

**Annual Report 2019**  
**of the Foundation of Children's Hospitals Kantha Bopha,**  
**Dr. med. Beat Richner**

**Sustainable continuation of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals**

In March 2017 Beat Richner had to hand over the management of the hospitals to Dr. Peter Studer due to illness. He passed away on 9 September 2018. Since then, the Kantha Bopha Hospitals have continued to run smoothly and medically independently thanks to the enormous commitment of the Cambodian head physicians and the 2500 Cambodian employees.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

Prime Minister Hun Sen established a Cambodian Kantha Bopha Foundation in spring 2018 with the aim of generating even more donations from Cambodia. 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.

**Inauguration of the new hospital Kantha Bopha I in Phnom Penh**

The highlight of the year 2019 was the opening of the substitute building of the first Kantha Bopha Hospital by the King and Queen Mother, which was inaugurated on 1 August after only one year of planning and construction. The original Kantha Bopha I Hospital was built by Dr. Beat Richner in 1992 with the simplest of means and had become dilapidated. In June 2018, the foundation board therefore decided to replace and extend the Kantha Bopha I in Phnom Penh with a new three-floor structure.

In their speeches, the King, as well as the Minister of Health, repeatedly emphasized the enormous importance of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals of the late Dr. Richner for the health care system of the country, and repeatedly expressed their gratitude that it is possible to continue this incomparable project in the spirit of its founder, especially thanks to the donations from Switzerland. The new building is now called the Kantha Bopha Sihamoni Monineath Pavilion, as Their Majesties have donated 1.2 million dollars.

The new building is now called *Pavillon Kantha Bopha Sihamoni Monineath*, as Their Majesties donated 1.2 million dollars. Switzerland was officially represented by State Secretary Pascale Bärswyl, Swiss Ambassador Ivo Sieber and representatives of the SDC. We received an extraordinary contribution of CHF 0.5 million from the Swiss Confederation for the medical equipment of the new Kantha Bopha I building.

Prof. Dr. med. René Prêtre, who with his foundation "Le petit cœur" made a substantial contribution of more than CHF 0.5 million to the equipment of the heart surgery operating theatre and the intensive care unit, was received as guest of honour.

Since 2 August 2019, children in Phnom Penh have been undergoing open heart surgery. This is done by our Cambodian specialists, who were trained in Siem Reap and will continue to be assisted there. It is known that more than 3,000 children with heart disease are waiting for an operation.

The costs for the new building, including the medical facilities, amounted to around USD 8 million, about half of which was financed by earmarked donations.

In the new building, one intensive care unit for newborns and one for older children were each put into operation. Once again, the Cambodian colleagues and caregivers were supported by specialists from Switzerland, a highly successful cooperation that is greatly beneficial to both sides. The cooperation, especially with the specialists of the University Children's Hospital Zurich, was generally intensified. Whereas in the past they were mainly responsible for the theoretical training of Cambodian colleagues, they are now much more practically involved in the care of patients: The intensive care physicians and the corresponding nurses were engaged, along with obstetricians, the nephrologist, the radiologist, the laparoscopic surgeon, the infectiologist etc. All were on site in 2019 and introduced, among other things, new methods. The intensive care physicians and nurses Vincenzo Cannizzaro, Simone Keller, Cécile Keller and Pascal van Kleef deserve special mention. The advances in medicine must continue to benefit the Cambodians, as it was always Dr. Richner's main prerogative.

### **Largest Dengue Fever Epidemics**

Cambodia was plagued by the worst dengue fever epidemics ever in the summer of 2019. The Kantha Bopha hospitals were literally overrun. In addition to dengue fever, many children also suffered from lung infections due to the rainy season. On peak days, over 3,500 children were hospitalized! The parents gladly accepted that half of the patients had to share a bed or lie on mats on the floor. Most of them are used to this from home, but it was very difficult for the caregivers. In July 2019, 111'615 sick and seriously ill children (which corresponds to almost all the population of the city of Berne!) were examined in the outpatient clinics. That is 55% more than in 2018! 24'743 of them had to be admitted as inpatients, 70% more than in 2018!

