

## Anesthesia Monitors

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HUGS Foundation—Help Us Give Smiles—is seeking a grant of \$22,500 to provide funding for three anesthesia monitors for our Quito, Ecuador operating rooms. Anesthesia monitoring is essential for any surgical procedures requiring anesthesia. It monitors oxygen levels, heart rate, blood pressure and other vital signs. Without this equipment, the medical team simply would not be able to perform surgery.

In the past, HUGS has transported the medical equipment back and forth for each mission trip. This clearly has been problematic over the years as the possibility for incurring damage to the sensitive equipment is quite high and the repairs are relatively expensive. Also, the increasingly restrictive airline carry on policies have posed problems for the team. The team has had several instances where the anesthesia monitors were in great jeopardy of not making it on the airline.

As the waiting list of children in need of surgery continually increases over the years, the importance of having the anesthesia monitors as a permanent fixture in the Quito operating room is indisputable.

HUGS is looking to secure this critical medical equipment in time for their 2008 medical mission trip.