



synopsis

How does healing happen when there is no one to call and the nearest hospital is a hut two days away? Making do with what you have can make a good nurse great, but what if all you've got is a screwdriver, a bicycle wheel and a very angry goat? Find out on X-TREME MEDICINE. Follow adventurous, intrepid Nurse Keri as she treks to the ends of the earth to help, search out and share what's happening in extreme medicine all over the world.

Meet Nurse Keri-warm, gorgeous, smart, adventurous and dedicated to helping others. Years as a field nurse doing disaster relief work now has Nurse Keri inspired to help people in places that need her most. She packs up on a moment's notice to help those with no access to medical assistance, living in the most remote of locations. From a hut in Rwanda to the Honduran rainforest, from the jungles of Cambodia to the Yemeni deserts, follow Nurse Keri on the back of a motorbike, atop a camel, riding a tuk-tuk, or on board a two-seater sea-plane as she talks us through where she is and how she got there. Her journey 'there' gives us a micro insight into the politics and culture of the country, while stylized beauty shots of extraordinary landscapes with hand-held camera work of the grueling trek 'in' put us unmistakably there with her...far away from what we've ever known and inspired by Nurse Keri's unflagging dedication to help.

While Keri's persuasive personality can usually convince a surgeon or specialist to come along for the ride, conflicts often arise when reality sets in. It's one thing for a high-end doctor to drive his BMW to the big city hospital for a few hours of surgery-it's quite another to paddle into the rainforest in a dugout canoe. How do our guest doctors fare in the middle of the jungle when their surgical instruments were held up at customs and there's no running water or electricity? What if the surgical tool of choice is a dirty machete? What happens when the shaman says the patient is possessed by evil spirits and needs an exorcism but the western doctor wants to operate? What if the local practitioner prescribes dried tiger penis and bear bladder? What does Nurse Keri do and how can she help the doctor and the healer save the patient?

In Kenya, the Massai use army ants as sutures for deep wounds. In Rwanda bicycle spokes are used in spinal surgeries and on Baffin Island the skin of a lemming and whalebone heal a boil. Hyena dung and honey in the Sudan, frog juice in Peru, blood-sucking leeches in Bhutan and your own urine in India-but does that work best for asthma...or impotence? And what if you're a western-trained surgeon? These cures aren't in the medical books. And so far away from home, what the doctors do know is nowhere to be found. Through the eyes of Nurse Keri, X-TREME MEDICINE shows us the challenges facing fish-out-of-water doctors as they perform extreme medical procedures and face the grim reality of life and death situations.

Fast-paced, gritty, inspirational and extremely personal, X-TREME MEDICINE is a docu-reality series with no contests or prizes, no scripts or contestants. On the ground and as it happens, Nurse Keri assists in surgeries, healings and treatments. She's driven to help, to heal and to learn. Accompanied by a surgeon, Nurse Keri also works with traditional healers, shaman, and voodoo practitioners, acting as the bridge of understanding between our two very different worlds. Private interviews at day's end fill the viewer in on Nurse Keri's concerns and conflicts with some of the alternative treatments and extreme medicine. Bonus extras give us info on tiger killing in West Bengal, sex-ed on the streets of Phnom Penh, and corpse eating on the Ganges. More personal behind-the-scenes shows Nurse Keri navigate everything from bathroom etiquette to marriage proposals, and how to eat tarantula.

Nurse Keri has made it her life's work to help people in the developing world. She's also on a mission to enlighten her North American colleagues, surgeons and doctors alike, and hopefully inspire them to join her quest to make a difference in promoting health and bridging cultures worldwide. Our intrepid Nurse is faced with the most extreme of situations in the most remote of places-she's there to help the sick and learn from their healers-but nothing she was taught in nursing school could have prepared Nurse Keri for this!

X-TREME MEDICINE is created to allow broadcasters to build an audience who will follow this amazing woman all over the world and straight into their hearts. Captivating. Riveting. Inspiring.

Nurse Keri and X-TREME MEDICINE.