

Annual Report 2021
of the Foundation of Children's Hospitals Kantha Bopha,
Dr. med. Beat Richner

1. Important events 2021

1.1. Covid-19 in the children's hospitals

The year 2021 continued to be dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the spring of 2021, alarming news came from Cambodia: "It's a matter of life or death," government leader Hun Sen warned the population about the spread of the pandemic. "Just a month ago, everything seemed under control. The kingdom recorded only a few Covid-19 cases at the end of March. In the meantime, one in eight residents has been vaccinated. But Covid-19 infections have risen sharply in the last fortnight. This was reported by Manfred Rist in the newspaper NZZ on 4 May.

What did this mean for Dr. Beat Richner's children's hospitals? The strict lockdown and the travel restrictions between the provinces reduced the number of new outpatients in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap by about 70%. About 650 new patients came to the hospitals every day (under normal conditions the number is up to 2500), and there were about 50 births and 40 to 60 surgeries every day in the maternity unit in Siem Reap. However, all intensive care units were full with seriously ill children.

For testing and isolation of possible Covid infected people, the hospital managers took the necessary measures in time. The entire staff was tested on an ongoing basis and the majority of staff got vaccinated voluntarily. We prepared one large bed hall per ward as a quarantine station. The hygiene regulations were strictly observed. All staff were informed and well equipped.

The efficient Covid protocol for the Kantha Bopha hospitals was introduced in close cooperation with the Children's Hospital Zurich and their Professor of Infectiology Prof. Dr. med. Christoph Berger. Fortunately, the course of the disease is milder in children.

Despite the additional effort and difficult conditions (masks and protective suits in the tropical heat!), the hospitals ran smoothly (*Enclosure 1*).

The medical legacy of Dr. Beat Richner and Dr. Peter Studer is secure and continues to run independently in medical and organisational terms. This was particularly evident during the Corona crisis, when all Swiss missions to Cambodia had to be postponed. The achievements of our Cambodian management team and the entire staff deserve our utmost respect and recognition.

The Foundation Board hopes that the planned missions of paediatricians from the Zurich Children's Hospital and other experts to Cambodia can be resumed soon.

1.2. Cambodian leadership team

Since the reconstruction of the first children's hospital Kantha Bopha in Phnom Penh in 1992, the Zurich paediatrician Dr. med. Beat Richner had one big goal: the children's hospitals he founded should be run by Cambodians alone as soon as possible. By doctors and nurses whom he trained and promoted together with the University Children's Hospital in Zurich. They should do it in his spirit. According to the principles he set: all sick children should be admitted, vaccinated, operated on and cared for free of charge. With the best instruments, protocols and practices of contemporary medicine.

Therefore, together with his successor Dr. med. Peter Studer, he made every effort to build up an experienced management team that could seamlessly replace them after their retirement. Serious illnesses unfortunately put an early end to the lives of Beat Richner (2018) and Peter Studer (2020). Thanks to this far-sighted preparation, the Foundation was able to organise the succession according to the plans of Beat Richner and Peter Studer.

Today, the children's hospitals in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap are still in mourning over the loss of their revered hospital founders. At the same time, however, there is a spirit of optimism and great confidence in the future. The Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital Foundation, Dr. med Beat Richner, handed over the management of the hospitals in May 2020 to the experienced Cambodian management team, which has been there since 1995. Dr. biol. Denis Laurent was appointed Directeur Général. The two chief physicians, Prof. Dr. med. Yay Chantana (Siem Reap) and Prof. Dr. med. Ky Santy (Phnom Penh) are the medical directors of the hospitals. Their deputy and vice-directors are Assistant Professor Dr. med Khun Leang-Chhun (Siem Reap) and the two Assistant Professors Dr. med Yv Malene and Dr. med Nguon Yaneth. They all consider it their task to continue the hospitals in the spirit of Dr. Richner and Dr. Peter Studer.

The Cambodian leadership team, together with the 2,500 Cambodian staff, continued to do an excellent job in 2021. It is very pleasing to see how the Cambodian team works in a disciplined and independent manner. They are taking on more and more responsibility and are also taking the initiative themselves in making proposals for the further development of the hospitals (*Enclosure 2*).

1.3. Education and Training of Staff / Strengthening of the Foundation Board

The medical area with education and training has been headed by Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, Medical Director of the University Children's Hospital Zurich since 2020. He is supported by his predecessor Prof. Dr. med. Felix Sennhauser.

The strategic cooperation with the Children's Hospital Zurich was sustainably strengthened at the beginning of 2020 with the election of Prof. Dr. med. Felix Niggli and Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar to the Foundation Board. The close cooperation with the Children's Hospital Zurich and their personal representation on the Foundation Board assures the high-quality standards of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals (*Enclosure 3*).

