



Osteopathy without borders

History

The first mission took place in August 2004 on the initiative of Philippe Druelle D.O. and Tatiana Vera-Lescano D.O. Since then, thirty-four missions have taken place in Peru, thirteen in Pakistan and a permanent mission took place in Peru from April 2007 to March 2009.

To this day, more than four hundred and forty-three osteopaths and students have offered beyond nineteen thousand treatments.

Objectives

- To treat underprivileged patients and complex cases from diverse backgrounds.
- To allow the development of osteopathy internationally and facilitate an exchange of information.
- To allow a medium of training and dynamic exchange for osteopaths and students.

Targeted populations

The population targeted are people without employment and /or underprivileged, complex cases (patients referred by doctors), children, pregnant women, victims of domestic violence.

Peru

Twice a year, a group of ten to twenty-five osteopaths and students from Canada and abroad, treat people for 2 weeks in Arequipa, Peru. We work with local partners such as Amigos (social worker's association), the University Catolica Santa Maria, the Rotary Club and the local NGO's. On average, sixty (60) patients are treated per day. A local team of contributors (doctors, nurses, coordinators, interpreters...) support our work with the patients.

Since 2016, "Osteopathy Without Borders", in collaboration with the CEO has implemented an osteopathic program within the Faculty of Medicine of the Universidad Catolica Santa Maria de Arequipa. The program consists of three Diplomados followed by a two-year Masters. Thirty (30) students are currently being trained within the program.

Pakistan - Rwanda

Since 2007, each summer, a team of volunteers leaves for a two-week mission in Pakistan.

One week is spent in Lahore, Punjab's capital, in the plains, where volunteers could work in the hospitals either in the pediatric, orthopedic, medicine, gastroenterology and gynecology departments.

More than just treating patients, a special focus is placed in increasing healthcare professionals' awareness of the benefits and uniqueness that is osteopathy. Almost each year we could organize a conference to present the work we do to medical teams in various hospitals.

The second week is spent in mountainous regions under basic conditions. The access to the village of Nagar, in the Gilgit-Baltistan, takes 25 hours on the road from Islamabad, or if we are fortunate one hour by flight and 3 hours on the road. We work mainly with children in schools, and we also serve as general clinic for the village population, which now recognizes and appreciates the efficiency of osteopathy.

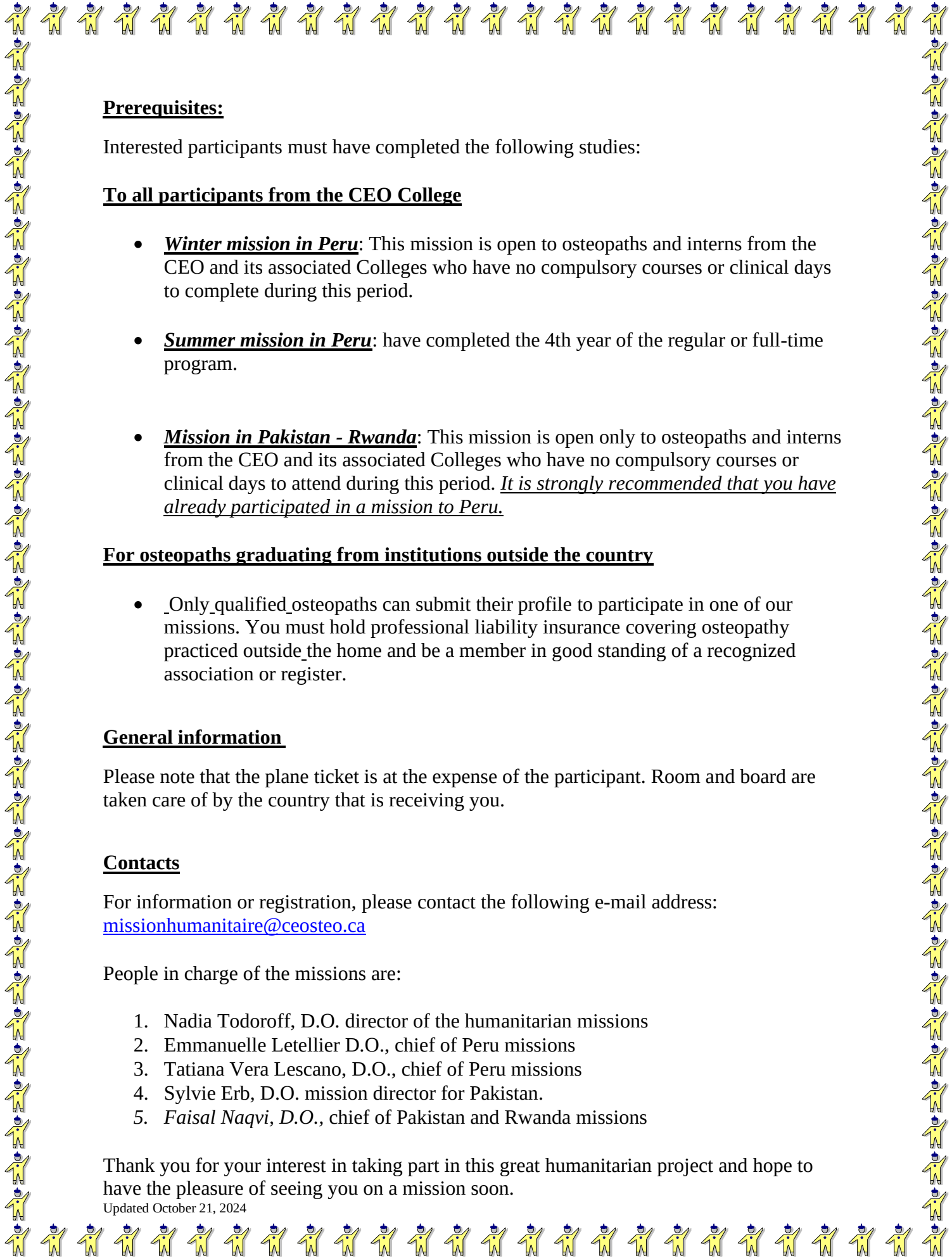
The work we do is extensive and gives the opportunity to practise osteopathy with various diagnoses that are generally not accessible to us in North America. The volunteers are requested to have an open mind, to be adaptable, in good health and be able to work autonomously.