### **New Book «Dr. Beat Richner – Kinderarzt – Rebell – Visionär» (Paediatrician - Rebel - Visionary), by Peter Rothenbühler**

Peter Rothenbühler, journalist and member of the foundation board wrote a book about Dr. Beat Richner's lifetime achievements, which was published in autumn 2019 (enclosure 1).

Beat Richner's legacy lives on after his death. In the new book "Dr. Beat Richner - Kinderarzt - Rebell - Visionär", which was published in cooperation with the Foundation Children's Hospitals Kantha Bopha and the weekly magazine "Schweizer Illustrierte" Peter Rothenbühler tells of the richly faceted life of an impressive person who fought tirelessly for his life's work. The book chronicles Richner's childhood, his youth and student days, his flight from Cambodia and finally the return and establishment of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals and focuses on the fascinating Beat Richner and his work. The doctor, cellist, and musical clown was a pioneer with heart and soul, a visionary, a fighter, a doer, who persevered against economic and political resistance.

### **Ensuring Operations and Continuity in the Management**

The foundation board was prepared for Dr. Beat Richner's absence in reference to his prolonged sickness and subsequent passing. In accordance with Dr. Beat Richner's wishes, the board had developed a legacy strategy to ensure the ongoing continuation of Dr. Beat Richner's work.

At the end of March 2017, Dr. med. Peter Studer, Vice President of the foundation board, assumed the role of the Director of the Kantha Bopha hospitals. Dr. Peter Studer was Dr. Beat Richner's surrogate for many years and supported him since the beginning. Dr. Peter Studer (CEO) is assisted in Cambodia by the experienced head physicians Prof. Santy and Prof. Malene (Phnom Penh) and Prof. Chantana (Siem Reap). Dr. Denis Laurent, the long-time head of logistics and laboratory, acts as COO on site. The continuity in the management of the hospitals is therefore ensured. Dr. Beat Richner always made sure that the administration will remain lean and efficient, which proved to be a crucial advantage considering the present situation.

The five Kantha Bopha hospitals are independent on a medical and operational level and continue to operate flawlessly. It is deeply impressive to see how great an effort the 2,500 employees continue to make under the medical management of the head physicians and our COO Dr. Denis Laurent to fulfil their work in accordance with Dr. Richner's ideals. Every single day, the entire workforce successfully undertakes an unimaginable and gallant effort and continue to perform exceptionally well. During several stays on site during the year, the President and Vice President were able to witness this wondrous work for themselves.

Training and further education of the Cambodian doctors remain ensured under the leadership of the medical director of the University Children's Hospital Zurich, Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, member of the board of the foundation, successor of Prof. Dr. med. Felix Sennhauser, also member of the board of the foundation. They are further supported by other valued specialists both domestically in Cambodia and abroad.

## **On Future Financing of the Hospitals**

Dr. Beat Richner was unique when performing as "Beatocello" and cannot be eclipsed as an ingenious fundraiser. Dr. Beat Richner made it clear to the Cambodian government 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. The foundation board is in ongoing proactive dialogue with this valued working group. High representatives of the Ministry of Health and Finance have ensured us their full support. The foundation board is convinced that a solution for long-term financing will be procured and that the contributions from Cambodia will be further increased.

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. We are also very pleased that private donations in Cambodia are increasing substantially. In total in 2019, we received almost half of our budget of CHF 42 million from Cambodia. The Swiss government has subsidised the Kantha Bopha hospitals through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for many years and continues to do so with an amount of CHF 4 million every year. In 2019, more than half of the budget was financed from donations from Switzerland. 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 2019, for the first time, we received USD 3 million from the Cambodian Kantha Bopha Foundation (of which USD 1 million were intended for the equipment of the new intensive care units in the new Kantha Bopha I and USD 2 million for the extraordinary costs of the dengue epidemics).

