

## Surgical Services

### Division of Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery

#### Director

James J. McCarthy, MD

#### Associates

Sheila Chandran, MD

Roger Cornwall, MD

Alvin H. Crawford, MD

Jaime Denning, MD

Viral V. Jain, MD

Kevin J. Little, MD

Charles T. Mehlman, DO, MPH

Shital N. Parikh, MD

Peter F. Sturm, MD

Junichi Tamai, MD

Eric J. Wall, MD

#### Part-time Associates

Steven S. Agabegi, MD

Mohab Foad, MD

Joel Sorger, MD

#### Business Director II

Sandy Singleton, MBA

#### Business Manager

James Woodrum, MBA

## India Mission Trip Report

In January 2014, for the second year, a medical team from Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) traveled to Ahmedabad, India to provide free surgical treatment to children with complex spine and upper extremity deformities. The trip was coordinated and organized by physicians from the Pediatric Orthopaedic Department at CCHMC, in conjunction with the Polio Foundation – a non-profit charity hospital in Ahmedabad, India ([www.poliofoundation.org](http://www.poliofoundation.org)). The surgical team was headed by Alvin H. Crawford, MD and included surgeons Shital N. Parikh, MD, Viral J. Jain, MD, Kevin J. Little MD, Heather Harrison, MD, and Kim Bjorklund, MD, anesthesiologist Rajeev Subramanyam, MD, and Elizabeth Cudilo, MD, and neuro-monitoring personnel Janice Mader. The surgical instruments and implants were donated by Depuy Spine, USA and Medtronic, USA. The neuro-monitoring equipment and supplies were donated by Evokes, Inc – a Cincinnati-based company. Bone graft products were donated by Allosource, a nonprofit bone allograft processing organization.

Between Jan 19 – Jan 25, six children with complex spine deformities (scoliosis / kyphosis) and 21 children with upper extremity deformities were operated upon. Each spine surgery lasted an average of 6 to 8 hours. The local orthopaedic surgeons and anesthesiologists from Ahmedabad assisted CCHMC physicians during these procedures, thus providing them an opportunity to participate in complex medical decision making process.

The CCHMC team was provided great hospitality by the Polio Foundation and their physicians, and all team members were immensely proud and satisfied to be part of this mission trip. On Jan 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 the CCHMC team members were facilitated by the president of the Indian Medical Association during an evening reception event. The trip also received publicity in the local newspaper.

Besides surgeries, the CCHMC team members could get the taste of traditional Indian culture during their visit to local sight-seeing places. Typically, the evenings involved varied Indian cuisine and local shopping.

The trip prompted significant educational and cultural exchanges and was viewed as a great success and achievement by both sides. We plan to continue building upon this relationship by similar annual mission trips, focusing on the areas of identified pediatric orthopaedic need in India.

### Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

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I, on behalf of the entire team, would like to thank Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Polio Foundation, India to allow us to be part of this wonderful trip and to be able to make a difference in the lives of our patients. I would also like to thank Depuy Spine, Medtronic, Allosource and Evokes, Inc for their generous contributions.

**Shital N Parikh, MD**