Unfortunately, no missions from Switzerland could take place in 2021 due to Covid. In 2021, the experts from the Children's Hospital and other institutions supported the Cambodian doctors to the best of their ability by telephone or via video conference with the experts consulted.

Ms Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer accompanied her husband Peter Studer privately to Cambodia from 2007 and in recent years. She is therefore a profound expert of the project and garners the highest support and admiration among the staff of the hospitals, the government, and the Royal Palace. She is in regular exchange and telephone contact with the Cambodian leadership team and provides administrative support to the President.

The Foundation Board was further strengthened by the election of Dr. Philip Robinson in 2020. He is the deputy of the President.

Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer and Dr. phil. Philip Robinson both act as the Vice Presidents of the Foundation.

The Foundation Board will continue to do everything in its power to continue the life's work of Beat Richner and Peter Studer.

2. Important Investment Decisions in 2021

Although no missions or visits to Cambodia were possible due to the Corona Pandemic 2021, the Foundation Board made important investment decisions which were successfully implemented by the Cambodian management team.

2.1. Covid Protection Measures

As a precautionary measure, a Covid isolation room was set up in each hospital. Staff were provided with protective suits, masks, disinfectants and tests in a timely manner. Fortunately, it has been confirmed that children are less exposed to risks and Kantha Bopha Hospitals did not have a single severe course of the disease in children in 2021.

The Covid protocol, introduced in close cooperation with the Children's Hospital Zurich and Prof. Dr. med. Christoph Berger was recognised by the Cambodian Ministry of Health as a model for all hospitals in the country.

2.2. Digitisation of Patient Data

Until now, patient data was kept in paper form, which required a great deal of effort (air-conditioned archive rooms, large space requirements). In order to increase efficiency, the Foundation Board decided in summer 2020 to manage patient data electronically. Data protection is ensured and there is a corresponding agreement with the commissioned IT company and the Ministry of Health.

The introduction of the digitisation of patient data was successfully implemented in 2021. This makes the registration of new patients and the continuation of each patient's medical history significantly more efficient. In addition, this data also allows new evaluations of diseases and disease progression, which opens up new possibilities, especially in the area of education and publications.

2.3. Replacement of CT Scanner in Kantha Bopha II

In summer 2021, the outdated CT scanner at the Kantha Bopha II Hospital in Phnom Penh was replaced with a modern new device.

The new device works perfectly. Transporting and installing the new unit was a logistical challenge due to the strict lockdown and closed borders with Thailand.

2.4. Maternity Clinic

The Foundation Board decided to convert three existing bed halls of the maternity clinic in Siem Reap into two operating theatres and an intensive care unit. The costs for the conversion and the new facilities amount to around USD 0.5 million. This will ensure that Caesarean sections in particular and other operations on pregnant women in particular can be performed at the maternity clinic itself and that the existing operating theatres for paediatric surgery in the hospitals will be relieved as a result. The reconstruction was successfully completed in 2021 and the new operating theatres and intensive care unit are fully operational.

2.5. Conversion of laundry

All hospital laundry was previously cleaned and disinfected manually. In 2021, modern washing machines and dryers were purchased in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. This will allow hospital laundry to be cleaned more efficiently with fewer staff. In addition, the previous manual cleaning required much more space. The space freed up could urgently be used elsewhere.

2.6. New intensive care units

In Siem Reap, two more urgently needed intensive care units for newborns (NICU) and for children (PICU) could be completed in the premises of the former laundry.

3. On Future Financing of the Hospitals

Dr. Beat Richner was unique when performing as "Beatocello" and cannot be eclipsed as an ingenious fund-raiser. Dr. Beat Richner made it clear to the Cambodian government quite a few years ago that he would not always be able to play the Cello and raise funds.

After Dr. Beat Richner applied pressure, the Ministry of Finance and Health founded a working group in 2015 to develop solutions for long-term financing of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals. In 2016, Beat Richner was appointed advisor of the Ministry of Health in Cambodia and served in the rank of a State Secretary.

In 2016, the contribution was doubled to USD 6 million, and since 2017, we continue to receive a contribution of USD 2 for each entry ticket purchased to the famous temple grounds of Angkor Wat. Unfortunately, this source of funding practically dried up in 2020 and in 2021 due to the Corona pandemic and the lack of tourists. However, we are also very pleased that private donations in Cambodia tend to increase, which shows the enormous support of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals in Cambodia. Overall, however, we received significantly less money in Cambodia in 2021 due to Corona. The Swiss government has been supporting the Kantha Bopha Hospitals for many years through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) with CHF 4 million annually. In addition, we received an exceptional amount of CHF 100,000.00 from the SDC in 2021 for the additional costs of Covid-19. More than half of the budget was financed from donations from Switzerland in 2021. In the future, we are still urgently dependent on donations from Switzerland and hope for the continued faithful support of our many valued donors. Thank you very much!