As many may know, 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.

## **2. 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 more than ten children for fear of losing every second child. As a result, mothers giving birth in our maternity operation, 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 17.3 million ill children as outpatients since 1992 and 2.1 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.

## **2.1. 28 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. The newly restored Kantha Bopha was inaugurated early on 23 September 1992 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 was limited in being able to supply adequately trained personnel for our needs. 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 hospital 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 Kantha Bopha V in Phnom Penh was inaugurated, after a construction period of only 12 months. 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 section in Phnom Penh, where the current King Sihamoni 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 center.

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 started 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.

## 2.2 Health Care Services

### **The figures for 2019**

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 cases and 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. As a result, our hospitals have hospitalized 85% of severely sick children in Cambodia. In the year 2019, the bed occupancy was 134% on average (previous year 120%).

The increase in the number of patients is also related to the factor that the poor population is becoming poorer. Those people can simply not afford the costs in the public and the private health sector. 80% of the Cambodians are poor farmers. As is generally known, any treatments at the Kantha Bopha hospitals are free of charge. There is a further factor that does not preclude wealthier Cambodians to take their children to Kantha Bopha or to have their children born at Jayavarman VII, in large part due to the significantly inadequate quality and hygiene in the public and private health sector. Large family donations continue to rise as a result and Kantha Bopha remains a bona fide solution for the hospitalization or birth of one of their children.

In 2019 alone, the number of severely ill children who needed to be hospitalized amounted to 189,131 (previous year 161,424). The number of children suffering from hemorrhagic dengue fever was 35,057. These severely ill children, that would normally have no chance of survival without hospitalization, are fully cured following their release from the hospital. Incidentally, we have yet to see a recurrence of the infection of tuberculosis, salmonellosis, cholera, etc. in the last 28 years.

The number of outpatient treatments of sick children amounted to 1,021,948 in 2019 (previous year 961,256). 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 2019, 27,174 (previous year 27,321) surgical operations were performed, of which 1,001 were open heart and invasive cardiac catheterization surgeries.

Furthermore, there were 26,613 births at the maternity clinic Jayavarman VII (Kantha Bopha III) (previous year 28,748). 13% of the children were born by caesarean section. A total of 162,527 pregnant women were examined and treated as outpatients.

The mortality rate at the Kantha Bopha hospitals was only 0.28% in 2019. Please find further details in the attached table "Global Admission" (enclosure 2).

## **Heart Surgery and Invasive Cardiac Catheterizations**

As reported previously, 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, Prof. R. Prêtre, Lausanne, and Prof. L. Vricella, Baltimore/USA.

This is made possible because all the hospitals' infrastructure function at very high standards: the laboratories, the blood bank, the intensive care units, and the diagnostic facilities. Notably, the around-the-clock discipline of the employees is strictly respected and physically and intellectually challenging. Conversely, this is not the case in Cambodia outside of Kantha Bopha. In the year 2019, 1001 heart surgeries and invasive cardiac catheterizations were performed .

## **The Kantha Bopha Hospitals have the status of University and government hospitals**

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 2019, 908 medical students completed their internship in our hospitals in the departments of paediatrics, surgery and obstetrics. In 2019, the nursing college, which is affiliated with the Medical Faculty Phnom Penh, sent an attendance of 551 interns (called nursing internship) to the Kantha Bopha hospitals. Additionally, assistant medical technicians are trained in the laboratory and radiography.

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 its 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.



### **2.3. Health Care Professionals**

At the end of 2019, the foundation employed a total of about 2,500 local employees in the five hospitals in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Angkor. In addition to Dr. med. Peter Studer, Head of the Kantha Bopha hospitals (CEO and Vice President), the only other foreign employee working for the foundation in Cambodia is Dr. Denis Laurent (COO and dual citizen of both France and 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 43 and 50 and eagerly train their younger colleagues in the most professional manner.

