

**AHPBA & CB-CHPB Mission Trip |  
Imperatriz/Maranhão, Brazil  
August 2019**



Drs. Jorge Lyra, Heber Ribeiro, Alessandro Diniz, Orlando Torres, Eduardo Fernandes, and Mariano Gimenez led the team alongside a local multidisciplinary team.

Our mission trip took place on August 15-17th in the city of Imperatriz, in the State of Maranhão, Brazil. The trip was held at the public hospital run by the state government, known as Dra. Ruth Noleto Macrorregional Hospital. Five surgeons, Dr. Mariano Gímenez (from Buenos Aires and Strasbourg), Dr. Alessandro Diniz, Dr. Heber Salvador (both from São Paulo), Dr. Orlando Torres (from São Luís), and Dr. Eduardo Fernandes (from Rio de Janeiro), kindly donated their time and talent to come and perform surgeries at the mission trip.

In the days before the humanitarian mission, AHPBA made the local news with radio and television interviews which gained visibility for the outreach mission as well as AHPBA. On the first day, a clinical session was held with discussion of the cases that were selected for the following day. The visiting surgeons, local surgical team, radiologist and senior students from the Medical School of the Federal University of Maranhão collaborated. On the second day, 11 HPB surgeries were performed. We had three operating rooms available for us at the hospital and the surgeries were performed by the invited surgeons with the participation of the local surgical team. The teams shared experiences for the purpose of improved surgical skills. On the third day, a half-day mini-meeting was held which included participation from other general surgeons in the community, as well as several medical students.

It is also important to highlight the collaboration of private entities for the accomplishment of the Outreach Mission. Ethicon Johnson & Johnson donated surgical supplies, SAFE and Cirúrgica Fontelles (local dealerships) donated supplies for invasive hemodynamic monitoring, and the C-Arm radioscopy was kindly loaned by the Hospital das Clínicas de Imperatriz, another private hospital at the same town.

The Outreach Mission was successful. It helped arouse health managers to the importance of having a specialized treatment team, as demonstrated by the patient demand. Additionally, we were able to convince the health managers to buy a C-arm radioscopy for the hospital. The trip also provided an atmosphere for the exchange of knowledge. We performed several surgeries which was much needed since there were some patients who were waiting for surgery for over one year. And last but not least, we promoted the AHPBA brand among local surgeons who were unfamiliar with our association.

We at Imperatriz give our most sincere thanks to AHPBA, as well as CBCHPB, and the invited surgeons, who gave their time and expertise to such a worthy cause.

Kind Regards,  
Jorge S. Lyra MD

Surgeries performed on the mission trip:

- Laparoscopic Hepatic Cyst unroofing (2 cases)
- Common Bile Duct Cyst laparoscopic resection
- Distal Pancreatectomy with splenectomy.
- Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy (3 cases)
- Percutaneous biliary drainage
- Common bile duct exploration with bile-digestive derivation
- Common Bile duct exploration
- Hepatic liver biopsy