The government of Cambodia is also very determined to preserve the Kantha Bopha Hospitals in the manner by which they were organised by Dr. Richner. In April 2018, the Prime Minister Hun Sen founded a Cambodian foundation "Kantha Bopha" and has personally assumed, together with the First Lady, the role of honourable president. This was mainly to generate more donations in Cambodia; a powerful sign by the government further emphasizing the importance of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals for Cambodia. In 2021 we received USD 1 million each from the Cambodian Kantha Bopha foundation and the Cambodian Red Cross.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between our Swiss foundation and the Cambodian Kantha Bopha foundation in spring of 2019, reaffirming the common goals and principles of cooperation. This MoU represents a milestone in securing the future of hospitals. The Foundation Board is convinced that long-term financing can be secured in this way.

Whereas Dr. Richner's project was initially criticized as acting as a state within the state and as subversion of the health care system, it is now and from every corner of the world, including Cambodia, known and respected as a universally recognized model for poorer countries.

4. Overview and Project Description

Under the direction of Dr. Beat Richner, the Foundation of Children's Hospitals Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner, in Zurich (hereinafter "Foundation") has opened five children's hospitals respectively named Kantha Bopha in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Angkor (hereinafter the "Kantha Bopha Hospitals") since 1992. The extension of the biggest maternity clinic in Cambodia was put into operation in autumn 2015.

The Kantha Bopha Hospitals take care of about 85% of all the sick children in Cambodia. 80% of the seriously ill and hospitalized children would not have a chance of survival without these hospitals.

The treatment is free of charge for all the children. 80% of the Cambodians are without any means and 80% of our patients come from families with a daily income of USD 1 or less. It is simply impossible for them to pay!

The Kantha Bopha Hospitals have the highest correlation worldwide between costs and healing rate. This is why they can also serve as a model for poorer countries. In addition, as expressed in figures, they ethically support justifiable family planning resulting in mothers knowing that when their child is seriously ill, they can take them to the Kantha Bopha Hospitals for free. Mothers in Cambodia no longer have to give birth to ten children for fear of losing every second child. As a result, mothers giving birth in our maternity clinic, approximately 70 births per day (with expectant mothers coming from all regions of Cambodia), nowadays seldom have more than 3 children.

Kantha Bopha is an unparalleled success story around the world in the health care sector. The Kantha Bopha Hospitals have treated approximately 18.5 million ill children as outpatients since 1992 and 2.3 million seriously ill and injured children have been hospitalized and fully cured.

The Kantha Bopha Hospitals are an exemplary model for a functioning health care system in one of the poorest countries in the world. Kantha Bopha is free of corruption and enjoys a reputation as a refuge for justice and social freedom in Cambodia.

4.1. 30 Years Kantha Bopha

The importance of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals can only be explained and understood within the historical context of Cambodia.

King Norodom Sihanouk, who died in October 2012, had the Children's hospital Kantha Bopha in Phnom Penh built in 1962 when he was the head of state. The hospital was named in honour of his daughter Kantha Bopha, who died of leukaemia at infancy.

Up to and until the outbreak of the Vietnam War (1965-1971) and the subsequent Khmer Rouge's reign of terror (1975-1979), Cambodia operated a well-developed health care system.

The entire infrastructure in Cambodia was completely destroyed by the war and the subsequent civil war and an estimated 1.7 million Cambodians – about a quarter of the country's population – were murdered.

During the final negotiations of the Paris Peace Agreement in Paris in September 1991, the well-known Zurich paediatrician Dr. Beat Richner was asked to redevelop Kantha Bopha, a place where he had worked in 1974/75 until the invasion of the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh. As early as on 23 September 1992, the newly restored Kantha Bopha was inaugurated with the participation of King Norodom Sihanouk and Ysushi Akashi (Japan), Chairman of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

The hospital has become a successful project. The hospital was soon overburdened. On a daily basis the hospital faced more than 20 gravely ill children who could only be treated in the over-loaded intensive care unit, and as a result were rejected care. At that time, all the employees were staff of the Ministry of Health. Due to the mass increase of patient volumes, more doctors had to be requested. The ministry provided only inadequately trained staff. As a solution, Dr. Beat Richner began hiring young Cambodian doctors, who completed their internship at Kantha Bopha and who demonstrated great intelligence and motivation. Today these Cambodian doctors all hold senior management positions.

In September 1995 King Norodom Sihanouk confirmed that all medical personnel should be selected by the Foundation and had to adhere to a set of specific criteria. Furthermore, he personally allotted a plot of land at the royal palace. On 12 October 1996 Kantha Bopha II was inaugurated at this site by King Norodom Sihanouk and the president of the Confederation at the time, J.P. Delamuraz.