### **3. Foundation Board and Management**

During the two meetings of 28 January 2019 and 07 May 2019 the foundation board focussed on the statutory business.

The Compensatory and Audit Committee met on 25 March 2019 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 2019, PricewaterhouseCoopers AG (PwC) controlled the annual results as our appointed auditors.

### **4. Financial Concerns – Donations – Public Relations**

#### **4.1. Annual Financial Statement**

The Annual Financial Statement for 2019, approved by the Foundation Board on 12 May 2020, closed with assets of CHF 68,515,051.13 and a surplus of CHF 1,661,548.25.

The organisation capital (equity) therefore increased by approx. CHF 1.66 million to CHF 67.9 million. This development allows to provide for a finance period of the next 15 months' period for hospital operation.

As in the previous year, the Annual Financial Statement 2019 was carried out according to the requirements of standard Swiss GAAP FER 21. The audit report by PwC of 12 May 2020 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.
- 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, member of the hospital management and French-Cambodian dual national. There is written evidence of the corresponding trust relationship.

After an extraordinarily high revenue surplus of CHF 14.8 million in the previous year, the foundation board expected an expenditure surplus in the 2019 financial year. Despite significant investments of around CHF 8.66 million in the construction of the new Kantha Bopha 1 hospital, the 2019 financial statement thankfully ends with an income surplus of around CHF 1.66 million.

The following factors mainly contributed to these positive results:

- The operating income decreased by only CHF 3.1 million from CHF 55.2 million to CHF 52.1 million. The ordinary donations in Cambodia increased by approx. CHF 5.5 million to CHF 11.3 million. A further CHF 4.4 million have accrued to our foundation from the contributions of the tickets to the Angkor Wat temples in 2019. However, bequests significantly diminished by approx. CHF 7.5 million to CHF 8.0 million.
- The expenditures for the operation of the hospitals in Cambodia (“recurring operation costs”) were higher than in the previous year and increased by CHF 3.6 million to CHF 40.5 million. This increase is in particular due to higher wage costs (CHF 2.4 million) and higher operating costs (CHF 1.5 million). During the reporting period, costs of medication diminished by CHF 0.3 million to CHF 7.2 million.

Furthermore, investments of approximately CHF 8.66 million (previous year approx. 3.2 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 CHF 1.2 million and is CHF 0.2 million higher than the previous year.
- Based on the negative currency development of the USD during the year under review, the “financial results” have decreased by approx. CHF 0.7 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 **2.56%** (previous year: 3.63%) 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.

## **4.2. Public Relations**

### **New Website**

The website [www.beat-richner.com](http://www.beat-richner.com) has undergone complete reconception and redesign.

### **Memorial Ceremony Grossmünster Zurich**

Following the mourning ceremonies of Dr. Beat Richner in Cambodia in December 2018, a memorial service was held in the Grossmünster Zurich on 30 March 2019 (enclosure 3).

### **Circus Knie Gala Performance**

The 27th gala performance of the Circus KNIE took place in Zurich on 7 May 2019.

### **Book Launch Wasserkirche Zurich**

On 24 October 2019, the book launch on Dr. Beat Richner's lifework written by Peter Rothenbühler took place in the Wasserkirche (enclosure 4).

### **Stringendo Concert University Zurich on 26 October 2019**

On 26 October 2019, a benefit concert with the youth orchestra "Stringendo" under the direction of Jens Lohmann took place in the auditorium of the University of Zurich. Prof. Michael Hengartner, Rector of the University of Zurich, paid tribute to the services of Dr. Beat Richner, who was also an honorary doctor of the University of Zurich.

