

enabling medical professionals  
to share Christ's love  
at the time of need,  
patient by patient

# Life Lines

Fall 2010

  
INTERNATIONAL  
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## IHS Heartbeat

### Long-Awaited ICMDA World Congress Amply Rewards

For over two years, IHS looked forward to the 14th World Congress of ICMDA (International Christian Medical and Dental Association) held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in July. The 800 Christ-followers, who attended from all over the world, were abundantly blessed. During the preconference, 24 participants, several identified by national leaders as trainer-candidates from Peru, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, were trained in International Saline and 18 were in the training of trainers session.

ICMDA, one of IHS's valued ministry partners, invites disciples of Jesus to "share God's grace at the growing edges of Christian medicine." Congress attendees reflected on the theme Priorities in Professional Practice -- For whom are you working?



Alex Bolek receives the certificate of full membership in ICMDA for his home country, Sudan.

Priorities in Uruguay were clear for IHS: training disciples to get into step with how God is at work in their healthcare settings and strategizing with ministry partners who provide the same training on every continent. "The training process is professional and powerful. The blessings of seeing participants 'get it' is indescribable," says IHS's Nancy McHugh, who attended the Congress in Uruguay.

During the Congress, the national Christian medical fellowships in Sudan and Ethiopia became full ICMDA members, joining them with 56 other national organizations that ICMDA unites from among 80 that have ties to ICMDA.

ICMDA holds a regular cycle of world and regional conferences, with a next World Congress to be held in 2014 in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

## Saline Supply

### Momentum Builds in South America

ICMDA's World Congress XIV in July was the first major event for Christian international medical associations in Latin America. IHS previously gave International Saline training in Colombia and Brazil, which included participants from Peru, Ecuador, Paraguay and Argentina. Participants in Uruguay, who built on earlier training, gained confidence that they can raise up new trainers in their countries. Vernon Hiebert of HCFI will mentor trainers from Peru and Brazil in order to deepen the ministry as it spreads out. Having a critical mass enables International Saline to take off in any country or region.



Participants in Uruguay with Bob Snyder, front row, 4th from right, and Chris Steyn of Healthcare Christian Fellowship International, front row, 3rd from right.

## Vital Signs

### Bridging the Skills Gap

"The desire to be witnesses and the knowledge of how to do it are mismatched. International Saline brings it all together." – Michael Burke, executive director of CMDFA

After sessions in Brisbane and Sydney this year, the Christian Medical and Dental Fellowship of Australia (CMDFA) is positioned to bring "the gift and ministry", as Michael Burke says, to the Oceania region and East Asia. CMDFA's model of strategic outreach holds a key for other regions seeking to embrace workers in more healthcare occupations, countries and medical associations.

## For the Record

“Jesus washed his disciples' feet: “I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.” ICMDA's logo affirms the call to Christ's disciples in healthcare to serve others.”



## Please Join Us in Prayer

### ► For International Saline sessions:

- **Sept 1-3** Cotonou, Benin, with Healthcare Christian Fellowship International, training in French
- **Sept 1-5** Fianarantsoa, Madagascar, with Healthcare Christian Fellowship International, training in Malagasy
- **Sept 24-26** Kiev, Ukraine, with Ukraine Medical Outreach, training in Russian
- **Oct 28-29** Holland, with Healthcare Christian Fellowship International and Christian Medical Fellowship–Netherlands, training in Dutch
- **Nov 12-14** Kerala, India, with Healthcare Christian Fellowship International
- **Nov 19-21** South Africa at the training center of Healthcare Christian Fellowship International in Rynfield

## Praise God!

- A Christian healthcare conference in Kazakhstan gathered more than 100 participants from four Central Asian countries. They all want International Saline training in their own countries!
- The training of trainers session recently given by Bob Snyder and Chris Steyn in Uruguay encouraged three doctors from Peru to start International Saline in their country.
- Ukraine will host its sixth International Saline training of the year in mid-September. Nationals are becoming trainers to saturate the country with a means to share Christ's love in healthcare.



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## Your gift at work in India!

Latha Mathew, International Saline multiplying trainer, ministers to the poorest of the poor in India through her practice. She also trains and coaches other Christian medical workers to do the same through International Saline.



Latha Mathew

IMAGINE: Latha's vision is for the spiritual birth rate to exceed the natural birth rate in India!

IHS and Latha seek your support as we pray and work together, looking forward to the day when Latha's vision for India is fulfilled.



Families in India are helped by your generous contributions to IHS.

**Your gift today will  
make all the difference  
in the world!**

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A newsletter of

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“I found the International Saline tools are useful not only at work but in every situation.”

– A doctor trained in Australia



## Lessons Learned on the Journey by Dr. Bob Snyder

**FREE**, online weekly faith stories from Dr. Snyder illuminate biblical principles for followers of Jesus. With intimacy, honesty, and openness, the lessons encourage readers to look for God in their own adventure of faith. Great as discussion starters in Sunday School or a small group. Sign up today! Visit: [www.lessonslernedonthejourney.com](http://www.lessonslernedonthejourney.com)

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