Since 2007, the foundation "Osteopathy Without Borders", in collaboration with the CEO works at creating an osteopathy school in Lahore. The introduction of osteopathy in the country is the primary goal of the missions. In June 2012 the first group of Pakistani students, with the fifth-year study completed in the Switzerland campus, has brought to term the 1st cycle in osteopathy.

You are invited to read the report of Rwanda mission on the site:
www.osteopathywithoutborders.com.

Missions 2025

- **Winter mission in Peru:** The dates of the 2-week mission are March 8th to 22nd, 2025, with treatments from March 10th to 21st. It is recommended to arrive on the Saturday before the start of the treatments, to allow for adaptation to the altitude.
- **Summer mission in Peru:** The dates of the 2-week mission are July 5th to 19th, 2025, with treatments from July 7th to 18th. It is recommended to arrive on the Friday before the start of the treatments, to allow for adaptation to the altitude.
- **Mission in Pakistan:** For the time being, no mission is planned for 2025.
- **Mission in Rwanda :** Consult www.osteopathywithoutborders.com to know next dates



Prerequisites:

Interested participants must have completed the following studies:

To all participants from the CEO College

- **Winter mission in Peru:** This mission is open to osteopaths and interns from the CEO and its associated Colleges who have no compulsory courses or clinical days to complete during this period.
- **Summer mission in Peru:** have completed the 4th year of the regular or full-time program.
- **Mission in Pakistan - Rwanda:** This mission is open only to osteopaths and interns from the CEO and its associated Colleges who have no compulsory courses or clinical days to attend during this period. *It is strongly recommended that you have already participated in a mission to Peru.*

For osteopaths graduating from institutions outside the country

- Only qualified osteopaths can submit their profile to participate in one of our missions. You must hold professional liability insurance covering osteopathy practiced outside the home and be a member in good standing of a recognized association or register.

General information

Please note that the plane ticket is at the expense of the participant. Room and board are taken care of by the country that is receiving you.

Contacts

For information or registration, please contact the following e-mail address:

missionhumanitaire@ceosteo.ca

People in charge of the missions are:

1. Nadia Todoroff, D.O. director of the humanitarian missions
2. Emmanuelle Letellier D.O., chief of Peru missions
3. Tatiana Vera Lescano, D.O., chief of Peru missions
4. Sylvie Erb, D.O. mission director for Pakistan.
5. *Faisal Naqvi, D.O., chief of Pakistan and Rwanda missions*

Thank you for your interest in taking part in this great humanitarian project and hope to have the pleasure of seeing you on a mission soon.

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