

The Last Four Days In The Kantha Bopha Hospitals

From October 14th to October 17th 2013 we treated 13 865 sick children in the outpatient stations. We admitted for hospitalization 1933 severely sick children. Additionally there were 225 deliveries in our maternity and 4018 vaccinations against the Japanese Encephalitis (JEV) in Jayavarman VII (Kantha Bopha III) in Siem Reap Angkor.

The Public Health System is not efficient. And in some cases it is fatal: This year, from January to September 372 infants suffering from deadly bleeding in the brain and around the brain were hospitalized and treated (often by surgical operation) in our hospitals !!! They were bleeding because they did not get Konakion (Vitamin K) after delivery in the public health sector. In our maternity with 60 deliveries per day there was never a case of neonatal bleeding! This fatal mistake is due to corruption and bad discipline. People working there are not on the spot, they are in their private clinic. How may this behavior ever change?

All high and higher ranking Excellencies working in the Ministry of Health have their huge private clinics and private business too. There is their commitment!! They are the model and the shining examples for the lower ranking people working in the Public Health System. So what?

But unfortunately it is shown again in 2013: The quality in these private clinics over all the country is bad. 90 % of all Dengue Fever cases having died in our hospitals were first treated in private clinics. There they were kept back too many days (for big money) and treated by wrong and too many medicines, drugs and perfusions.

At times one child from Kampong Tom Province suffering from Bird Flu is hospitalized in Jayavarman VII in Siem Reap Angkor. It is saved! It is the 15th case of Bird Flu in 2013 in our hospitals! First a child has to suffer from Bird Flu. Only then the authorities are realizing (hearing from our diagnosis confirmed by the Institute Pasteur), that there a lot of chicken have died.

We ask the Ministry of Health to contribute more money to Kantha Bopha. Up to now they contribute 2% of their money to Kantha Bopha, which is treating 85% of all Cambodian children, free of charge. Here is no corruption but efficiency.

Dr. Beat Richner, founder and head of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals

October 18th 2013