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## Dr Sarah Coll PNG Report

I was fortunate to receive sponsorship from the AHSS to attend a teaching module in Madang in PNG. This is a programme developed by Dr Des Soares that is designed to teach general surgeons how to do orthopaedic surgery. Des has put an extraordinary amount of time and energy into the planning, execution and the pastoral care of this programme. He has managed to obtain a degree qualification for these doctors (an International Diploma of Orthopaedics from the University of Samoa).



The basic programme is one of didactic teaching and building relationships with the students. The morning is spent at the hospital doing a ward round with the surgeon presenting a case for discussion and a demonstration of their examination skills. The afternoon is spent with didactic lectures and practical bone school using plates and equipment provided by Des.

This programme is able to be followed up by visits to the surgeons in their home hospital.

The quality and range of work performed by these surgeons is extraordinary and their respectful gentleness is inspirational. I would highly recommend attending this programme and contributing to your local Pacific region. Despite fears for my safety by my husband and colleagues, the islanders made me feel very secure.

I would like to be involved next year, and I hope my schedule allows for this. I don't know why, but I truly feel happy in PNG



and contributing in this way.