

January 2016

### Some January patient stories

**William went home!** William is a 1 year old who had a stomach virus and went to another medical center, where he received an adult sized dose of a medicine that caused acute liver and kidney failure. In addition to the liver and kidney failure he in was critically ill with several other problems including an allergic reaction to an antibiotic that caused much of his skin to slough off. All together, he was in the hospital for about a month and a half. God answered a lot of prayers for him. It was really a celebration when he was finally well enough to leave the hospital.



**Ruth** had the lowest blood count I've seen in a living human. (Hct 6%/Hb 2g.) Here she is the day after her transfusion, sitting up looking remarkably well. A few days later a 21-year-old young woman with sickle cell and had the same low blood count, and didn't make it, despite our best efforts. It's been a difficult month with a number of children who died from malaria.

**Noah and Ben** (names changed) are brothers but not twins. Although they both weigh about 11 pounds, the boy on the left is almost a year older than his brother on the right. This family is not from the local area, and the mother was not screened for HIV during either pregnancy. The older boy had pneumonia and during this hospitalization the mother learned that both he and she have HIV. We don't know yet about the younger brother. While I was in the US in the fall, Gabon changed its Prevention of Transmission from Mother to Child program. It seems more much more complicated than before. Pray for families like this that they can receive hope through their treatment here, and that the prevention program will work better than before.



### "Izzi, Come quick the cats have a cobra on the porch!"

The snake with the wide, flared hood, was flicking its tongue ready to strike the cats, who weren't quite sure if it was a playmate or mortal enemy. This month there were two similar snakes in two weeks in or around my front door. In case you are wondering, no I did not stop to photograph either snake before grabbing the machette to chop off its head. Pray against anymore snakes in and around my house.

### Praises

- I passed my Internal Medicine Board recertification exam.
- Work has started on the Eye Center Building. (right)
- Deb Walker, our pediatrician, is back after surgery in the US.
- The part to fix the warming table for newborns works.
- No other children are showing signs of polio. We won't know about the one child for 2 months. The test has been sent out by the public health authorities to Cameroon.



- There were 170 children in Sunday school this morning, January 31<sup>st</sup>. I had 4 more benches built last week and they were all full this week.



### Prayer Requests

- Our team will have some big personnel changes soon. (More about that after it's official.) Pray for us as we make decisions about leadership for the missionary team and the hospital.
- Continue to pray for another long-term Primary Care doctor- Internal Medicine, Family Practice or Med/Peds.

Thank you for praying.  
Blessings,  
Renée

**The Christian & Missionary Alliance, 8595 Explorer Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80920** [www.cmalliance.org](http://www.cmalliance.org)  
**Hôpital de Bongolo, BP 49, Lébamba, Gabon AFRICA** [www.bongolohospital.org](http://www.bongolohospital.org)

Thank you for contributing to the CMA's **Great Commission Fund**. Your gifts to the **GCF** make it possible for the Alliance to send me to Bongolo and to show God's love around the world. Here are some ways you could designate a gift: **Support of Renée Valach**- goes to the Great Commission Fund toward allowance, etc. **Work of Renée Valach**- for special work projects related to my ministry **Bongolo Hospital HIV/AIDS Treatment**- toward HIV treatment, particularly the pediatric patients



Some extra pictures. Sunset from my house and the cats who are unsure how to react to snakes, Lily and Iris.

