

The Koforidua team was led by Mr Tayton a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon on his first working visit with Motec to Ghana. We left Accra on or about 14th of October 2007 and arrived in Koforidua on the same day at about 16.00hrs. We were warmly welcomed on arrival by the hospitalier brothers of St. John of God led by Rev. Father Oppong.

15th October 2007 the following day was a public holiday in Ghana so there was no major event. However we used the opportunity to meet one of the medical doctors of the hospital, Dr.Akrofi Mante who explained to us how the hospital system operates. He then led us to have a familiarisation tour of the hospital and ward rounds. The team expressed so much interest in some of the cases during the ward rounds and were eager to do something to help the people.

On October 16th 2007 the team left for Accra to join the Nkawkaw team for an anniversary lecture at British Council in Accra. Prior to leaving for Accra, we managed to do one trauma case in the morning as the team could not wait to help the people.

Surgical operations continued the following day 17th October 2007 amid confusion with regards to selection of cases for surgical operations. Thanks to Mr. Tayton who managed to calm tension down by meeting and discussing issues with the resident doctor. The team was not discouraged at all about this but continued their good work. This problem, I am told is an old existing one of which Mr.Ofori-Atta and the hospital management are doing whatever they could to solve and bring it to an end, so that members of Motec would not encounter such problems in our subsequent visits.

A visiting tour was organised on the October 20th 2007, the team was divided into two groups. One group visited the Akosombo dam situated in the eastern region of Ghana; whereas the other group visited Kakum National Park (a thick forest with a canopy walk). The tour was very exciting.

On 21st October 2007 the team was invited by the paramount chief of Koforidua, Daasebere Professor Oti Boateng to celebrate with him the 'Akwantu Kesse Festival' a custom of new Juaben traditional area of Koforidua. This was very exciting amid funfair. The chief was full of praise of our work and encouraged us to continue our good work to the people.

A number of surgical cases were done over the two week working. I am glad to say that our task in Koforidua was generally successful. Thanks to all members who made this possible. We also want to say a very big thank you to the hospitalier brothers of St. John of God who accommodated, fed us and made our stay in Koforidua very enjoyable.