In May 1999 King Norodom Sihanouk inaugurated the third hospital in the presence of the Prime Minister Hun Sen: Jayavarman VII (Kantha Bopha III) in Siem Reap Angkor.

Since then, the hospital has been expanded five times and now has an X-ray department, a laboratory, a hospital pharmacy, and operating theatres. The maternity clinic was opened on 9 October 2001.

Kantha Bopha IV (Phnom Penh) was inaugurated in December 2005 and started to operate in January 2006.

In December 2007, after a construction period of only 12 months, Kantha Bopha V in Phnom Penh was inaugurated. It offers a ward comprising 300 beds, a vaccination clinic, a laboratory and an X-ray department.

The hospitals in Siem Reap and Phnom Penh have state-of-the-art equipment offering both MRI and CT scanners.

The new maternity clinic comprising 80 beds, 8 birthing facilities and a small intensive care unit started to operate in Siem Reap Angkor in October 2015. The former maternity ward in Phnom Penh, where the current King Sihanouk was born, was renovated in the year 2015. The ground floor now accommodates the archives of medical records and the first floor now houses and showcases an information centre.

In June 2018, the Foundation Board decided to tear down the dilapidated Kantha Bopha hospital I in Phnom Penh and to replace it with a new structure. This is the hospital where Dr. Beat Richner began his activities in 1992. On 1 August 2019, after only one year of planning and construction, the substitute building for the first Kantha Bopha Hospital was inaugurated in the presence of the King and Queen Mother. In the new building, a new heart surgery centre as well as one intensive care unit for newborns and one for older children were each put into operation. This puts the Foundation in the fortunate position of being able to successfully perform heart surgery and invasive cardiac catheterizations in Phnom Penh in addition to the existing heart surgery centre in Siem Reap.

4.2 Health Care Services

The Figures for 2021

The Kantha Bopha Hospitals treat thousands of severely ill children mainly suffering from infectious diseases (tuberculosis, dengue fever, encephalitis, meningitis, etc.), as well as an increasing number of serious accident cases.

We continue to observe a constant increase of hospitalizations since 1992. The continuous increase of patient volume can be explained by the improvement of transport infrastructure, population growth, and the continuing poor health care system in the country. The patients come from all of the 24 provinces.

The increase in the number of patients is also related to the factor that the poor population can simply not afford the costs in the public and the private health sector. As is generally known, any treatments at the Kantha Bopha Hospitals are free of charge. This does not preclude wealthier Cambodians from bringing their children to Kantha Bopha or giving birth in Jayavarman VII, because hygiene and quality are often more than catastrophic in both the public and private health sectors. Often and increasingly, these families then make a small or large donation to Kantha Bopha after hospitalisation or birth of one of their children.

Overall, the number of patients in 2021 decreased significantly compared to the previous year. The reason for this was the covid-related lockdown (incl. curfew) and the strict travel restrictions between the provinces.

In 2021, the number of severely ill children who needed to be hospitalized amounted to 80,672 (previous year 133,026). The number of outpatient treatments of sick children amounted to 385,519 in 2021 (previous year 639,268). Before being admitted to the polyclinic, a triage is undertaken by the doctors. The children who were not seriously ill and were therefore released following triage have therefore not been accounted for in our data.

In 2021, a total of 2,900 Covid patients (children and/or their mothers as well as hospital staff) were successfully treated. Fortunately, we did not have any severe courses of the Covid disease among the children.

39,924 children (previous year 49,586) were routinely vaccinated in 2021. In addition, 31,527 Covid-19 vaccinations were given.

In 2021, 23,855 surgical operations were performed (previous year 24,822), of which 606 were open heart and 74 invasive cardiac catheterization surgeries (previous year 1,041). Since 2 August 2019, children in Phnom Penh have also been undergoing open-heart surgery at the new heart centre. On 1 August 2020, the 400th successful operation was recorded in Phnom Penh.

Furthermore, there were 17,926 births at the maternity clinic Jayavarman VII (Kantha Bopha III) (previous year 25,771). 16% of the children were born by caesarean section (previous year 13%). A total of 82,045 pregnant women were examined (previous year 132,443), 62,539 of whom were and treated as outpatients and 19,506 as inpatients.

The mortality rate at the Kantha Bopha Hospitals was 0.49% in 2021 (previous year 0.25%). The reason for this relative increase lies in the lower outpatient numbers. Please find further details in the attached table “Global Admission” (*Enclosure 4*).

4.3 Heart Surgery and Invasive Cardiac Catheterizations

The illnesses with the highest mortality rate in our hospitals are the consequences of congenital heart defects.

Since Prof. Oliver Kretschmar, Children's Hospital Zurich, introduced invasive cardiac catheterizations in 2011, our Cambodian team is now capable to perform this minimally invasive procedure as a matter of routine on its own. We are thankful that Prof. Kretschmar still comes to Siem Reap to teach a one-week continuing training session twice a year.

