

Thoughts...

“Increasing number of patient consultations also means increased complexity of cases. Therefore, we needed to intensify training in the clinical areas.”

Our second newsletter is published after a busy and exciting five months of hospital activity. We have seen an increasing number of patients visiting our outpatient clinics, and average number of consultations amounts to 65 patients a day. Most patients come from the province Kampot, but we see more patients coming from the neighboring provinces. Many of those usually went to Phnom Penh and Vietnam and have now decided to seek treatment at our hospital due to good quality. Increasing number of patient consultations also means increased complexity of cases. Therefore, we needed to intensify training in the clinical areas.

We have been very grateful for volunteers from Germany and Australia to complement the local trainers from the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital and the Sihanouk Hospital Center of HOPE. Quality in all clinical areas has improved, but especially in the clinical support departments. The addition of Daniel Moho from Germany as nursing director has tremendously added value to the nursing training and motivated us to start our dialogue with the regional training center for nurses and midwives to receive students. Thus, we will be able to assist in capacity building in the region and foster partnerships with the public sector. Please enjoy the different topics of this edition that focus mainly on our training activities.



SKMH Chief Executive Director

Dr. Cornelia Haener
MD FMH, MScPH DLSHTM



**បន្ទីរពេទ្យអនុស្សាវរីយ៍
ស៊ុនយ៉ាមេរៀន**
Sonja Kill
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



What's Happening at the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital- September 2012

on location

Current News >>>

SKMH Hosts The Kampot Regional Training Center



“I am very happy we have the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital in Kampot now. Students can gain practical skills in a very friendly and modern environment.”

-RTC Director, Chhun Samnang-

With 700 students, the Kampot RTC is one of four provincial training institutions for nurse and midwife students in Cambodia. The school covers four southern provinces and seven hospitals where students can gain their practical knowledge.

We are excited to receive students from the RTC soon. They will be a great asset for us to support our medical staff immensely during their daily routine. Students given the chance to receive a high level of training today are tomorrow's nurses and midwives. Some of them might like to work at the SKMH in the future.

Teaching Men to Fish....

Imparting the most effective techniques a priority

September is our training newsletter where we focus on the second of our mission goals for the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital. The HOPE worldwide hospitals have always been known for their compassionate treatment of Cambodians. Another important goal is capacity building in the health care sector within Cambodia.

At the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital this tradition of teaching has continued.

In Pediatrics, Dr. Vuthy is leading the way in treatment of southern Cambodia's little ones, but he also spends part of each day in mentoring a second pediatrician and three other trainees by providing lectures.

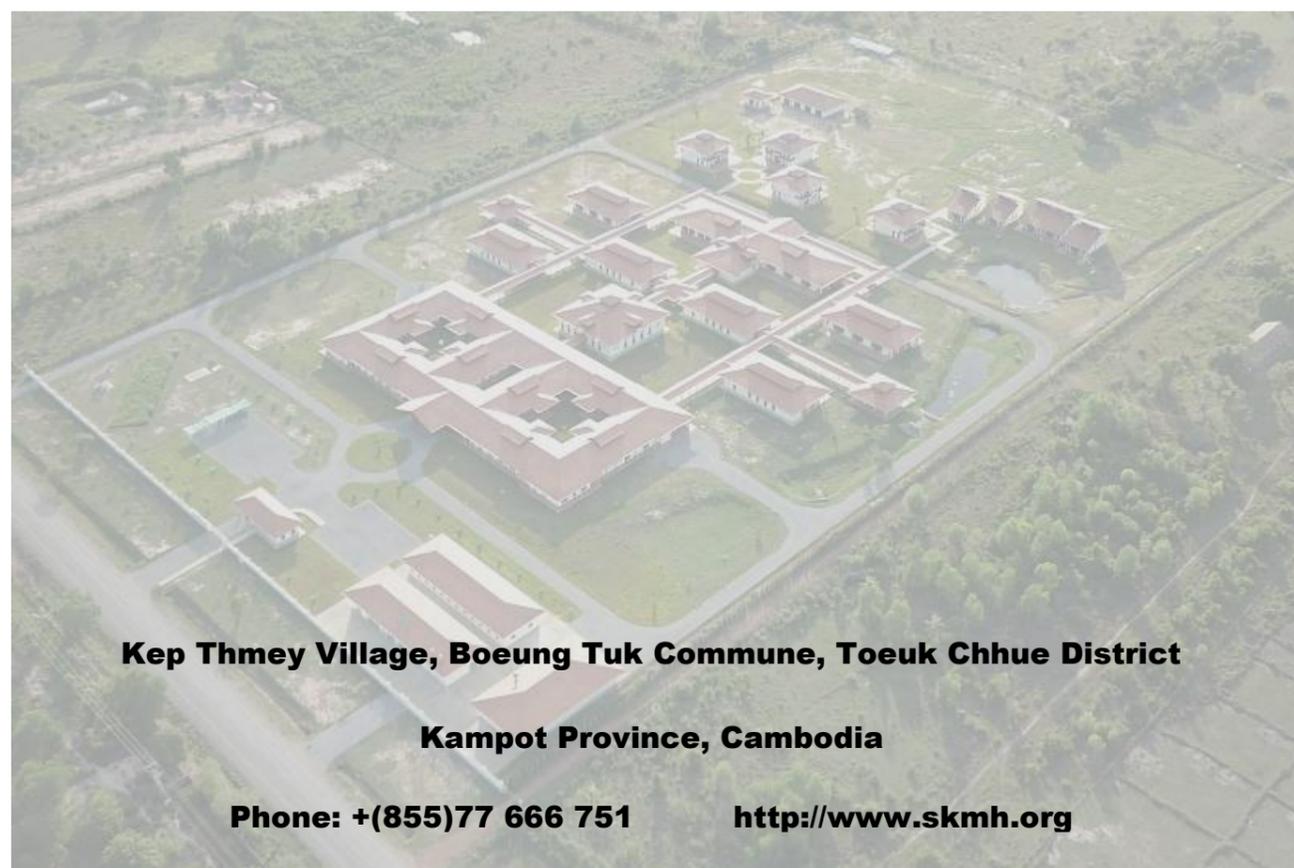
Dr. Cornelia, a well respected member of Cambodia's medical community for over twelve years, leads in mentoring our four junior doctors, helping them diagnose difficult cases and consulting with them to deepen their understanding of diagnosis and patient treatment.