### **Cover story of Schweizer Illustrierte of 6 December 2019 about the new heart centre**

On 6 December 2019, the magazine Schweizer Illustrierte published a detailed report on the well-known paediatric cardiac surgeon Prof. Dr. René Prêtre and the new Kantha Bopha heart centre in Phnom Penh.

### **TV appearance of Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach and Peter Rothenbühler on TeleZüri**

On 10 December 2019, an interview on the newly published book by Peter Rothenbühler on Dr. Beat Richner's lifework was broadcast on TeleZüri in the programme "Talk Täglich" by presenter Hugo Bigi with the Chairman of the foundation board, Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach, and the author Peter Rothenbühler.

In 2019, we carried out a total of three mailings in March, June and November. In addition, periodic advertisements on the activities of the Kantha Bopha hospitals were published in daily newspapers.

## 5. Thanks

The foundation wishes to thank the nearly 100,000 donors and the many companies and foundations for their financial and ideological support of the Kantha Bopha hospitals during the year 2019.

The contributions of the Cambodian government amounted to USD 6 million in 2019. Since February 2017, the foundation receives a contribution of USD 2 for each tourist visiting world-famous temple grounds of Angkor Wat. In addition, we received an initial USD 3 million from the Cambodian Kantha Bopha Foundation in 2019.

The yearly contributions of the Swiss confederation have remained at CHF 4 million in 2019. In addition, we received extraordinary contributions of CHF 0.5 million for the medical equipment of the new construction of Kantha Bopha I.

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.

We thank Circus KNIE for their continued hospitality for 28 years by continuing the traditional Knie Gala, where friends of the foundation can enjoy the exciting programme.

Furthermore, we thank the media for their interest and their continued coverage of Dr. Beat Richner's aid agency. Special thanks go to the Schweizer Illustrierten 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, 12 May 2020

For the foundation board:



Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach  
President



Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer  
Vice-President

### Enclosures:

- Flyer book on Dr. Beat Richner's lifework (enclosure 1)
- Table "Global Admission" (enclosure 2)
- Advertisement memorial ceremony Grossmünster Zurich (enclosure 3)
- Invitation to book launch of 24 October 2019 (enclosure 4)



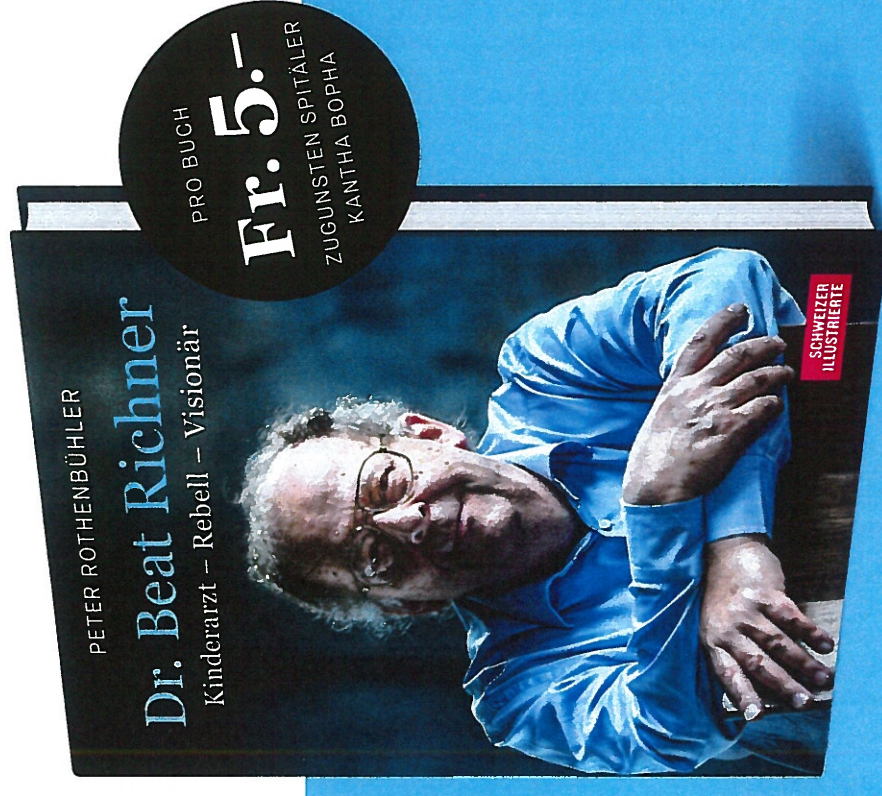


DIE BIOGRAFIE:

