



# NIHR Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies

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## Welcome to the Global Health Research Group

Welcome to the first newsletter for the Global Health Research Group in Surgical Technologies. Our newsletters will keep you up to date on the developments of the projects in Sierra Leone and Rural India.

### GHRG-ST Team visit Arunachal Pradesh



In February 2018, the team visited NE India for 2 weeks. The first week comprised an Innovation Workshop at Karunya University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, co-hosted with Leeds GHRG-ST, Karunya and Harvard Programme for Global Surgery and Social Change (PGSSC). Over 100 participants took part in the workshop, which generated several new research projects.

In the second week the GHRG team travelled Itanagar, capital of Arunachal Pradesh, where they had research planning meetings with collaborators at the Tomo Riba Institute of Health & Medical Sciences (TRIHMS) regarding innovative anatomy teaching for the new medical college and development of a laparoscopic training centre.

[Click here to find out more](#)

### GHRG-ST Team visit Sierra Leone



In January 2018, the GHRG visited Sierra Leone. The visit began with meetings in the main government healthcare facility, Connaught Hospital, and the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone. In the following days, we visited a range of healthcare facilities in Freetown including Emergency Hospital (Italian NGO) and the Ministry of Health and Sanitation.

The team next moved inland to the northern district of Tonkolili. Here we had visits with local district planning officers to help plan the qualitative aspects of our research. The team were hosted by Masanga Hospital, which will be the base for much of our research. Masanga hosts the Surgical Training Programme (STP) run by CapaCare (Norwegian and Danish NGO). We were able to experience the training programme first hand and the great efforts being made to improve surgical care for the local population. [Click here to find out more](#)

## Upcoming Events

Annual Stakeholder meeting  
– 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018,  
venue TBC, India

## Seminars –

12<sup>th</sup> July 2018, 12.30 pm  
Clinical Sciences Building, St  
James's University Hospital  
Mr Tim Nunn, Consultant  
Orthopaedic Surgeon,  
Ethiopia Cure International

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## Dr Anthony Howard completes Marathon Des Sables

Dr Anthony Howard, NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgery has completed the epic Marathon Des Sables, the ultra marathon distance was 250 km in 7 days in the Sahara desert. Anthony is a great supporter of GHRG Surgical Technologies and kindly promoted our cause during his marathon (see picture).



[Click here](#) to see Anthony's journey.

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## GHRG-ST Article in mdCurrent India

Dr William Bolton, Mr Noel Aruparayil and Dr J Gnanaraj have recently had an article entitled 'Identifying the Health Needs and Barriers for Local Surgical Care in Rural India' published on the mdCurrent India. The article in full is available on the link below:

[Link to the article](#)

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## Millennium Alliance Awards 2018

The Millennium Alliance program is organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India to encourage innovations that have significant impact on the Society. The awards attract thousands of applications and undergo a rigorous process of selection. One of the awardees in 2018 in the Health Sector was Dr J Gnanaraj, our PI from SEESHA Karunya Hospital.

[Find out more about this award](#)

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## Delft University of Technology visit to Leeds 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> June 2018



Senior academics and PhD students from Delft University of Technology BioMechanical Engineering Department visited the University of Leeds on 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018. A series of talks and a workshop were held to formulate research collaborations in surgical engineering for low resources settings.

[Find out more about the visit](#)

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The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.