

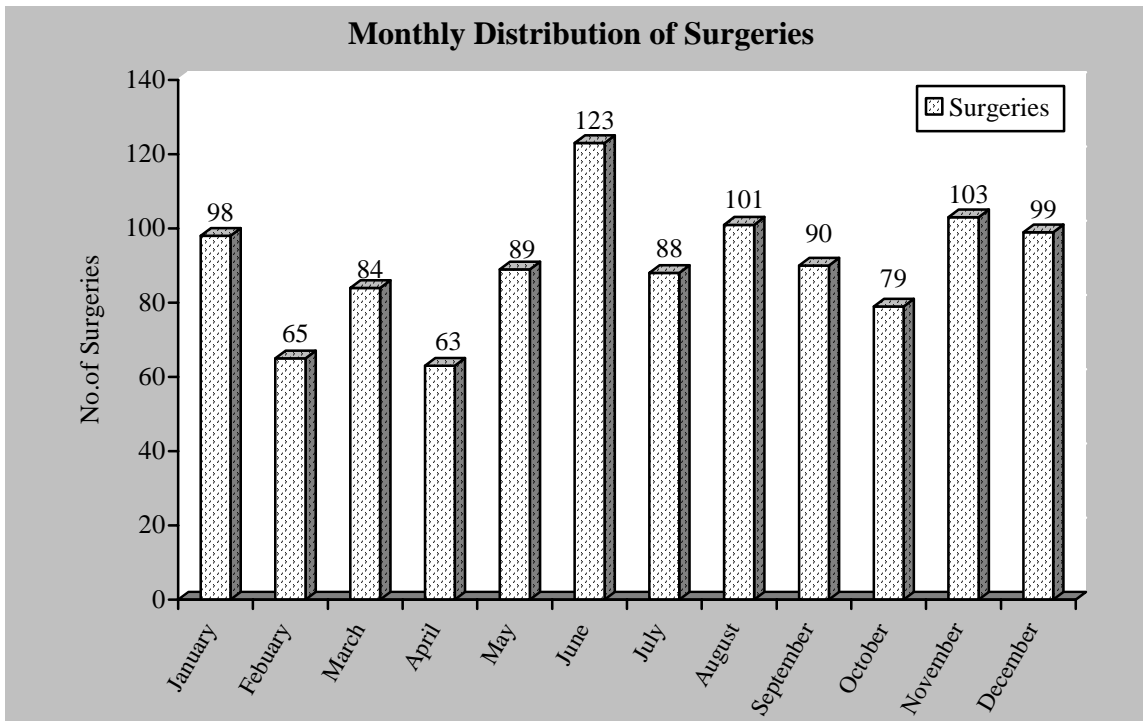
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY-2006

Albert Einstein once said “*The Whole of Science is nothing more than the refinement of everyday thinking*” and over the year we in the department have strived to this belief that every day’s hard work and miniscule refinements will bear the fruits of its burden in the future.

It gives us pleasure that when we sit at this time, amalgamating all the day’s work of the last year to see that we have progressed over each succeeding year to provide quality cardiac surgical care to the population of this country. General awareness of the services provided has had a large increment in the number of indoor and outdoor patients.

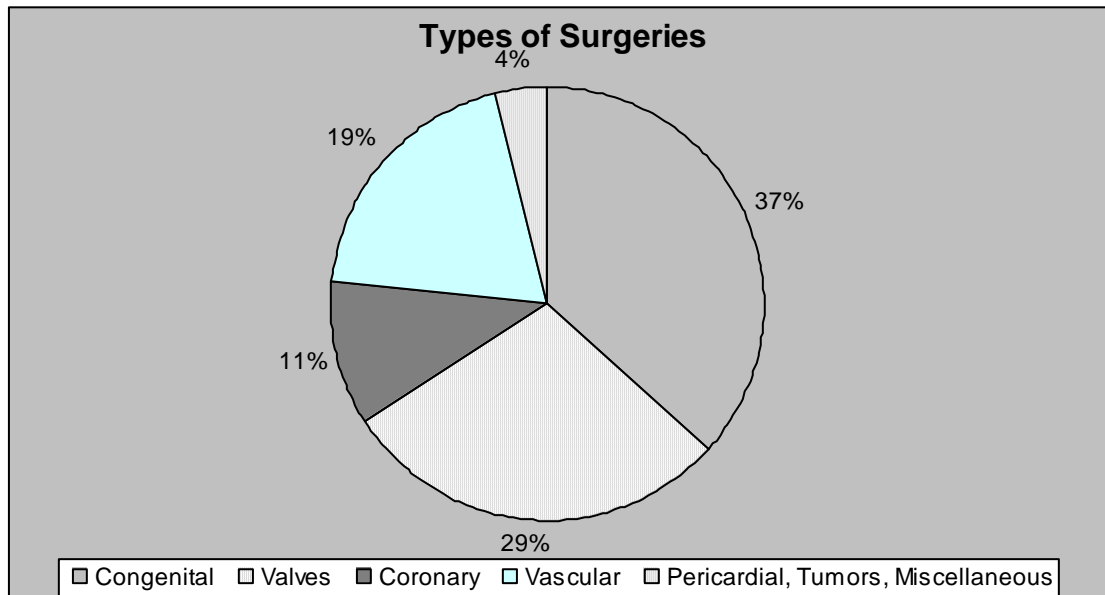
This annual year saw a total of 13962 attendees to the outdoor services, an overwhelming increase in comparison to any other previous years.

