

Publication	Sanluisobispo.com
Edition	Online
Date	September 9 , 2008

## SanLuisObispo.com

### India a training ground for Twin Cities exec

**Chief operating officer Joe Badalian was one of two Tenet executives chosen to spend more than two months in the developing nation**



COURTESY JOE BADALIAN  
Badalian with Dr. Prathap Reddy, founder and chairman of the Apollo Hospital Group, Asia's largest health care network.

Joe Badalian's photos of his recent trip to India tell only part of the story.

The chief operating officer for Twin Cities Community Hospital in Templeton recently completed a management training program that sent him to the burgeoning nation for more than two months.

As one of two executives chosen to represent Twin Cities' parent company, Tenet Healthcare, Badalian worked with the Apollo Hospital Group, Asia's largest health care network with 44 hospitals and 9,000 total beds. He visited hospitals in New Delhi, Bangalore and Hyderabad and returned last week.

"There was a lot of personal growth as a result of this," said Badalian, 36. "It was good to get another perspective."

The trip was the third to India for Badalian; his other two visits were on vacation.

While there, Badalian conducted a series of seminars and reviewed the hospitals' clinical outcomes, with a careful eye on management procedures and infrastructure.

He took particular interest in the relative affordability in India, which has fueled a growing medical tourism industry in which patients from other parts of the world seek out treatment in countries where medical costs are lower.



In turn, Apollo founder Prathap Reddy is now visiting a number of Tenet-owned hospitals in the United States (though not Twin Cities), Badalian said.

Looking at photos displayed on a computer screen in his Templeton office, Badalian remembered a 3-year-old Iraqi girl, being treated at one of the hospitals, who he said highlighted the common mission between American and Indian hospitals.

“We have this war (in Iraq) going on, and it was nice to see (different cultures) come together,” Badalian said. “It touches the heart.”