

UNDERSTANDING THE POTENTIAL FOR GLOBAL SURGERY INITIATIVE IN HOSPITAL SULTANAH HAJJAH KALSOM, CAMERON HIGHLANDS

Nur Dianah.A¹

¹Director, Hospital Sultanah Hajjah Kalsom, Cameron Highlands, Pahang, Malaysia.

Abstract

Hospital Sultanah Hajjah Kalsom, Cameron Highlands is a 40 beds district hospital located 135km from the Lead Cluster Hospital Kuala Lipis and 93km from Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun, Ipoh. The access to a hospital with surgical service may take up to 2 hours on unsafe roads. Therefore, it is safer to deliver surgical care locally for the community in Cameron Highlands avoiding putting the patients through difficult travel conditions. Since December 2022, Hospital Sultanah Hajjah Kalsom, Cameron Highlands has started its first surgical and anaesthetic care. The service provided was in collaboration with surgeons from Hospital Kuala Lipis' Orthopedic, General Surgery and Gynaecology department. Global Surgery Initiative was started through evaluation, collaboration and training of the local medical officers and paramedics with help of visiting surgeons from Hospital Kuala Lipis. Through this initiative, local community have received safe and timely surgical care whilst aiming to reduce the need for referrals and congestion in specialist hospitals. Currently, we have managed to run both elective and basic emergency surgical services to meet the need of patients in the community. In the future our aim is to expand the essential surgical care while also reducing the waiting time for Orthopedic patients in Hospital Kuala Lipis.