

GLOBAL CLINIC

A NON PROFIT HUMANITARIAN EFFORT



NOV
2018

VISION PROJECT
MYANMAR

TRIP SUMMARY

Global Clinic's vision team returned to Myanmar in 2018 to set up free eye clinics, provide prescription glasses and perform sight restoring surgeries in our continuing efforts in our prevention of blindness programs in Myanmar since 2014.

Continuing its partnership with non-profit organization, Sitagu Mission Trust, Global Clinic's team of surgeons, doctors, optometrists and nurses examined over 1000 patients, treating over 400, and performing over 250 sight-restoring surgeries over a five-day period.



WHAT WE DELIVERED

A. Free Eye Clinics

Our optometrists and doctors examined over 1000 patients, helping improve their vision, and detecting cases of preventable blindness. Furthermore, 365 pairs of spectacles were prescribed to treat uncorrected refractive error and improving functional vision.

B. Surgeries

Our surgeons performed more than 250 sight-restoring surgeries in carefully selected patients in a mobile hospital setting over 5 days. Most of these patients were blind in both eyes with dense cataracts and underwent successful cataract extractions with intraocular lens implants to restore sight.

In order to ensure continuity of care and adequate post-operative follow-up, the local ophthalmologists examined all operated patients over the next few months.

Complex cases that could not be performed on site were referred to and treated at Yangon Eye Hospital.

Numbers at a Glance

Patients screened and evaluated	>1000
Patients treated	>400
Sight-restoring surgeries performed	>250
Cataract surgeries performed	247
Pterygium removals	5
Eyelid repairs	3
Glasses prescribed	365
Protective eyewear prescribed	265

C. Education and Training:

We continue to work with the local community and educate them about best practices in basic eye care. Patients and their families were counseled on eye protection and care.



Local nurses were taught visual assessment and eye hygiene. We also continued our partnership with the Yangon Eye Hospital, training and capacity-building with the Yangon Eye Bank and worked closely with the local ophthalmologists in terms of skills transfer.

OUTCOMES



The number of patients suffering from cataract, the leading cause of reversible blindness in the developing world, continues to be high in the region. 85% of patients had CF, HM, or PL vision, and most cases were dense or complicated cataracts.

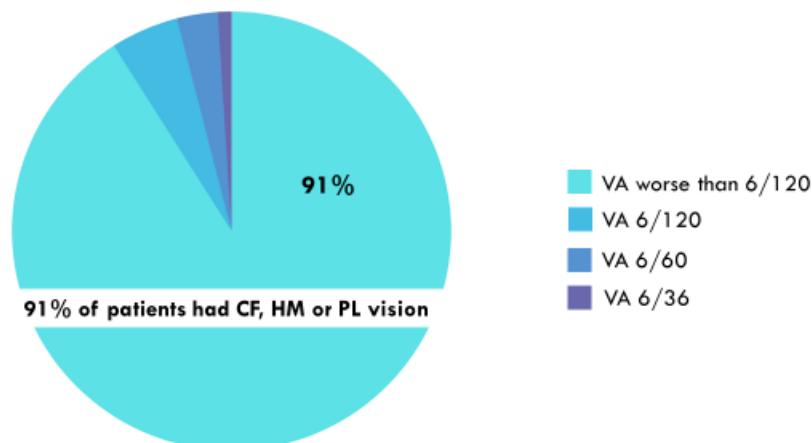
A majority of patients - 94% experienced an improvement of unaided vision on post-operative day 1. More importantly, the Global Clinic Vision Team had a zero error rate for intraocular lens implants and 99% maintained vision on Day 1, which underlines the safety protocols during the mission.

Local doctors and nurses will further evaluate these post-surgical patients 1-2 months after surgery.

Chart 1a: 2017 mission data

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT DUE TO CATARACT

We found most patients suffered from severe visual impairment due to cataract, the main cause of reversible blindness in the developing world.