Since 2012, our Cambodian doctors also successfully perform open heart surgery. This is made possible because of the regular presence of foreign specialists. These include, first and foremost, Prof. Babatasi, heart surgeon of the Chaîne de l'espoir, but also Prof. R. Prêtre, Lausanne, and Prof. L. Vricella, Baltimore/USA.

On 1 August 2019, another heart centre with an intensive care unit was opened in Phnom Penh. Due to Covid, no missions of our heart specialists from home and abroad could be carried out. The experienced heart team from Siem Reap trained their Cambodian colleagues in Phnom Penh. For the first time in the history of Kantha Bopha, Cambodian specialists trained their colleagues without outside help. An impressive success story that proves the sustainability of Kantha Bopha Hospitals.

This is only possible because the entire infrastructure of the hospitals functions at a high level: the laboratories, the blood bank, the intensive care units and the diagnostic equipment.

Further, also because discipline is strictly maintained by the staff, day and night, physically as well as intellectually. Unfortunately, this is not the case outside Kantha Bopha in Cambodia.

4.4 The Kantha Bopha Hospitals Have the Status of University and Government Hospitals

Since 1994 (when only Kantha Bopha I existed), Kantha Bopha has been a department of the Health Ministry. At the request of Dr. Beat Richner, the Prime Minister Hun Sen signed a sub-decree in December 2014 which states that Kantha Bopha III (Jayavarman VII) in Siem Reap Angkor is also an own department of the Health Ministry. This is of great importance for the long-term continuation of Kantha Bopha in its predefined structure with decent salaries for its 2,500 Cambodian employees in a manner free of corruption and ensuring its policy of free treatment for everyone. The Kantha Bopha hospitals have the status of university hospitals and are fully integrated into the Cambodian health system.

The Director of Kantha Bopha Phnom Penh, Prof. Ky Santy, the Director of Kantha Bopha (Jayavarman VII), Siem Reap, Prof. Yay Chantana, both women Head surgeons in Siem Reap, Prof. Keo Sokha and Prof. Or Ouch, one of the two Heads of the maternity clinic, Prof. Tiw Say, the two Head surgeons in Phnom Penh, Prof. Pa Ponnareth and Prof. Chour Serey Cheddana, are regular professors at the Medical Faculty, Phnom Penh. Furthermore, 22 other colleagues are lecturers. In the year 2021, 348 medical students completed their internship in our hospitals in the departments of paediatrics, surgery and obstetrics. In 2021, the nursing college, which is affiliated with the Medical Faculty Phnom Penh, sent an attendance of 332 interns (called nursing internship) to the Kantha Bopha Hospitals. Additionally, assistant medical technicians are trained in the laboratory and radiography. In this way, Kantha Bopha Hospitals are making a significant contribution to the further development of the entire Cambodian health system.

4.5. Health Care Professionals

At the end of 2021, the Foundation employed a total of about 2,500 local employees in the five hospitals in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Angkor.

Dr. Denis Laurent (COO and dual citizen of both France and Cambodia) is the only foreign employee working for the foundation in Cambodia.

The Kantha Bopha Hospitals operate sustainably and with the very high quality collaboration with the Cambodian employees. The medical education and training of the younger colleagues are enhanced and maintained in a sustainable way. All the head doctors are aged between 46 and 56 and eagerly train their younger colleagues in the most professional manner.

5. Foundation Board and Management

During the two meetings of 2 February 2021 and 11 May 2021 the Foundation Board focussed on the statutory business.

The Compensatory and Audit Committee met on 31 March 2021 and was presided over by Dr. iur. Florian von Meiss. The body reviewed the compensation of the managing staff as well as the expenditures relating to bookkeeping, donations, auditing and public relations matters.

The Foundation Board wishes to thank Intercontrol AG for its transparent and precise bookkeeping and the monthly reports on current financial status. We are also incredibly grateful for the competent care of the business in connection with legacies, bequests and all the correspondence with donors. In 2021, PricewaterhouseCoopers AG (PwC) controlled the annual results as our appointed auditors.

6. Financial Concerns - Donations

The Annual Financial Statement for 2021, approved by the Foundation Board on 10 May 2022, closed with assets of CHF 68,201,172.36 and an expenditure surplus of CHF 7,324,396.64.

The organisation capital (equity) therefore increased by approx. CHF 7.3 million to CHF 67.6 million. This development allows to provide for a finance period of the next 15 months' period for hospital operation.

The Annual Financial Statement 2021 was carried out according to the requirements of standard Swiss GAAP FER 21. The audit report by PwC of 10 May 2022 contains no limitations or details and recommends that the Foundation Board approve the Annual Financial Statement.

