# Arrhythmia Alliance Hearts of Ghana



www.heartrhythmalliance.org







Access to heart surgery and pacemakers in Western Africa is critically limited. With a high incidence of rheumatic fever, the average age of patients admitted with heart failure secondary to rheumatic heart disease is **just 29 years old**.

Over the last 10 years, just 100 heart operations have been performed in Ghana Ghana has a population of 28 million people, and 29% of all hospital deaths are due to heart failure

Worldwide one million people die annually <sup>as they</sup> cannot afford a pacemaker Each hospital that we visited currently sends about 50 people per year with complete heart block home due to the cost of pacemakers

### A-A HEARTS OF GHANA MISSION:

Training healthcare professionals
Delivering equipment
**SAVING LIVES**



#### A-A Hearts of Ghana Team have

## successfully completed ten missions to Ghana in the last six years.

In this time, we have provided crucial equipment and successfully upskilled many local healthcare professionals on heart surgery and pacing.





#### 2019

Led by Dr. Enoch Akowuah, a consultant at James Cooke University Hospital, who has long-lasting ties in Ghana, we led two successful missions to Kumasi and brought a ten member team from Ghana to the UK for a month of training.

With strong links established in Ghana, the heart team of UK consultants are making regular surgery missions to upskill the Ghanian team. With trips to Univeristy of Ghana Medical Centre in Accra and the Komfo Teaching hospital in Kumasi the local team can now perform some heart surgeries independently.

2022

#### 2023

With a well established partnership, the UK team continues to make regular surgery missions to Accra and adds additional training opportunities for local teams.

#### 2024

Two surgical missions were conducted, as well as a 10 member team from Ghana training in the UK for one month

The Ghanian cardiovascular team are now independently operating on more complex cases like double and triple valve replacements.

#### We hope to undertake three heart surgery missions with educational training days to Accra, Ghana in 2025

2025

CAN YOU HELP US?

We need your help to continue our life saving work.



A-A Hearts of Ghana program is saving lives by sending experienced medics from the UK to Ghana and by training doctors within Ghana.

Find out more about Hearts of Ghana and how you can support us by visiting: **www.heartrhythmalliance.org** - and click on the 'Programs' tab in the dropdown menu.

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