



The One Bullet Story

A project of:

Aiming for Prevention: An IPPNW Campaign on the Public Health Consequences of Small Arms

IPPNW

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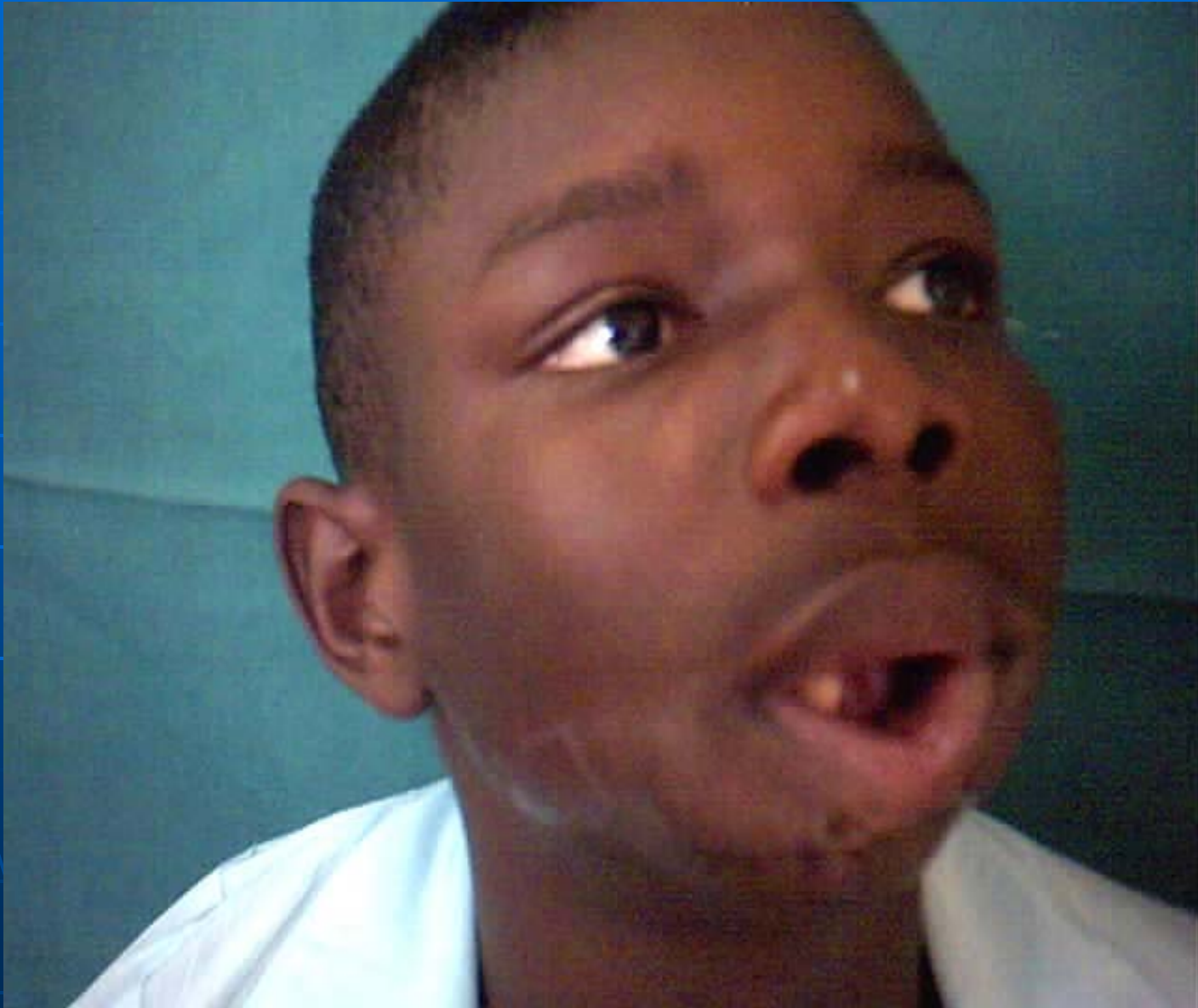
The Human Face of Small Arms Violence

The costs of injuries are high

- Medical
- Psychological
- Social
- Community
- Economic



**We present the story of a
17-year old Congolese boy
referred to Nairobi
University Hospital for
surgical treatment and
management of a gunshot
injury to the face ...**



The son of a diamond prospector, he was suspected to have diamonds by rebel soldiers, who shot him in the face in anger after they failed to get any from him.

He was fortunate to receive first aid treatment, but had to travel to Nairobi for proper medical care...

A journey of 3000km through Uganda by road!



It took him over one year to raise the money from family and friends for travel and treatment.



During this period he kept his mouth, which was disfigured by the bullet, covered with a handkerchief in public.

- His mandible and maxillary bones were shattered by the bullet.
- An implant was required to replace the lost jaw fragment.



