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Helping Nisha: Surgeon Successfully Treats Fractured Femur With The Aid of Global HELP's *TIPS* Series

Dr. Mandeep Pathak, an orthopedic surgeon, working in the Bayalpata Hospital in rural western Nepal is no stranger to Global-HELP.org. In a letter to Dr. Robert Yancey, an Orthopedic Surgeon in Gig Harbor, Washington and member of the Global HELP International Advisory Board, Dr. Pathak described his experience treating Nisha, a six-year-old Nepalese girl.

Nisha had fallen while playing with her sister, hearing her screams, Nisha's mother rushed to find her daughter holding her rapidly swelling leg. A couple of hours later at Bayalpata Hospital, Dr. Pathak determined that she had broken her femur, resulting in a significant separation of the bone. Because this type of fracture cannot heal properly with just casting



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- Dr Mandeep Pathak Nepal

kids like Nisha can walk with a limp the rest of their lives which is a serious disability for a girl Nepal. Worse yet, improper or insufficient treatment could have resulted in her being unable to ever walk effectively.

Familiar with global-help.org, Dr. Pathak searched for information on how to treat Nisha's injury and found the guidance he was looking for in Dr. Yancey's TIPS sheet "Management Of Pediatric Femur Fractures With A Single Semi-Rigid Retrograde Nail."

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When we teach people to help children in their own communities, we give them the tools to treat hundreds of children, and to change the lives of these children, their families, their countries, and the world.

Lynn & Lana Staheli



New Video Series

Pediatric Orthopedics

The first installment of a series of videos in both Spanish and English made in association with Global HELP and COTI (Central Orthopedic and Trauma for Infants) at the Hospital Clínico de Niños Dr. Roberto del Río in Santiago, Chile is now available on our website and on YouTube. This series covers the basics of pediatric orthopedics in sometimes low-resource environments. Please visit our YouTube channel to access this growing collection of videos.

More videos created every month!







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"I had to review the technique of inserting the Yancey nail [on] the website before the surgery, " he recalled shortly after the procedure. Thanks to the accuracy and accessibility of Dr. Yancey's publication, Dr. Pathak performed the surgery successfully, and Nisha made a full recovery.

Dr. Yancey's treatment technique was devised to implement low-cost and easily accessible materials. The nail



discussed in the TIPS publication and used by Dr. Pathak costs around five dollars, while alternate materials commonly used in the West can be priced at hundreds, even thousands, of dollars. On top of using only economical materials, the procedure can be performed without an x-ray machine, greatly increasing its feasibility in developing countries where x-ray machines are often unavailable.

Dr. Yancey's TIPS is part of HELP's TIPS: Techniques for Developing Countries. This series aims to provide a resource that allows entry, retrieval, and dissemination of creative



solutions to commonly-encountered problems in resource-poor environments. The straightforward, concise nature of these publications allow for ease of access and quick, direct application of each procedure.

This surgery was not the first time Dr. Pathak accessed materials from global-help.org; in fact, he described his experience using HELP resources during his residency, specifically when he was learning about clubfoot management.

"[Global HELP] has been a boon to the surgeons like us," he says, emphasizing the authoritative and accessible nature of HELP's materials. "[the] publications [have been] useful and relevant in our setting."

Dr. Pathak is grateful for the accessibility and effectiveness of GHO educational materials reaffirms the pertinence of the organization's mission and its success in offering free, relevant, comprehensive medical information for all. Without Global HELP's guidance, Nisha may not have had a normal childhood.







190+ countries reached





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www.pedorthoacademy.org www.pedorthoacademy.org/espanol

Pediatric Orthopaedic Academy (POA) is a specialty sub-site of HELP designed with easy navigation to make free pediatric orthopaedic information more accessible worldwide.

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