Our accounting contains two matters of particular concern:

- Due to the special political situation and the lack of legal security in Cambodia, the investments are debited directly from the expenditures.
- As under Cambodian law, the purchase of real estate by a Swiss Foundation is not permitted, three plots of land are held in trust by Dr. Denis Laurent, COO of the children's hospitals and French-Cambodian dual national. There are written agreements on the corresponding trust relationship.

After an expenditure surplus of around CHF 7.6 million in the last year of operation, the annual financial statement for 2021 closes with a revenue surplus of around CHF 7.3 million. The following factors contributed to this pleasing result:

- The *operating income* increased by CHF 3.8 million, from CHF 38.7 million to CHF 42.5 million. The ordinary donations in Cambodia amount to approx. CHF 5.0 million and have increased by approx. CHF 1.6 million thanks to a large donation.

Whereas in earlier years relevant income of around CHF 5-6 million was achieved with ticket contributions from the Angkor Wat temples, our Foundation no longer received any contributions in 2021 due to the Corona pandemic and the lack of

tourists. Large donations increased by around CHF 1.8 million to CHF 5.4 million and bequests by CHF 0.9 million to CHF 10.1 million.

- The expenditures for the operation of the hospitals in Cambodia ("recurring operating costs") were CHF 5.3 million lower than in the previous year at CHF 32.7 million, in particular due to lower wage costs (CHF 1.1 million) as a result of currency fluctuations, lower costs of medication (CHF 2.0 million) and lower operating costs (CHF 1.0 million).

Furthermore, lower investments of approximately CHF 2.5 million (previous year approx. 4.7 million) were made in medical equipment and building extensions.

- The «*infrastructure expenses Switzerland*» (expenses for fundraising, general advertisement expenditures and administrative costs) amount to about 0.93 million and is CHF 0.4 million lower than the previous year.
- Due to the strongly positive USD currency development in the reporting year, the "financial results" have increased by approx. CHF 3.2 million in comparison to the preceding year.

The part of our administrative costs confirmed by PwC is in keeping with the average of the past three years at 2.92% (previous year: 2.84%) of the total revenues, which is an efficiently low ratio and representatively reflects a lean organisational process.

The administrative costs mainly comprise public relations, including advertisements, IT, administration of donations, thank-you letters, bookkeeping and auditing costs.

7. Public Relations

7.1. Occasions and Events

Due to the Corona pandemic, unfortunately all planned events had to be cancelled as in the previous year, in particular the gala performance of the Circus Knie and other events.

7.2. Advertisements and Mailings

The Foundation increased its media presence with numerous advertisements with information about the activities of the hospitals for the loyal donors. Furthermore, we carried out a total of three mailings in March, June and November 2021.

8. Thanks

The Foundation wishes to thank the approximately 100,000 donors and the many companies and foundations for their financial and ideological support of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals during the year 2021.

The contributions of the Cambodian government amounted to USD 6 million in 2021. Since February 2017, the Foundation receives a contribution of USD 2 for each tourist visiting the world-famous temple grounds of Angkor Wat. Due to the Covid situation, these revenues virtually collapsed. In addition, in 2021, we received USD 0.5 million from the Cambodian Kantha Bopha foundation USD 1 million from the Cambodian Red Cross.

The yearly contributions of the Swiss confederation amounted to CHF 4 million in 2021. In addition, we received extraordinary contributions of CHF 0.1 million for additional expenditure in connection with the Corona protection measures.

We would like to express our thanks to the governments of Cambodia and the Swiss Confederation for their regular support and hope for a further increase in their participation.

Furthermore, we thank the media for their interest and their coverage of Dr. Beat Richner's aid agency. Special thanks go to the Schweizer Illustrierte for their many years of loyalty and favourable editorial.

Warmest thanks to our donors. You know:

Every franc helps to heal, save and prevent.

Zurich, 10 May 2022

For the Foundation Board



Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach
President



Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer
Vice President



Dr. phil. Philip Robinson
Vice President

Enclosures:

- Advertisement «Covid 19 in the Children's hospitals» (Enclosure 1)
- Advertisement «Medizinische Erfolgsfaktoren der Kantha Bopha Spitäler» (Medical success factors of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals) (Enclosure 2)
- Advertisement «Was unsere Ärzte in Kambodscha lernen» (What our doctors learn in Cambodia) (Enclosure 3)
- Table «Global Admission» (Enclosure 4)



Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

Covid-19 in den Kinderspitälern

Alarmierende Nachrichten aus Kambodscha: «Es geht um Leben oder Tod», warnte Regierungschef Hun Sen die Bevölkerung vor der Ausbreitung der Pandemie. «Noch vor Monatsfrist schien alles unter Kontrolle. Das Königreich verzeichnete per Ende März erst wenige Covid-19-Fälle (...) Inzwischen ist zwar schon jeder achte Bewohner geimpft. Doch die Covid-19-Infektionen sind in den letzten vierzehn Tagen stark angestiegen.» So berichtete Manfred Rist in der NZZ am 4. Mai.

