

White Cross Supplies
Communaute Baptiste du Congo
Democratic Republic of Congo

White Cross supplies which come to DRC are a source of blessing to the institutions and patients who receive them. When they arrive in Kinshasa from the port of Matadi, they are sorted at the CBCO headquarters and trucked overland to the various institutions. From those institutions, the rural health centers often receive their supplies via bicycle carrier or runner. The journey of White Cross supplies within the DRC can take several weeks because trucks break down, spare parts sometimes can't be obtained, and stretches of some of the roads are mud wallows or sand pits. There is always rejoicing when the boxes finally arrive at their destinations.

White Cross supplies and handwork are used on the wards, in the operating rooms, in the maternities, and in the rural health centers of all the CBCO hospitals. They are an invaluable contribution in a country where many patients can hardly afford the medical care they need. Surgical mask, caps, gowns and scrubs keep OR staff befittingly attired for the hours of surgery performed each week. Laparotomy pads, laparotomy sheets, bed sheets, and bandages are helpful in the OR, post-operatively, and on the patient wards. Laboratory coats and uniforms are appreciated and used by nursing students in training, but the nursing staff, and other hospital personnel. Baby blankets, baby gowns and diapers are given to infants born in our maternities, and are always received with gratitude. There are never enough to go around. Sanitary pads and umbilical tape and even rolled bandages are significant assets to each delivery room.