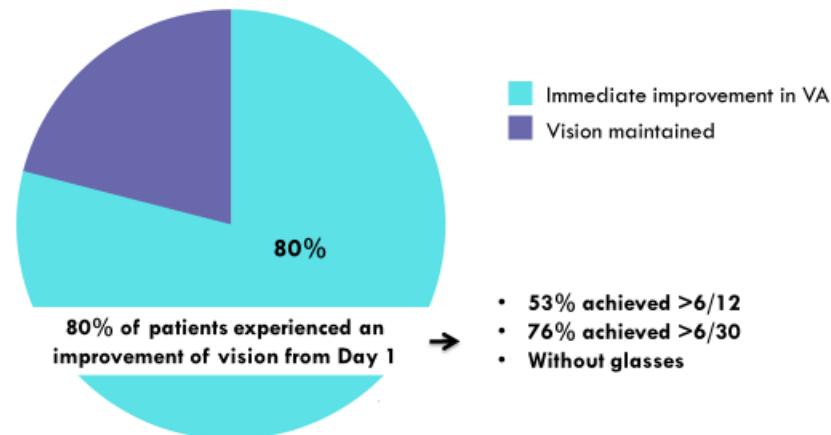
CF: Patient only able to count number of fingers of assessor closely

HM: Patient only able to detect motion of hands of assessor in front of the eye

PL: Patient only able to detect glimpses of light in front of the eye

Chart 1b: 2017 mission data

VISUAL ACUITY ON POST-OPERATIVE DAY ONE

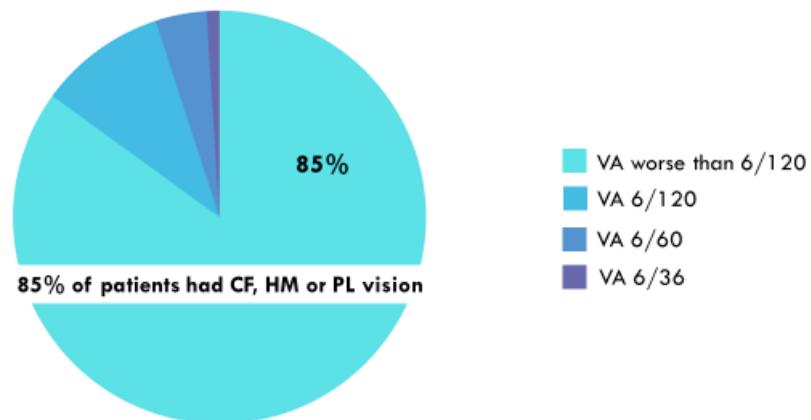


*Visual recovery usually takes 1-3 weeks. Assessment of visual acuity was done without prescription glasses and including patients with other co-morbidities that may affect vision

Chart 2a: 2018 mission data

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT DUE TO CATARACT

In 2018, the number of patients suffering from severe visual impairment from cataracts was still high in the same region. Most were dense or complicated cataracts.



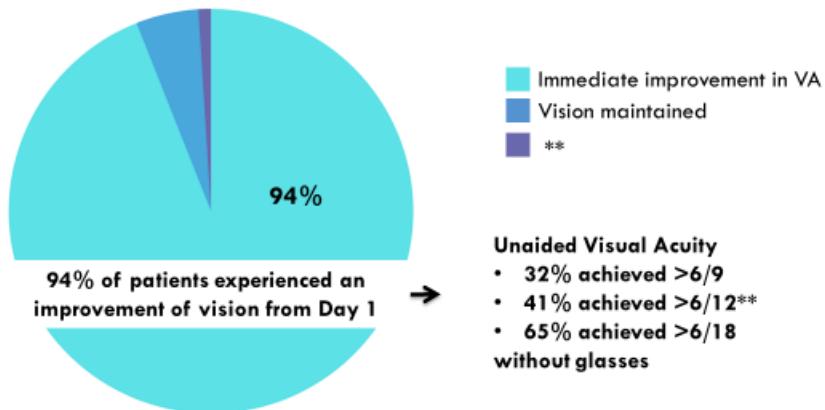
CF: Patient only able to count number of fingers of assessor closely

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Chart 2b: 2018 mission data

VISUAL ACUITY ON POST-OPERATIVE DAY ONE



Unaided Visual Acuity

- 32% achieved >6/9
- 41% achieved >6/12**
- 65% achieved >6/18 without glasses

*Visual recovery usually takes 1-3 weeks. Assessment of visual acuity was done without prescription glasses and including patients with other co-morbidities that may affect vision.

2 patients (1%) lost 1 line on day one from cornea edema which settled and improved

** 62% achieved 6/12 or better on 1 week follow-up/prescription glasses

FUTURE PLANS



Logistically, limited local resources and late delivery of surgical consumables continued to pose as challenges this year, impacting timelines and impeding delivery.

Given the high incidence of preventable blindness in this site, and logistical challenges that prevent local patients from receiving access to care, we find there is scope for Global Clinic's future interventions in Okpo.

We will continue our partnership with the Sitagu Missionary Trust and the Yangon Eye Hospital to bring free and sustainable care, training, and education to the Okpo region.

In 2019, we plan to expand to nearby regions and are currently exploring a new collaboration with Sitagu.