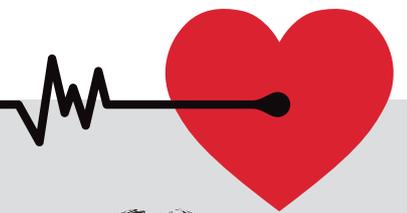




CARDIAC SURGERY INTERSOCIETY ALLIANCE

Access to cardiac surgery for the millions suffering from **Rheumatic Heart Disease**.

This first ever transcontinental collaboration of the major cardiothoracic surgical societies including **AATS, ASCVTS, EACTS, STS, WHF**.



WHY?

Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) is a preventable, treatable form of **cardiovascular disease** that results from **damage to heart valves** caused by one or several episodes of rheumatic fever, an autoimmune inflammatory reaction to throat infection caused by group A streptococci (streptococcal pharyngitis).

By far the majority of children suffering from RHD in low- to middle-income countries (LIC to MIC) have **no access to life saving heart valve surgery**.

The majority of cardiac surgical need in adolescence and adulthood in LIC is due to RHD, the burden of which is 33 million globally, **practically the same as the worldwide HIV rate**.

Poor access to cardiothoracic surgery leads to premature mortality in vulnerable populations suffering from Rheumatic Heart Disease and Congenital Heart Disease.

Globally, the

6.4 BILLION



people living in LIC and MIC have insufficient access to cardiac surgery including surgery for RHD.

A question of health equality:

Rates of cardiac surgery are

0.5 PER MILLION

in assessed LIC



VERSUS

1.3 PER MILLION

in HIC

WE ARE UNITED IN THE MISSION TO:



Give children with RHD life-saving valve surgery in low and middle income countries



Build capacity for cardiothoracic surgery in low and middle income countries **from the ground up to ensure sustainability and positive long term outcomes**



Provide appropriate training for cardiothoracic surgeons from low and middle income countries in cardiac surgical problems they will encounter in their own countries



Support selected cardiothoracic centers in LIC and MIC to **upscale and improve existing cardiothoracic surgical capacity**



Establish high quality cardiothoracic surgical centers in low and middle income countries **staffed with home grown cardiothoracic surgeons**

STAY IN TOUCH



I am interested in staying up to date or helping out with the CSIA's future activities.

I am interested in hearing more about becoming a pilot site in low or middle income country.

(We will contact you when applications open)

Name:

Role:

Institution or hospital address:

Email address:

Phone number: