



September 2016

Greetings,

In our July newsletter Jay went into detail of what his job required and how it is important to Bible translation. Hence, now it is my turn to talk about nursing and Bible translation.

The community we live in consists of missionaries from all over the world. Many are with Wycliffe and some are from other missions such as Assembly of God and Pioneer Bible Translators. The missionaries are translators, literacy workers, pilots, mechanics for automobiles and airplanes, teachers, managers, and computer experts. These are the people we care for at the clinic.

I have many roles available to me. The first is office nurse. I check patients in for the doctor's appointment. I get weights, allergies, current medications, vitals, and main complaint. I screen some calls and emails for the doctors. I also take x-rays and assist the doctors with procedures as needed. They do procedures such as steroid injections, casts, skin biopsies and stitches.

The second role is pharmacy nurse. People may place orders for over the counter medicines and refills of prescriptions. We fill those orders. In the process we package medications in smaller quantities to sell. The third role is appointment nurse. This role involves assessing acute patients, examining them and deciding on a diagnosis and treatment, and if necessary calling the doctor. This role is used when the doctors are busy with other responsibilities or on the weekend when I am on call, which is the fourth role.



Being on call means returning a radio call, answering questions and meeting patients at the clinic as needed. I am also learning basic lab tests to complete such as a blood count and differential, rapid strep tests and malaria along with urine dip sticks. A fifth role is immunization nurse. One of the other nurses does this; I just help when needed. Another role is treatment nurse. Sometimes wounds require dressing changes or patients need antibiotic injections. I may fill any or all of these roles in a week. The missionaries may have any illnesses you may encounter in the US along with some tropical diseases such as malaria, dengue fever, or chikungunya.

In conjunction with caring for the missionaries, I have the opportunity to work alongside the Papua New Guinea nurses and care for Papua New Guineans (PNG) in our community and surrounding valley. Many of the PNGeans work alongside us in the community serving with Bible Translation. Occasionally I will work in their pharmacy and fill prescriptions after the PNG patient is seen by a nurse. Once a week I am able to go to a village clinic and give immunizations to the children. Sometimes they see 50-100 children in one trip.





The mission statement on our board at the clinic says,

**“Ministering God’s Word through health care”**

*Romans 12:10 “Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourself.”*

Thank you for partnering with me as I partner with other missionaries in fulfilling this mission and furthering the work of Bible translation. Thank you for partnering with us in Bible translation.

*Jay and Jodi*

Please visit us at: [www.pettygroveprogress.org](http://www.pettygroveprogress.org)

Or Email us at: [jay\\_pettygrove@wycliffe.org](mailto:jay_pettygrove@wycliffe.org) [jodi\\_pettygrove@wycliffe.org](mailto:jodi_pettygrove@wycliffe.org)

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P.O. Box1 (82)  
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