**9 hours of surgery, at a cost of
USD \$6,000.00**



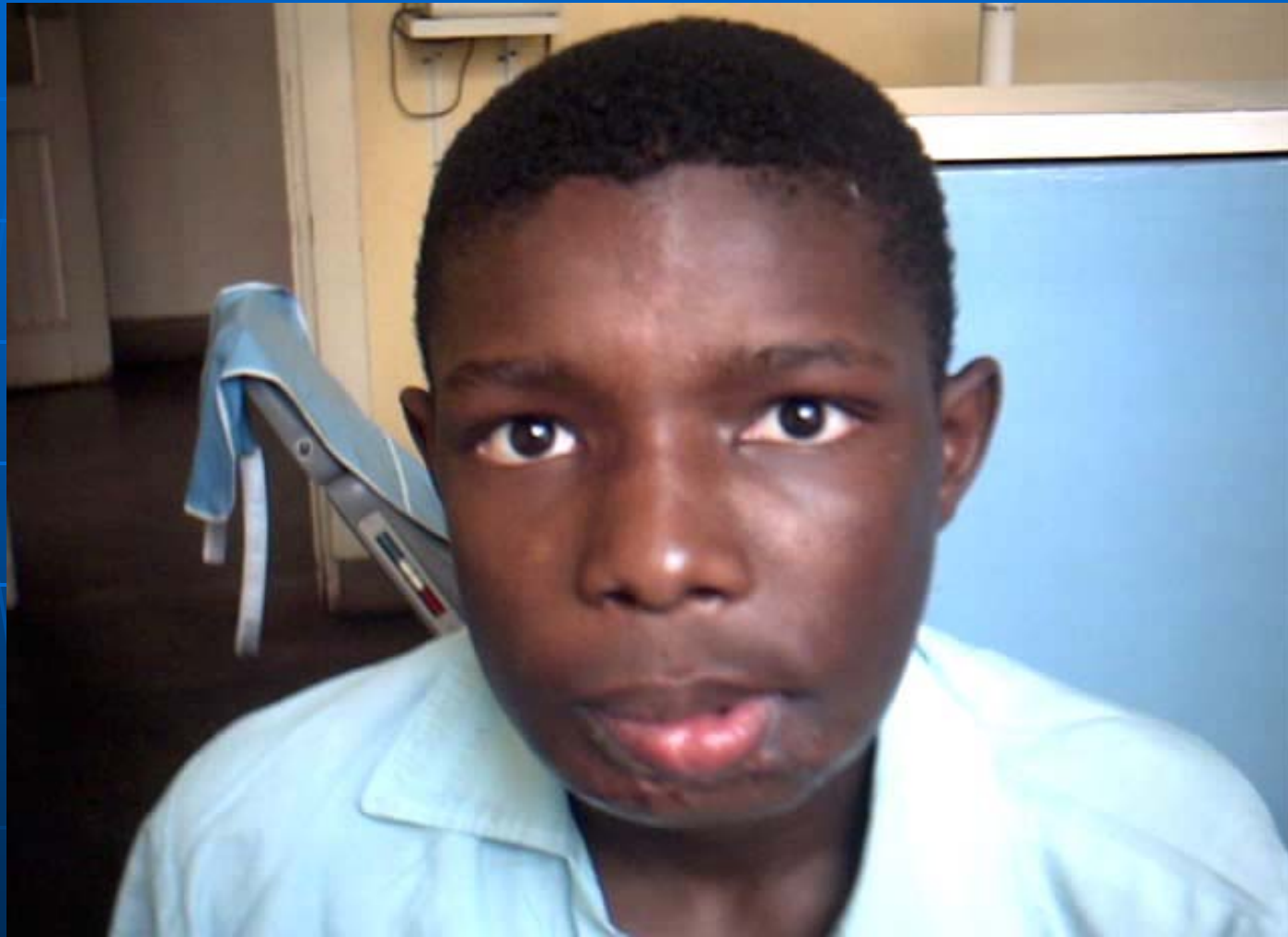
Stainless steel bone plate inserted



After 9 hours of surgery



Five days after surgery



- 9 Hours of theatre time
 - + 9 Hours of theatre drugs
 - + Reconstruction plate
 - + Surgeon and nurses
 - + Travel expenses from injury site in DR Congo
 - + Pre-admission hotel expenses
 - + Post-operative care
- = \$6,000.00 USD
-

+ psychological & social costs...like post-traumatic stress disorder.

SALW injuries are a burden on health care facilities



\$6,000 = One Bullet Injury, or...in Kenya...



**\$6,000 = One year of
primary education
for 100 children**

**\$6,000 = Full
immunizations for
250 children**

**\$6,000 = 1 1/2 years
education for a
medical student**

**\$6,000 = 10 years of
daily ugali meal for
an average Kenyan
family of six**

...2-300,000 deaths per year as a result of small arms

- ...900 million small arms and light weapons are in circulation worldwide;
- ... Of 49 major conflicts in the 1990s, 47 were waged with small arms as the weapons of choice;
- ...Annual global arms trade is estimated at \$70 billion dollars.



Small Arms – A man-made disease!



Proliferation – Armed children!



Small Arms Violence is a Public Health Crisis

Solutions include a public health approach:

- Collect data
- Identify Risk Factors
- Design interventions
- Prevent injuries



**Smalls Arms is a
Health Crisis We
Can Contain!!**

What Can The Medical Community Do?

- Educate colleagues about public health dimensions of armed violence
- Collect injury and mortality data to use for advocacy and policy change
- Help design violence prevention strategies
- Care + rehabilitation for victims of violence



Acknowledgements

1. Patamule Lampanya – The boy who traveled all the way from DR Congo to Nairobi in pursuit of surgical reconstruction after gunshot to the face and whose story inspired the first One Bullet Story, for consenting to the use of his pictures and story in this campaign.
2. University of Nairobi Maxillofacial Surgery department and the hospital staff for providing the theatre facilities and recovery ward for our patient.
3. The Embassy of Finland in Nairobi for sponsoring the initial One Bullet Story campaign in Kenya.
4. IPPNW Central office (Aiming for Prevention) for refining and adopting the OBS as its official small arms campaign tool.

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