

Team helps PMGH docs

Reports by HANNAH NERO

SPECIALISTS from Taiwan carried out a lump removal (Laparoscopic hernia) procedure at Port Moresby General Hospital (PMGH) as part of training for local doctors.

According to the chief executive officer (CEO) of Changhua Christian Hospital (CCH) Dr Nina Kao, the team completed the first laparoscopic hernia repair surgery at PMGH in collaboration with local doctors earlier this month.

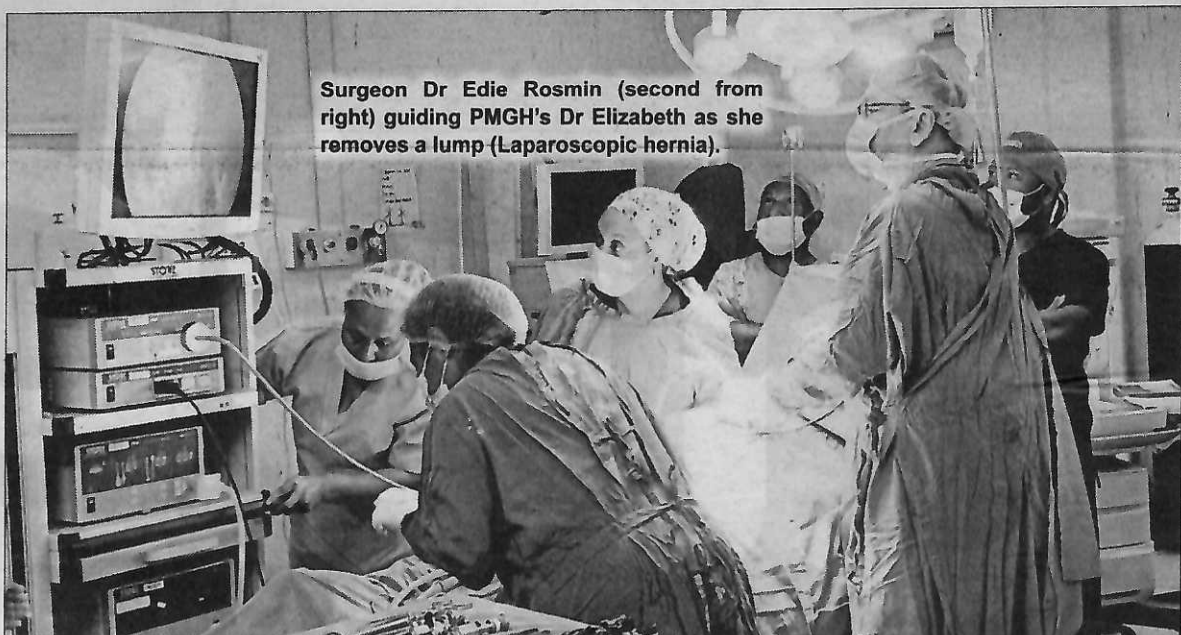
The medical team from CCH, consisting of seven members of the hospital, were led by Kao, of the hospital's Overseas Medical Mission Centre, who travelled to PMGH early this month to provide medical services and share clinical experience.

The team included Dr Chun-chi Chen (urology), Dr Tai-shan Shen (orthopedics), Dr Edie Rosmin (general surgery), Lee Hsin-yi (pathology) and Dr Yeh Chao-yuan, CEO of aetherAI Co Limited.

Kao said: "The patient, a 30-year-old male, was diagnosed with a right side hernia over a year ago.

"However, due to the lack of experience in laparoscopic surgery at PMGH, one was not conducted until the team arrived, by which Dr Edie Rosmin personally instructed (guided) Dr Elizabeth (of PMGH) to perform the hospital's first laparoscopic hernia repair surgery."

Kao explained that hernia is basically a lump in the abdominal walls



Surgeon Dr Edie Rosmin (second from right) guiding PMGH's Dr Elizabeth as she removes a lump (Laparoscopic hernia).

of people, also sometimes occurring on the groin area of men causing swelling of the testicles.

The most effective means to remove hernia (lump) is the use of laparoscopic hernia repair which is a procedure that involves the insertion of a metal tube with a light and camera on one end called a laparoscope to remove the lump and decrease discomfort or pain.

"This method not only results in a smaller incision, less pain compared with traditional suture surgery (cut open and stitch method), and a shorter recovery time, but it also allows for

the transfer of skills and experience to local doctors, improving the quality of patient care," Kao said.

Additionally, the team invited Dr Yeh to join the mission and share how artificial intelligence (AI) based digital pathology systems can be applied and interpreted, given that aetherAI is Asia's leading medical image AI that focuses on pathology.

Yeh also conducted an in-depth assessment of the hospital's pathology department, including its equipment, operational procedure and network environment, and provided recommendations for further

collaborations, saying: "We hope to help PMGH achieve the aim of addressing the shortage of pathologists and increase the efficiency and accuracy of pathology reports in the short term."

Kao added that, since the introduction of referral services for cancer patients in 2023 to Taiwan, there has been a noticeable increase in cases referred to Taiwan for treatment and consultation, mainly referred cancer patients and PMGH should continue to prioritise that by referring patients in the early stages of cancer for a high treatment success rate.