This calendar year we performed a total of 1012 surgical procedures which is an increase of 15 % to the previous year.



The surgical procedures comprised of a wide spectrum of cardiovascular diseases done electively as well as in emergency.

Although there has been a steady increase in the total number of surgeries performed in each of the fields of cardiovascular surgery, surgery for Congenital Heart surgery still accounts for the largest volume of the procedures performed at our hospital.



The overall mortality for these surgical procedures was 4.5 %. The figures dominated by complex congenital surgeries and surgeries on infants which serves as an ominous reminder that there is still a lot of improvement and development required in this field of cardiac surgery.

A famous Cardiac surgeon when asked as to why he chose such a demanding field such as his, curtly replied "Birth Asphyxia". This year we welcomed new members into our faculty – Dr. Rabindra Bhakta Timala, Dr. Yogeshwor Man Singh and Dr. Navin Chandra Gautam. With their induction we believe that the future appears even brighter and will definitely embolden us in providing care to our ever increasing number of patients.

This year with the increment in the number of surgeons we were able to expand into two units – one jointly headed by Dr. Bhagawan Koirala and Dr. Jyotindra Sharma and the other by Dr. Ramesh Koirala. With this division we believe that we will be able to develop our cardiac sub-specialties in the future.

We have incorporated this year, rotational training for a period of two months for residents of M.S. (General Surgery) under the National Academy of Medical Sciences. We at the faculty believe that this rotation will provide exposure to the upcoming new surgeons into the field of cardiovascular surgery and help us develop expertise in the country.

We had four surgeons from North Korea attending our department activities for a period of one year to train in cardiovascular surgery. They were exposed to various aspects of cardiac surgery and we hope that their experience in SGNHC will help them in their profession. We wish them all the best for the future.

A notable progress of this year is the provision of budget by the Government of Nepal for surgery for financially weak children under the age of 15 years. This financial assistance has allowed this centre to perform surgical procedures free of cost to this age group. This form of assistance has been a boon for the underprivileged and us and is probably unique for any country and something that we need to take pride in.

The faculty had notable presence at the International Surgical Conference held in November at Kathmandu. Guest speaker for the conference was Dr. Bhagawan Koirala while Dr. Jyotindra Sharma, Dr. Sidhartha Pradhan, Dr. Rabindra Bhakta Timala and Dr. Bijoy Rajbanshi presented papers of various topics pertaining to cardiac surgery. During the conference Dr. Bijoy Rajbanshi was awarded for one of the three best papers by young surgeons during the conference.

During the month of April, Dr. Bhagawan Koirala visited Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, USA to attend a refresher's course on mitral valve repair. His participation there has helped to enhance our work in this field.

The faculty will be represented in the 53rd Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Cardio Vascular Thoracic Surgeons to be held in Jaipur, India by Dr. Jyotindra Sharma and Dr. Sidhartha Pradhan who will be presenting papers during their visit in mid February.

Although we did not have any renowned visitor of mention in the past year, we have been anxiously awaiting the month of March when we will be organizing a pediatric cardiac workshop for 2 weeks. Representation will be with Paediatric interventionist and intensive care specialist from England led by Dr. Vettukattil from Southampton Hospital along with Paediatric Cardiac Surgeons from Canada and Austria. We hope such workshop will help to enhance our services in the future and we believe such workshops will assist in eventually getting recognition internationally.

We believe that what we've performed through our endeavors is just a small achievement of what is yet to be done. The task still ahead a mountain, the summit yet approachable, daunting but with every small step forward what we seek appears nigh.

As Winston Churchill once said "*Sure I am of this, that you have only to endure to conquer*".