

Annual Report 2020
of the Foundation of Children's Hospitals Kantha Bopha,
Dr. med. Beat Richner

1. Passing of Dr. med. Peter Studer, Vice President and Director of the Hospitals, on 6 May 2020

On 7 May 2020, the Foundation Board had the painful duty to inform that Dr. med. Peter Studer (born 1947), Vice President and Director of the Hospitals Kantha Bopha, had passed away after a brief and serious illness (press communication - *Enclosure 1*).

The announcement caused great consternation and deep sorrow among the people of Cambodia (Information Letter to the Royal Government - *Enclosure 2*). The Royal Family and the Cambodian government have assured their full support for the continuation of Dr. med. Beat Richner's work with their letters of condolence (Letter from the Cambodian King - *Enclosure 3*, Letter from the Queen Mother - *Enclosure 4*, Letter from the Minister of Health, Prof. Mam Bunheng - *Enclosure 5* and Letter from the Minister of Finance and Economy, Dr. Aun Pornmoniroth - *Enclosure 6*).

The Swiss government and the Swiss ambassador have also expressed their deepest sympathy and assured all possible support for the hospitals and the Foundation (letter from the Director of the SDC, Ms Patricia Danzi - *Enclosure 7*, and letter from Ambassador Helene Budliger Artieda - *Enclosure 8*).

1.1. Tribute to Dr Peter Studer

Peter Studer was involved in the reconstruction of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals in Cambodia from the beginning in 1992. For many years he was the professional companion of the hospital founder Dr. med. Beat Richner, who passed away in 2018. Since Beat Richner's absence due to illness in 2017, Peter Studer was Director of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals. His services to the Foundation and the Kantha Bopha Hospitals are immense. The Foundation Board owes him an enormous debt of gratitude. In 2005, King Norodom Sihamoni awarded Peter Studer the high distinction of "Commandeur de l'ordre royal du Sahametrei" for his great commitment.

For almost thirty years, Peter Studer was active in Cambodia for more than 80 missions lasting several weeks. As early as 1979, he was involved as a Red Cross doctor in the refugee camps in the Thailand/Cambodia border area, and in the 1980s he was repeatedly active in humanitarian missions in Cambodia. In 1991, he volunteered with Beat Richner to rebuild the war-ravaged Kantha Bopha hospital in Phnom Penh. Although he always saw himself modestly behind Beat Richner in the second tier, he made a lasting impression on the hospitals.

Without his participation, an expansion of the hospitals in the Siem Reap province would have been unthinkable. In 2002, the large hospital library in the training and conference centre in Siem Reap was named "Dr. Peter Studer Library" in his honour. Under his lead, the new Kantha Bopha I building in Phnom Penh, which also encompasses the new heart centre and the new intensive care units, was inaugurated and put into operation in summer 2019. Already marked by the disease, Peter Studer organised and chaired the 7th International Kantha Bopha Symposium for Paediatrics in Phnom Penh.

1.2. Handover of Leadership to the Cambodian Leadership Team

Like Beat Richner, Peter Studer has always pursued the common objective for the Kantha Bopha Hospitals to be ultimately managed by the experienced and well-trained Cambodian staff. Also in view of his own age, he pushed ahead with the training and promotion of the medical executives and ensured substitutes. This foresight and preparedness allowed for the Foundation to organise the succession according to the plans of Beat Richner and Peter Studer.

The local management team, which has been in place since 1995 and worked with Beat Richner and Peter Studer for decades, takes over the management of the hospitals as of May 2020 (*Enclosure 9*):

Dr. biol. Denis Laurent, was appointed General Director ("Directeur général") by the Foundation Board and takes over the operational management of the five hospitals.

Professors Dr. med. Yay Chantana (Siem Reap) and Dr. med. Ky Santy (Phnom Penh) continue to be responsible for the medical management of the five children's hospitals on site.

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

The medical area with education and training is now headed by Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, Medical Director of the University Children's Hospital Zurich. 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.

Ms Geneviève 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. The Foundation Board therefore considers itself fortunate that Ms Geneviève Cattin Studer has now joined the Foundation Board.

Furthermore, Dr. phil. Philip Robinson was newly elected to the Foundation Board. He is the deputy of the President.

Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer and Dr. phil. Philip Robinson act as the new 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.