# Dr. Beat Richner – sein Lebenswerk für die Kinder Kambodschas

«Ich bi der  
Beatocello und  
möchts jetzt  
gmüetli ha»

*Beat Richner*



In Zusammenarbeit mit der  
Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha





Wer war eigentlich dieser Beat Richner, warum hat er seine komfortable Existenz als Kinderarzt und Musiker in Zürich aufgegeben, um sein Leben ganz dem Einsatz für kranke Kinder in einem sehr armen Land zu widmen? Wie hat er die Spitäler gebaut, wie hat er die unzähligen grossen Hürden und Widerstände überwunden?

Alle diese Fragen möchte das Buch «Dr. Beat Richner» beantworten. Es soll eine Inspiration sein für alle Menschen guten Willens, die sich auch für die Ärmsten der Welt einsetzen wollen.

Peter Rothenbühler

# Eine beeindruckende Lebensgeschichte

**B**eat Richners Vermächtnis lebt ein Jahr nach seinem Tod weiter. Das neue Buch handelt vom facettenreichen Leben eines beeindruckenden Menschen, der unermüdlich für sein Lebenswerk kämpfte.

Der Autor Peter Rothenbühler erzählt als langjähriger Vertrauter Richners von dessen Kindheit, seiner Jugend- und Studienzeit, der Flucht aus Kambodscha und schliesslich von der Rückkehr und dem Aufbau der Kantha-Bopha-Spitäler. Die spannende Geschichte handelt von vielen Rückschlägen, gleichzeitig aber auch von einem beeindruckenden Mann, der niemals aufgegeben hat, damit die Schwächsten dieser Welt überleben.