For our nurses, daily classes with case discussions and teaching professional behavior in assisting our doctors is led by our Head Nurse from Germany, Daniel Moho, and by resident nurse

Robert Dunlap from the United States. Within the pharmacy, we have hosted two medical students, one of them a clinical pharmacist from Australia who have helped to improve pharmacy stock organization and efficiency in the dispensing pharmacy. But, our training is not just for staff. The SKMH wants to work with local health care providers to increase capacity throughout the region. One important partner in this is the Regional Training Center. The SKMH and the RTC have begun to work together training emergency life saving skills with a CPR class. Truly, we have been busy! But, what an amazing few months we have had.

“The key to improve medical performance is to support these young nurses and doctors.... Training is an essential investment in the future.”

-Daniel Moho-



Kep Thmey Village, Boeung Tuk Commune, Toeuk Chhue District

Kampot Province, Cambodia

Phone: +(855)77 666 751

http://www.skmh.org

Life Saving Services

The key to improve medical performance is to support these young nurses and doctors in their behavior and their knowledge. Training is an essential investment in the future.

Another key, to being a successful hospital, is to cooperate with local medical and teaching centers to build up a good relationship where both sides will collaborate and support one another.

To support our clinical staff we have training every morning before starting work (7.30-8.00) where we discuss medical cases and instruct good practices. We also devote time on Friday afternoons to build up studies on common medical conditions that we see and to peer review consultations.

Recently, we decided on teaching CPR to the staff and began looking for a mannequin. The Kampot Regional Training Center was willing to offer their mannequin for the training and we, in turn, offered training for three of their medical staff.



The training was a success! CPR training will now take place regularly to improve the basics before moving on to teach advanced CPR training.

The SKMH is now working closely with the Kampot Regional Training Center. In the near future we look forward to the opportunity to receive nursing students for training and support.

-Daniel Moho-



A Fighting Chance

The Cham community is a special within Cambodian society. They practice Islam instead of the more traditional religion of Buddhism. Since the opening of the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, the SKMH has become increasingly popular with the Cham community. Often a day at the SKMH starts with a van load of Cham women accompanied by their husbands, bringing their children to our pediatricians. But, it is unusual for them to arrive later in the day because they drive from the provinces surrounding Kampot. However, one late afternoon, a frantic Cham family brought their five year old boy, Ro Fy Dy, to the hospital. He was suffering from abdominal pain and fever. For 5 days they had watched as his condition worsened. For three days they tried to treat him at home, hoping that with rest, his condition would improve, for two days he had been under the care of a local medical professional who gave young Fy Dy IV fluids in hopes of bolstering his system to help fight off infection. But, after seeing no improvement, he pulled the IV from Fy Dy's arm and urged his parents to take him to a hospital.

