



Crossing borders; destination dialysis. Going the distance for kidney patients, insights and reflections.

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While many countries have systems of healthcare in place, marginalized communities have difficulty obtaining the healthcare they need. Often resources are limited in these communities.



Sierra Leone Dialysis Institute

The unit set-up is smart, efficient, and well planned. The unit was donated to the people of Sierra Leone by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and included a reverse osmosis water system,



8 dialysis machines with all the equipment necessary for a fully functioning unit.

Education



Implementation



Continuity



The education was delivered both theoretically by preparing presentations on various topics, such as infection control, caring for the dialytic patient, vascular access and machine alerts, and practically by practicing unusual situations and alerts

The staff implemented the learned subjects during working hours, they learned to load the set on the dialysis machine, to handle alerts and to operate equipment in the unit providing adequate standard of care for their patients

Its difficult to describe the intensity of emotions that accompanied the process, a little was felt when the first lady of Sierra Leone visited our unit to personally thank us for our support. I keep in touch with the staff and try to pass on updates via e-mail

Insights and Reflections

My travel to Africa on this medical mission was both entertaining and challenging. It was professionally and personally an experience that humbled me, empowered me, and revitalized my passion for nursing. I shared the successes, hopes and disappointments of the staff and the patients by balancing compassion and health technologies, providing knowledge and skills to improve quality of care.

It's a feeling of being part of something bigger than my own world,

Truly a global approach to renal care!