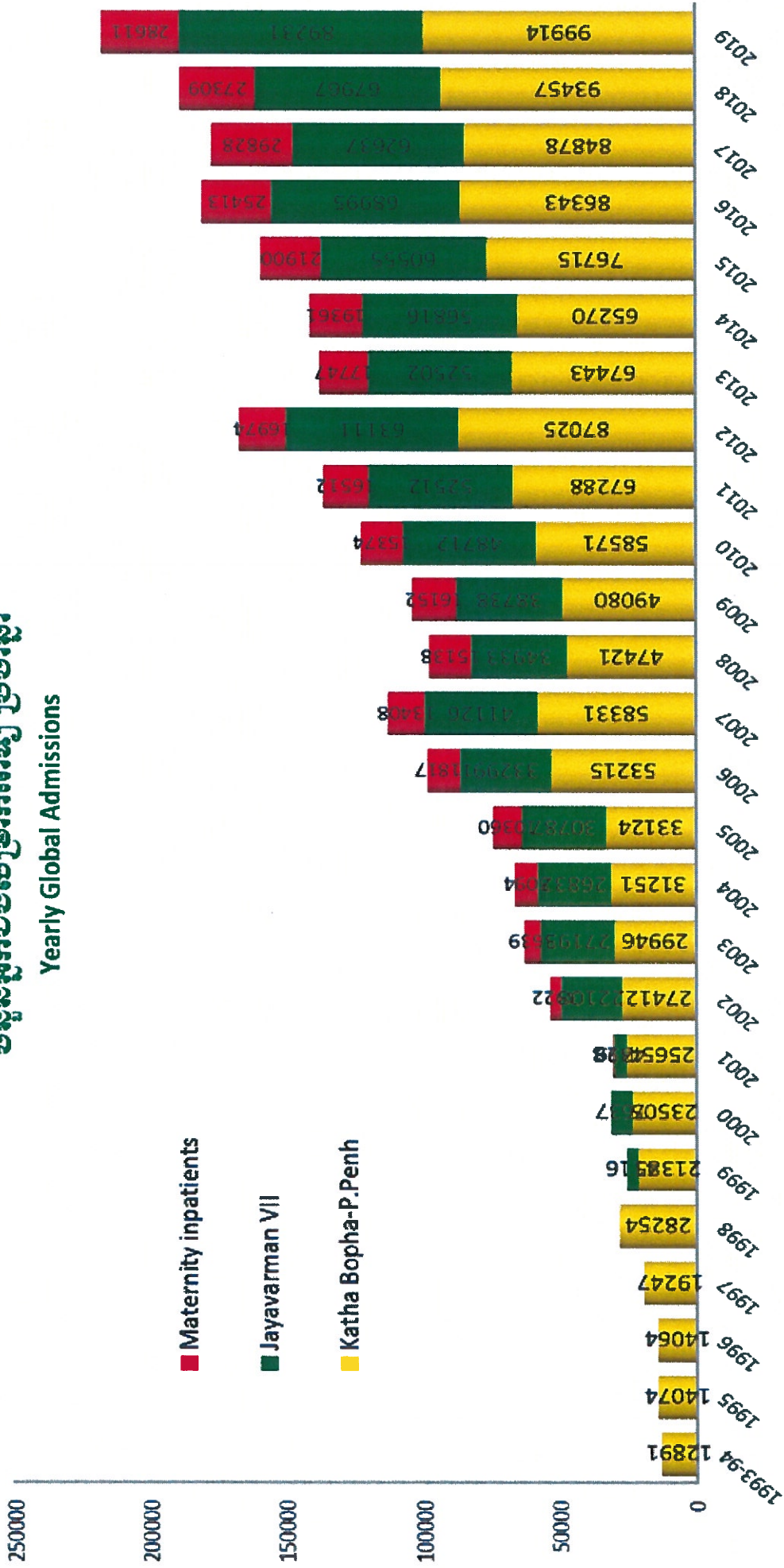
Mit einem Vorwort von Franz Hohler.





# ចំនួនអ្នកជំងឺសម្រាកពេទ្យ ប្រចាំឆ្នាំ

Yearly Global Admissions





Im März 2019

# Grossmünster Zürich

## Samstag, 30. März, 17 Uhr

Nach einem Grusswort von Pfr. Christoph Sigrist werden René Schwarzenbach und Peter Studer von den Beisetzungsfeierlichkeiten im Dezember 2018 von Beat Richner in Kambodscha berichten und über den aktuellen Stand der Kantha Bopha Spitäler informieren.

- Die Ausführungen werden begleitet von einem neuen Kurzfilm der eindrücklichen Beisetzungszeremonien von Georges Gachot.
- Musikalisch wird der Anlass begleitet von Andrea Wiesli (Klavier) und Jonas Kreienbühl (Violoncello).

Sie sind alle dazu herzlich eingeladen.

Eintritt frei. Kollekte zugunsten der Kantha Bopha Spitäler

**Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach, Präsident**

**Dr. med. Peter Studer, Vizepräsident, CEO**

Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner,

PC **80-60699.1**, IBAN Nr. **CH98 0900 00008006 0699 1**

[www.beat-richner.ch](http://www.beat-richner.ch), [www.facebook.com/dr.beat.richner](https://www.facebook.com/dr.beat.richner)