His parents drove sixty kilometers from their province on a back road destroyed by large earth moving, and shipping cargo trucks.

They navigated around pot holes sometimes more than twelve inches deep and several feet across to reach the SKMH because they had heard what great care could be offered.

Our nurses quickly recognized that the young boy's condition was severe and notified our Senior Pediatrician, Dr. Huong Vuthy, and moved the boy to the Emergency Department for observation and diagnosis.

On examination, the boy's condition was confirmed as very sick. He was toxic, and agitated. His hands and feet were cold from lack of circulation. He was in shock. His pulse was alarmingly weak and rapid. He had petechia on most of his body and arms and the doctor was not able to take his blood pressure.

Even though his veins were collapsed, nurses were quick to get the catheter into his arm. Dr. Vuthy also started oxygen. After about an hour of treatment, his condition stabilized. Then because we haven't opened an Inpatient Ward, we decided to transport him to the Kampot Provincial Hospital where he could be observed overnight and treated for his illness, Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.

Two days later, Dr. Vuthy followed up with Fy Dy's condition at the Kampot Provincial Hospital. He was doing very well, his appetite was good, and he was eating better. On the third day, little Ro Fy Dy was able to return home to his family, a survivor of an illness that claims far too many.

Cross-training: Key to successful growth.

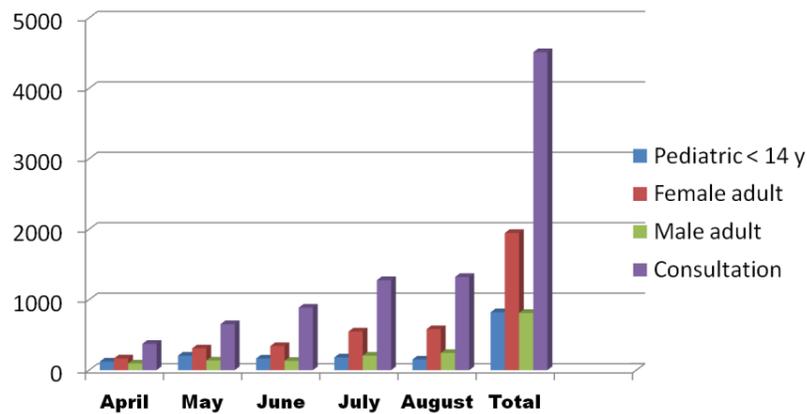
Mr. Mam Bunsong is a Cambodian German radiology technician that came to serve for three months at the SKMH teaching radiology skills to our nurses.

With radiology a key component of patient diagnosis it's important to have staff that is skilled at capturing clear, clean images useful to the doctors.

With the SKMH staff, cross-training in different areas is a key to ensuring that we always have skilled people available to support our patients.

Congratulations to nurse Chhouk Borey! He completed a three month mentorship and earned the respect of his teacher for his accomplished techniques.

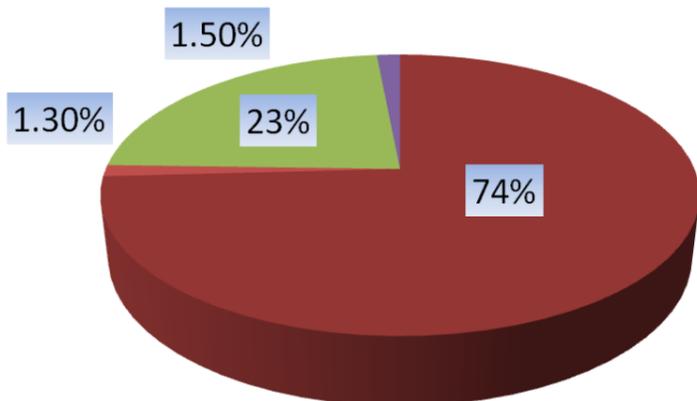
Our stats >>>



Until he extends his circle of compassion to include all living things, man will not himself find peace.

-Albert Schweitzer-

Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital
<http://www.skmh.org>



- Kampot
- Kep/Koh Kong/Takeo
- SHV
- Others



Nurse Chenda & Dr. Pisey

Lending a Hand In collecting garbage

Teamwork is more than just a concept at the SKMH

Once a month the entire staff lends a hand to help keep the hospital a center of excellence in every way- including making sure the grounds are as spotless as our exam rooms and that patients receive care in beautiful, picturesque surroundings.