Survey to Address Perceptions of Cataract Surgery in Adult Outreach Patients Who Receive a Diagnosis in Honduras

Drew Prinster

- Yale University undergraduate student
- Unite For Sight Global Impact Fellow and Global Impact Lab volunteer
- ZOE Eye Clinic Volunteer (through Unite For Sight)
Unite For Sight volunteer and researcher with ZOE Eye Clinic in Honduras
Presentation Purpose

1. Share my Unite For Sight experience and the results of my research

2. Share some broader sense of Unite For Sight’s program in Honduras in support of the ZOE Eye Clinic
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“Medicina de calidad al alcance de su presupuesto”
Why Did I Choose Unite For Sight Global Impact Corps Honduras?

• Ethically Responsible
• Service
• Research
• Medicine
• Global Health
• Language Study
• Cross-Cultural Connection

Photos of my background leading to personal interest in Unite For Sight:
# Research Background

Honduras prevalence of visual impairment 2011-2013 [1]:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Blindness</th>
<th>Severe visual deficiency</th>
<th>Moderate visual deficiency</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># individuals</td>
<td># individuals</td>
<td># individuals</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(percent of total population)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blindness</td>
<td>20,092 (1.9%)</td>
<td>16,894 (1.6%)</td>
<td>99,730 (9.5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Pie Charts**

- **Unoperated Cataract**
- **Refractive Errors**
- **Other Causes**
Research Background

- Cataract surgery rates in Honduras are low and not increasing [2]:

![Graph showing cataract surgery rates in Latin America and Honduras from 2005 to 2012. The graph indicates a steady increase in Latin America and a relatively stable but lower rate in Honduras.](image-url)
Research Background

- Cataract surgery rates in Honduras are low and not increasing [2]
- Relatively Low Coverage Rates (2011-2013) [1]:

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<tr>
<td>75.2%</td>
<td>66.5%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
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![Graph showing cataract surgery rates in Latin America and Honduras]
Research Design and Methodology

• **Aim:** Assess Honduran patient barriers to and perceptions of cataract surgery.

• **Study population:** 98 convenience sample Honduran residents >18 years old and diagnosed with cataracts at ZOE eye screening.
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• **Study population:** 98 convenience sample Honduran residents >18 years old and diagnosed with cataracts at ZOE eye screening.
Brigada Locations
Results: Patient Barriers to Cataract Surgery

“Was there anything that prevented you from seeking care sooner [than indicated]?”

- **Cost**: 30.60%
- **Difficulty of Access**: 17%
- **Perceptions of Cataract Surgery**: 12%
- **Other**: 12%
- **No Barriers**: 2%
Results: Knowledge of Surgery as the Treatment for Cataracts

“If a community member has cataracts, what treatments can help the condition?”

- I don't know: 53.10%
- Operation: 17.30%
- Other: 17.30%
- No treatment: 12.20%
Results: Intention to Receive Cataract Surgery after Diagnosis

“Have you decided whether or not to have cataract surgery? If so, what did you decide?”

- Yes, I will have cataract surgery: 68.00%
- Whether I have surgery depends on money: 16.00%
- No, I will not have cataract surgery: 15.00%
- Other: 1.00%
Results: Patient Trust for Honduran versus Foreign Doctors

"If your friend says they prefer a foreign doctor to perform their cataract surgery rather than a Honduran doctor, should you encourage them to discourage this?"

- Encourage them: 54.00%
- No preference: 24.50%
- Discourage them: 13.00%
- Other: 8.50%

"If a community member asks you if Honduran doctors perform cataract surgeries successfully, what would you say?"

- Yes, they perform the surgeries successfully: 65.00%
- I don't know: 13.00%
- No, they do not perform the surgeries well: 17.00%
- Other: 5.00%
Conclusions

Descriptive results highlight the need for:

• Continued domestic and international **cataract surgery subsidies** (to overcome 30.6% cost barrier).

• Local **patient transportation** assistance (to overcome 17% difficulty of access barrier).

• **Patient education** about the availability and efficacy of local cataract surgeries to fight preventable blindness in Honduras (to overcome 12% perceptions of cataract surgery barrier).
Conclusions

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Conclusions

Though only descriptive, these results highlight a need for:

• Continued domestic and international cataract surgery subsidies (to overcome 30.6% cost barrier).

• Local patient transportation assistance (to overcome 17% difficulty of access barrier).

• Patient education about the availability and efficacy of local cataract surgeries to fight preventable blindness in Honduras (to overcome 12% perceptions of cataract surgery barrier).

These results empirically support the methods of Unite For Sight and the ZOE Eye Clinic to effectively fight preventable blindness in Honduras.
Works Cited


Thank you!