CDTC, played a crucial role in the outreach program. Supplementing our team was a great group of Ugandan Dental Officers headed by Innocent Rugaya.

The main purpose of the overall mission was to deliver critical medical and dental care to impoverished communities which otherwise lack access to such services. In collaboration with KIHEFO, a reputable local non-governmental organization, the aim was to provide sustainable and cost effective health and dental care, improve healthcare delivery systems, train local healthcare professionals and educate the public. Our goal was to have a lasting impact on the communities we served and the prosthodontic program played a crucial role in achieving just that.



Over the two-week course of the mission, the team traveled hundreds of miles throughout the Kabale region of Uganda to remote villages where they transitioned rudimentary school houses and classrooms into makeshift dental centers. The team utilized generators to bolster non-existent electricity sources and supplemented the lack of running water with bottled water, cases of which, along with dental equipment and supplies, were carted to each location by the volunteers.



With the support of the International Outreach Program of the Academy of Prosthodontics as well the generous support of Dentsply Canada, the team was able to expand the dental services to offer immediate denture fabrication and insertion.

The prosthodontic team served a steady stream of patients, many of which lined up in advance of the team’s arrival to ensure their immediate needs could be addressed.

The prosthodontic team completed up to 16 prostheses per village per day using innovative techniques and resin materials from Dentsply Canada.

This extraordinarily rare treatment to the Ugandan villagers, quickly became a very popular and sought after service.

The team witnessed not only physical but also emotional transformations as edentulous patients were boasting full smiles by the end of each clinical day.



Over the course of the two weeks in Uganda, the dental team cared for over a thousand patients, completed hundreds of child fluoride applications, removed over 800 diseased teeth, placed many resin restorations and fabricated 65 same day removable dentures in total replacing 249 teeth.

Drs. Barzilay, Chvartzaid, Habsha and the entire outreach team of Prosthodontic Associates, remain committed to their continued support of Bridge to Health –Medical and Dental; its vital role in the communities of Uganda and making an impact in the lives of those who would otherwise have no access to the crucial services. Along with volunteering their time and expertise, funding their own travel and accommodation costs, all Bridge to Health volunteers make personal monetary donations as well as participate in various fundraisers throughout the year to help with the funding of the overall mission.

On behalf of Prosthodontic Associates, Bridge to Health, KIHEFO as well as the communities of Uganda, we wish to extend a special thank you to all those who have supported our efforts! If you wish to join our international outreach and make an impact in the lives of those who would otherwise not have access to dental and medical care, we encourage you to donate. Your donation will provide care, training and most of all - hope. Your donation is tax deductible and will go directly to the community in need. We invite you to visit our Canada Helps fundraising page “Prosthodontic Associates for Bridge to Health Medical and Dental” at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/prosthodontic-associates-for-bridge-to-health-medi/>

Sincerely, The PA Team