Was bedeutet das für die Kinderspitäler von Dr. Beat Richner? Der harte Lock-down und die Reisebeschränkungen zwischen den Provinzen reduzierten die Zahl der neu eintretenden Patienten in Phnom Penh und Seam Reap um 70 Prozent. Allerdings sind alle Intensivstationen voll besetzt, es kommen täglich 650 neue Patienten in die Spitäler (unter normalen Bedingungen sind es bis 2500), täglich gibt es 50 Geburten und 40 Operationen.

Für das Testen und die Isolation allfälliger Covid-Infizierter haben die Spitalleiter rechtzeitig die nötigen Massnahmen getroffen. Die ganze Belegschaft wird fortlaufend getestet, heute sind 96 Prozent der Mitarbeitenden geimpft. Bisher wurden erst 3 Pflegende, 2 Kleinkinder und 3 Mütter positiv getestet, in Quarantäne genommen und geheilt entlassen. Das effiziente Covid-Protokoll für die Spitäler Kantha Bopha wurde in enger Zusammenarbeit mit dem Kinderspital Zürich und ihrem Professor für Infektiologie Dr. med. Christoph Berger eingeführt.

Beeindruckt von der vorbildlichen Organisation hat das Gesundheitsministerium die Spitalleitung von Kantha Bopha ersucht, ihre Ärztinnen und Ärzte auch in andern Institutionen einzusetzen. Das widerspricht aber der Regel von Dr. Beat Richner, dass niemand ausserhalb der Strukturen der Kantha Bopha Spitäler eingesetzt wird. Wir helfen gerne, aber nur in unseren Spitälern, antwortet Chefarzt Professor Dr. med. Ky Santy.

In den Spitälern läuft trotz zusätzlichem Aufwand und erschwerten Bedingungen (Masken und Schutzanzüge in der Tropenhitze!) der Betrieb einwandfrei: Der operative Direktor Dr. biol. Denis Laurent meldet, dass die bereits beschlossenen Projekte gut unterwegs sind. Zwei neue Operationssäle in der Maternité sind in Betrieb, die Digitalisierung der Patientendaten wird in wenigen Monaten abgeschlossen, der neue MRI wird ab Juli funktionieren.

Der Stiftungsrat hofft, dass die geplanten Missionen nach Kambodscha der Kinderärzte des Zürcher Kinderspitals bald wieder aufgenommen werden können.

All dies und die weiterhin kostenlose Behandlung aller Kinder Kambodschas ist nur dank der Unterstützung der grosszügigen Spenderinnen und Spender aus der Schweiz möglich. Ihnen sei hier herzlich gedankt.

Jeder Franken hilft heilen, retten und vorbeugen.

Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach, Präsident,

Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, Vizepräsident

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Medizinische Erfolgsfaktoren der Kantha Bopha Spitäler

Wie schaffte es der 2018 verstorbene Spitalgründer und Stifter Dr. Beat Richner, die Kinder-Mortalität im Jahre 1992 von rund 8% bis heute auf unter 0,3 % zu reduzieren und damit Hunderttausende schwer kranke Kinder zu retten? Mit harter Arbeit, eiserner Disziplin, einer klaren und pragmatischen Strategie sowie einem hoch motivierten Team von kambodschanischen Ärzten(innen) und einer strategischen Zusammenarbeit mit Spezialisten im In- und Ausland. Und vor allem dank der vielen grosszügigen und treuen Spender(innen) in der Schweiz.

Zunächst musste im vom Bürgerkrieg versehrten und völlig zerstörten Kambodscha die medizinische Grundversorgung für die häufigsten Infektionskrankheiten (Malaria, Dengue-Fieber, Hirnhautentzündungen) aufgebaut und sichergestellt werden. Schritt für Schritt wurden danach systematisch weitere medizinische Bereiche wie Chirurgie, Geburtshilfe, Neonatologie, Intensivmedizin, Kardiologie, Radiologie, Onkologie bis hin zu minimalinvasiven Herzkatheteruntersuchungen und Operationen am offenen Herzen auf- und ausgebaut. Jeder dieser neuen Bereiche wurde während mehrerer Jahre zweimal pro Jahr von den verschiedenen Spezialisten des Kinderspitals Zürich und anderen Spitälern in jeweils mehrwöchigen Missionen betreut, und es wurden Erfolgskontrollen durchgeführt und Verbesserungen implementiert. All diesen Spezialisten gilt unser grosser Dank für ihren selbstlosen Einsatz, oft sogar während ihrer Ferien.

