

# WALK

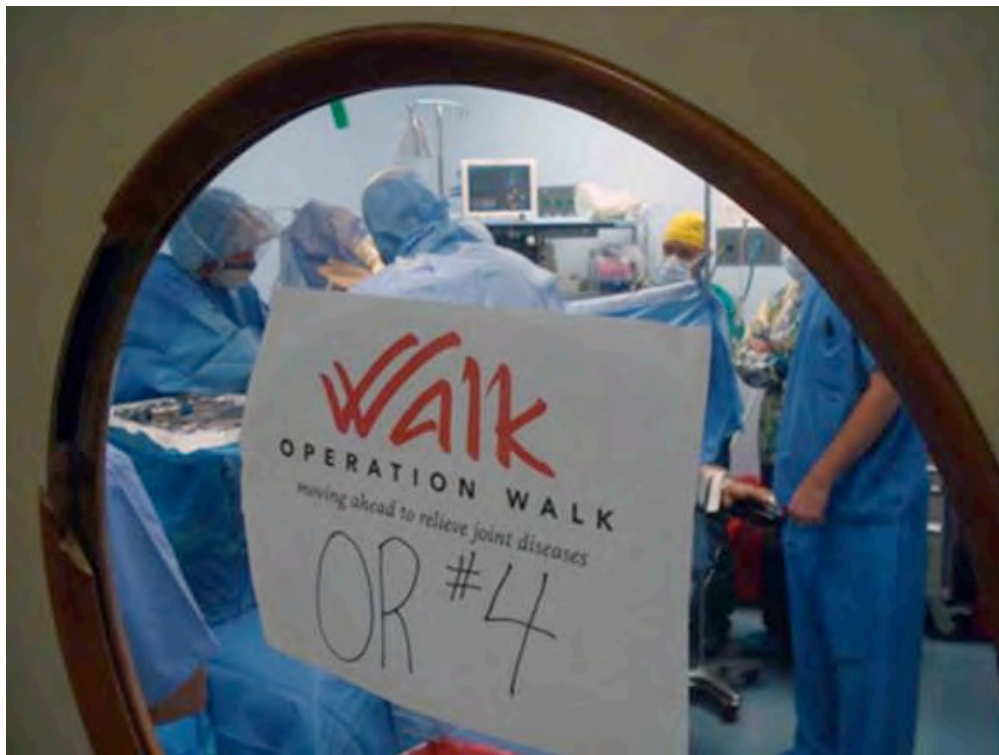
## OPERATION WALK PITTSBURGH

*granting the wish to walk*

Operation Walk Pittsburgh is a not-for-profit volunteer medical service program that provides free surgical treatment to patients with disabling arthritis in developing countries. Operation Walk also educates in-country orthopaedic surgeons, nurses, physical therapists and other health care professionals on the treatments, processes and surgical techniques for diseases of the hip and knee.

Operation Walk Pittsburgh  
Day 3: August 23, 2009

Today was the first full day of surgery for the Operation Walk team in Antigua, Guatemala.



*A view inside one of the four operating rooms being used*

The team started operating at 7:30 a.m. and didn't finish the last case until 6 p.m. Although it was a long day in the operating room, much was accomplished. The team was able to complete 18 total joint replacements on 12

different patients (6 patients received bilateral replacements).



*Dr. Tony DiGioia and Physician Assistant Mike Hallahan work on a total knee replacement.*



*Dr. Mike Weiss, Dr. Anton Plakseychuk and Physician Assistant Duane Chess operate on a patient.*

Following surgery, the patients were transferred to the nursing unit where they will rest overnight and then begin physical therapy in the morning.

The patients and their families have been very appreciative and grateful for the Operation Walk team's work in Guatemala. One patient said that it was "a miracle from heaven" that the Operation Walk team came to Antigua. Another patient's family approached a team member with tears in her eyes then hugged and thanked them for giving her loved one a chance to walk again! It is moments like these that reaffirm the work being done and the tremendous impact the team is making in the lives of the Guatemalan people.



*Antigua, Guatemala*

More photos are posted on our website [here](#).

For more information about how to support Operation Walk Pittsburgh or to make a tax deductible donation, please visit [www.operationwalkpgh.org](http://www.operationwalkpgh.org).



*We look forward to hearing from you! To contact us, please email us at [info@operationwalkpgh.org](mailto:info@operationwalkpgh.org). Please do not reply to this email!*

[Operation Walk Pittsburgh](#)

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