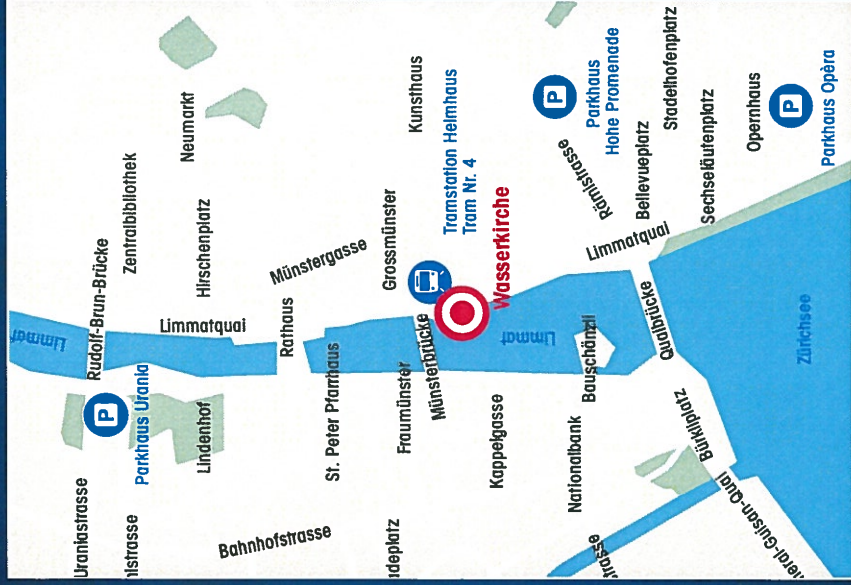


# EINLADUNG ZUR

PETER ROTHENBÜHLER

## Dr. Beat Richner

Kinderarzt – Rebell – Visionär



# BUCHVERNISSAGE

**SCHWEIZER  
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**SCHWEIZER  
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# Persönliche Einladung für

# Ihr Programm

## Donnerstag, 24. Oktober 2019

Er war Kinderarzt und Spitaldirektor, Rebell und Macher, Geldsammler und Künstler, Kämpfer und Menschenfreund. Dr. Beat Richner! In seinen Kinderspitälern Kantha Bopha in Kambodscha hat Richner während mehr als 25 Jahren Millionen von Kindern behandelt, gerettet und geheilt. Die Schweizer Illustrierte hat ihn stets eng begleitet und tatkräftig unterstützt. Vor einem Jahr ist der Kinderarzt in Zürich gestorben.

Die Schweizer Illustrierte würdigt Dr. Beat Richners Lebenswerk – und lädt zusammen mit der Stiftung Kantha Bopha zur Buchvernissage in die Wasserkirche Zürich ein. Zur Lesung von Buchautor Peter Rothenbühler, zum Talk mit Dr. Peter Studer und Anna Regula Lutz-Richner. Und zur musikalischen Umrahmung von Selma Aerni auf dem Cello von Beat Richner.

Bitte melden Sie sich mit beiliegender Antwortkarte an. Wir freuen uns, wenn Sie und Ihre Begleitung an der Vernissage und dem anschliessenden Apéro unsere Gäste sind.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen



Stefan Regez  
Co-Chefredaktor

René Schwarzenbach  
Präsident des Stiftungsrates

Ab 18.30 Uhr

Eintreffen der Gäste in der Wasserkirche Zürich

19.00 Uhr

Begrüssung durch Urs Gysling

Einführung und Lesung von Peter Rothenbühler

Nachgefragt: Stefan Regez im Gespräch mit Peter Studer, Anna Regula Lutz-Richner und Peter Rothenbühler

Schlusswort und Ausblick von René Schwarzenbach

Musikalische Umrahmung von Selma Aerni auf dem Cello von Beat Richner

Anschliessend

Warmer, herbstlicher Apéro mit «Wiedikerli» in der offenen Halle der Wasserkirche mit Buchverkauf und Möglichkeit zur Signierung

Wir bitten Sie, sich mit beiliegender Antwortkarte oder per Mail anzumelden:  
patricia.heller@ringieraxelspringer.ch