



Hope for Haiti®

A Case of Tetanus Requiring Acute Emergency Care

Chérisier was a patient during a *Hope for Haiti* Medical Mission held at the Little Sisters of Saint Thérèse (PSST) Clinic in Baradères. Nearly unconscious, he was brought to the clinic to see the Sisters but instead found *Hope for Haiti* Healthcare Director, Dr. Steeve Victor and a volunteer team. How he contracted tetanus remains unknown. Although tetanus is completely preventable, the lack of vaccinations available in Haiti makes this disease much more prevalent here than in other countries. Without treatment, one in four infected patients die of tetanus. Thankfully, Dr. Victor was able to make a swift diagnosis and begin providing the care required to save Chérisier's life.



Dr. Steeve Victor, Dr. Steeve Shukan, Candi Shukan (R.N.) and Monna L'Esperance (N.P.) performed emergency care for Chérisier on-site at the Mobile Clinic. After stabilizing the patient and concluding an initial diagnosis, *Hope for Haiti* arranged for him to be transported the next day to the General Hospital in Les Cayes. There, the hospital doctors along with Dr. Victor would be able to monitor him and administer the rigorous dosage of required medications that might have a chance to save his life. After two weeks at the General Hospital, with *Hope for Haiti*'s financial support and Dr. Steeve's oversight, Chérisier's condition improved remarkably. Eventually he was able to return to Baradères, saved from a preventable disease that, under a better healthcare system, he would not have contracted in the first place.