Der Stiftungsrat lebt diese Prinzipien des Spitalgründers Dr. Beat Richner weiter und ist daran, in enger Zusammenarbeit mit unserem kambodschanischen Leitungsteam eine Prioritätenliste der dringendsten weiteren Bedürfnisse an den Spitälern zu erarbeiten und zusammen mit den Schweizer Spezialisten auf ihre Realisierbarkeit zu überprüfen. Wir hoffen sehr, dass wir Anfang 2022 die geplanten medizinischen Einsätze vor Ort wieder aufnehmen können.

Bitte unterstützen Sie weiterhin das nachhaltige Lebenswerk von Dr. med. Beat Richner. Jeder Franken hilft heilen, retten und vorbeugen.

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Was unsere Ärzte in Kambodscha lernen

Helfen ist nie eine Einbahnstrasse. Das erleben die Ärztinnen und Ärzte des Kinderspitals Zürich bei ihren Einsätzen in den Kinderspitälern Kantha Bopha in Kambodscha: «Ich habe auch jedes Mal etwas gelernt, ich hatte das Gefühl, jetzt weiss ich, warum ich Medizin studiert habe», sagt zum Beispiel Professor Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar, einer der vielen Professor(inn)en, die Dr. med. Beat Richner nach Kambodscha gerufen hat, um dort die einheimischen Ärztinnen und Ärzte zu unterstützen und weiterzubilden. Kretschmar ist Chefarzt Pädiatrische Kardiologie am Kinderspital Zürich und zudem Leiter des Herzkatheterlabors. Ausserdem ist er Mitglied des Stiftungsrates. Er hat seit 2010 in zahlreichen Einsätzen vor Ort die kardiologische Diagnostik etabliert und erste, minimal-invasive Eingriffe mit dem Katheter, die letztlich eine Herz-Operation ersetzen, organisiert. Dies zu einer Zeit, als die Kantha Bopha-Spitäler noch nicht über eine Herzchirurgie verfügten wie heute.

«Das war sehr spannend, denn die Ärztinnen und Ärzte lernten den Umgang mit dem Herzkatheter ohne langjährige vorgängige theoretische Ausbildung wie bei uns. Sie wurden einfach ins kalte Wasser geworfen, es war learning by doing, aber natürlich haben wir es ihnen genau gezeigt und zuerst nur einfache Eingriffe gemacht, die sehr erfolgreich waren. Ich habe bei jeder neuen Mission etwas Neues hinzugenommen, einen neuen Eingriff, neues Material. Und so haben wir das über die Jahre immer weiterentwickelt. Vieles von dem machen sie heute selbständig mit grosser Routine.»

Was hat das Professor Kretschmar persönlich gebracht? «Es ist eine extrem hohe Befriedigung, wenn du siehst, dass das, was du ihnen erklärst und zeigst, extrem dankbar entgegengenommen wird. Dass sie es annehmen, umsetzen und dass es nach kürzester Zeit auch ohne meine Anwesenheit funktioniert. Das ist unglaublich befriedigend, und du hast das Gefühl, dass es sich einfach gelohnt hat. Andere nennen das nachhaltig.»

Es ist auch eine Rückkehr zu einer unmittelbareren Medizin: «Es tut mir jedesmal wieder gut, weil ich dort „Medizin pur“ machen kann ohne all den administrativen Aufwand, den wir bei uns haben, der sicher nötig ist, aber manchmal nervt und den Blick auf das Wesentliche versperrt. Ich habe auch jedesmal etwas von ihnen gelernt, manchmal auch, wie man Abläufe/Behandlungen effektiver gestalten kann. Ich habe Krankheitsbilder gesehen, die wir eigentlich kaum noch kennen. Das kommt auch unseren Kindern in der Schweiz zugute.»

Interessant auch, wie der Einsatz sich auf das persönliche Befinden auswirkt: «Ich gehe ja nicht in die Ferien dort! Wir arbeiten hart, und es ist heiss. Aber ich komme immer viel gelassener zurück. Ich weiss dann wieder, es kommt letztlich nur auf die Behandlung des Patienten an, man gewinnt auch einen gewissen Abstand zu seinem eigenen Tun. Und die Familien sind unendlich dankbar für die Behandlung ihres Kindes, das sie sonst möglicherweise verloren hätten. Das ist sehr berührend, auch wenn man ihre Sprache leider nicht versteht.»

Dieses gute Gefühl, am richtigen Ort etwas getan zu haben, das mit grösster Dankbarkeit empfangen wird, dürfen auch die vielen Spenderinnen und Spender teilen, die die Kinderspitäler in Kambodscha ermöglicht haben. Wer hilft, kriegt immer etwas zurück.

Jeder Franken hilft heilen, retten und vorbeugen.

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