

Yotkom Newsletter

September 2024



Right now, I am here working alongside my medical colleagues at the Yotkom Hospital in Uganda. Every day I see evidence of the impact we are having on this community. As I walk around, many people smile and greet me and thank me for Yotkom and describe how it is helping meet their individual, family and community health needs. It is so encouraging to see patients of all ages in the clinics and on the wards who get better and are restored to their families sometimes after very serious injuries or infections.

Here is a question you may ask:

When there are so many needs in the world, why would I choose to direct my charitable giving to the work of Yotkom in Africa?

Here are some reasons:

1. The health work we are undertaking with your help is **having a big impact on many lives in a poor rural community in Africa.**

We respond to the needs of the sick and traumatised but we also invest into the community through employment.

We are meeting the health needs of over 20,000 patients per year in addition to currently providing salaries to 160 employees, enabling them to support, feed and educate their families in an area of poverty with very high unemployment, especially amongst young people.



2. Your donation goes further and is distributed to meet needs through good stewardship in Africa.

For our Australian charity over the last financial year only 1.2% of all gifts received was spent on administration. This was made possible due to the voluntary work, time and energy given by our Australian team.

For every \$100 you give, \$99 comes to Uganda where it is deployed in many ways to meet health care needs.

Our financial management is transparent and efficient.

There is continual monitoring and evaluation from Australian partners on site and clear record keeping and annual auditing.



3. By partnering with Yotkom you can know that you are making a difference by addressing injustice and sharing love in this area of our world through effective action and intervention.

Our team are focussed on providing compassionate care on your behalf.

We currently have an emergency department the size of a bedroom with two trolleys and a small desk.



One day we had two men arrive brought by family members after a violent fight over land possession.

One man was struck in the head with an axe and became unconscious. The other man had an open penetrating head injury and was also critically ill and not responsive.

Soon after, another patient with yellow jaundice and liver failure was brought in and put on a mattress on the floor to be assessed.

In the corridor was a small child with fever.

In a consulting room opposite, a nurse was attempting to canulate a newborn baby with very low blood sugar. Beside him on the examination couch was a very pale exhausted child with severe malaria and profound anaemia, receiving a life-saving blood transfusion.



I have great admiration for our doctors, nurses and support team working in these very difficult conditions.

Good news !

Thanks to donations received over the Christmas offering, we now have a new bigger emergency department under construction as part of stage 3 of the Yotkom Hospital.



A 40 foot container of donated hospital equipment is also on its way to us from Canada.

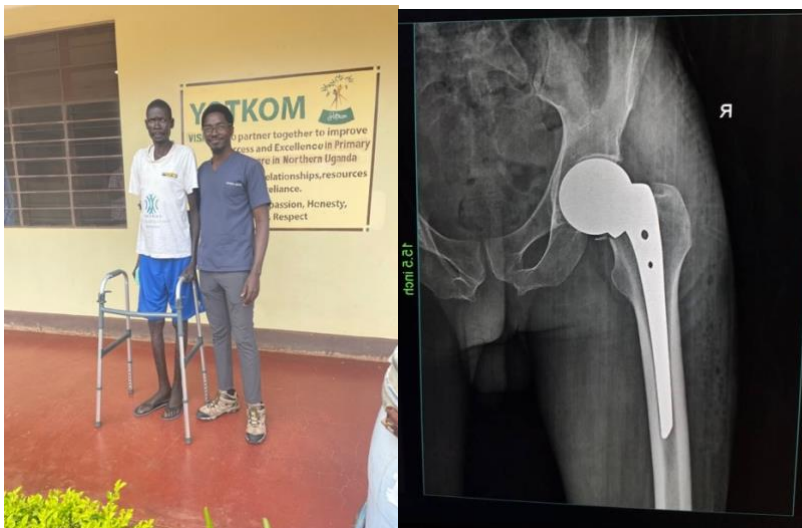
(if you would like to donate toward the upcoming cost of container transport and customs processing please label your donation “Container”). [DONATE NOW](#)



At Yotkom we love training equipping and empowering local people, giving them opportunities to develop professional skills and help their own community. We have regular on-site sessions of continuing medical education for our team to participate in.



Yotkom donors from Australia sponsored one of our nurses, Isaac, through a three year Physiotherapy course in Kampala (about 9 hours drive from here) He has graduated and we are so encouraged to see him helping many people recover from serious injuries and orthopaedic operations. He is the only Physiotherapist serving a population of over 300,000.



Here he is helping Augustine to get up and walk after having surgery for a Hip fracture. Our orthopaedic surgeon, Julius, can repair a broken hip for a cost of \$350 Aus, allowing a patient to get up and walk in a few days, rather than lie in bed for 6 weeks awaiting recovery and at risk of blood clots.



We have many seriously ill patients admitted to the small ICU (high dependency unit) in our hospital where they can be monitored more closely and receive oxygen .

People I have seen in our ICU in recent days include those suffering from alcoholic liver failure, HIV AIDs, Diabetes, Serious Pneumonia, Malaria, Heart failure, Lung cancer, Stroke, Gangrene of the leg, Burns, Major head injury and multiple road trauma with open fractures.

Many of our ICU patients require intravenous fluids and have deranged body chemistry. Our doctors are finding it hard to manage these chemical imbalances as our laboratory does not have the capacity to check for sodium and potassium levels.

To help us deliver better targeted treatments and monitor patients more accurately, we would like to purchase **a new biochemistry machine for \$10,000 AUS**

If you would like to help donate to this please designate your giving “Laboratory “
[DONATE NOW](#)

Thank you again for partnering with Yotkom in Uganda!

God bless you.

From

Andrew and Anne Wright

Australian Directors

Yotkom Uganda



