

Rotary Club of Taveuni Island  
P. O. Box M1, Waiyevo Post Office,  
Taveuni Island, Fiji.

18 November 2017

Subject: Oxygen Concentrators for Rural Hospitals in Fiji.

To: Roy Austin,  
Rotary Club of Remuera,  
Auckland.

Dear Rotarian Roy,

I am a very fortunate member of the Rotary Club of Taveuni Island. Our Club benefited by being involved with the second hospital installation of Oxygen Concentrators in Fiji. Taveuni Island is the third largest island in the Fiji group and has a population of 18,000 approximately.

Since the Hospital was constructed by AUSAID and passed over to the Fiji Ministry of Health the medical staff have relied on Oxygen supplied in heavy steel bottles. The supply and delivery process is fraught with problems and expensive. The bottles are heavy and awkward for nurses to handle and transport to the patient's bedside. The quality of the Oxygen varies as does the effectiveness.

Eight days ago USA based volunteer surgeon, Dr. Jeff Rutgard, operated on a six year old female child with congenital bilateral Cataracts, ( born blind). The surgery for children is carried under full anaesthetic and the patient is supported by Oxygen which is normal. Throughout the surgery and in the recovery period we we used the Oxygen Concentrator. It was efficient, provided high quality oxygen and was easily abled to be moved with the patient from surgery to the recovery room. This was an important part of the 12th Taveuni Eye Project as children are operated only on a Saturday when the total medical team devotes their full attention to the young patient. Adults do not require this attention as their surgery is done with local anaesthetic.

From blind, shy and dependent for days later she could take photos with and I Phone, run, push a wheel chair and create havoc in the wards, for the team the outcome brought tears to their eyes. It is an amazing experience to be part of a team that can give sight to a young person. Special thanks to the Harold Thomas Trust, Cure Kids, Private donors and all those working to raise funds for this project to install the Concentrators in Fiji's rural hospitals.

During the installation process we have trained the nursing staff the correct way to use the equipment, trained two people to service and repair the Concentrators and offered to support all hospitals in the North of Fiji.

This is a vital project for the health of Fiji where funds for Health Care are very limited. The Rotary Club of Taveuni Island, a club that gets huge support from ROTARY and many Project supporters asks you to please give your support to this special and life saving project.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Amos,  
Rotary Club of Taveuni Island.