1.4. Sustainable Continuation of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals

The medical legacy of Dr Beat Richner and Dr Peter Studer is secured and continues to run independently and flawlessly in medical and organisational terms. This is particularly evident during the Corona crisis, where all Swiss missions to Cambodia had to be postponed (see advertisement Leuchtturm der Nachhaltigkeit (Lighthouse of Sustainability) in *Enclosure 10*). The achievements of our Cambodian management team and the entire staff deserve our utmost respect and appreciation.

2. Important Investment Decisions in 2020

Although no missions or visits to Cambodia were possible due to the Corona Pandemic 2020, the Foundation Board made and implemented important investment decisions:

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 have not had a single positive case so far.

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.

2.3. Replacement of CT Scanner in Kantha Bopha II

In August 2020, the outdated CT scanner at the Kantha Bopha II Hospital in Phnom Penh was replaced with a modern new device.

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 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.

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 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 2020 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 2020, 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 2020, 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 million ill children as outpatients since 1992 and 2.2 million seriously ill and injured children have been hospitalized and fully cured. Furthermore, 4,917 heart and invasive cardiac catheterization surgeries have been performed. Finally, a total of 2.3 million pregnant women were examined and treated as inpatients and outpatients.

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. 29 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 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 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 2020

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 ill children in Cambodia.

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 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 large donation to Kantha Bopha after hospitalisation or birth of one of their children.

Overall, the number of patients in 2020 decreased significantly compared to the previous year. The reason for this is that in the previous year (2019), the largest dengue epidemic ever was rampant in Cambodia. The figures are therefore only comparable to a limited extent.

In 2020, the number of severely ill children who needed to be hospitalized amounted to 133,026 (previous year 189,131). The number of children suffering from hemorrhagic dengue fever was 4,488 (previous year 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 29 years.

The number of outpatient treatments of sick children amounted to 639,268 in 2020 (previous year 1,021,948). 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. 49,586 children were vaccinated.

In 2020, 24,822 surgical operations were performed (previous year 27,174), of which 1,041 were open heart and invasive cardiac catheterization surgeries (previous year 1,001). 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 25,771 births at the maternity clinic Jayavarman VII (Kantha Bopha III) (previous year 26,613). 13% of the children were born by caesarean section. A total of 132,443 pregnant women were examined and treated as outpatients (previous year 162,527).

The mortality rate at the Kantha Bopha Hospitals was only 0.25% in 2020 (previous year 0.28%). Please find further details in the attached table "Global Admission" (*Enclosure 11*).

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, 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.

Moreover, because the around-the-clock discipline of the employees is strictly respected, physically as well as intellectually. Conversely, this is not the case in Cambodia outside of Kantha Bopha.

4.4 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 2020, 555 medical students completed their internship in our hospitals in the departments of paediatrics, surgery and obstetrics. In 2020, the nursing college, which is affiliated with the Medical Faculty Phnom Penh, sent an attendance of 346 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 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.

4.5. Health Care Professionals

At the end of 2020, 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 45 and 55 and eagerly train their younger colleagues in the most professional manner.

5. Foundation Board and Management

During the two meetings of 28 January 2020 and 12 May 2020 the Foundation Board focussed on the statutory business.

The Compensatory and Audit Committee met on 30 March 2020 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 2020, PricewaterhouseCoopers AG (PwC) controlled the annual results as our appointed auditors.

6. Financial Concerns - Donations

The Annual Financial Statement for 2020, approved by the Foundation Board on 11 May 2021, closed with assets of CHF 61,093,340.96 and an expenditure surplus of CHF 7,605,808.36.

The organisation capital (equity) therefore decreased by approx. CHF 7.6 million to CHF 60.3 million. This development allows to provide for a finance period of the next 15 months' period for hospital operation.

The Annual Financial Statement 2020 was carried out according to the requirements of standard Swiss GAAP FER 21. The audit report by PwC of 11 May 2021 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 the revenue surpluses in the previous two years of operation, the 2020 annual financial statement closes with an expenditure surplus of approximately CHF 7.6 million. The following factors mainly contributed to these results:

- The *operating income* decreased by CHF 13.4 million from CHF 52.1 million to CHF 38.7 million. The ordinary donations in Cambodia decreased by approx. CHF 1.9 million. As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, the ticket contributions from the Angkor Wat temples to our Foundation only amounted to approx. CHF 0.8 million (previous year approx. CHF 4.4 million). A decrease of approx. CHF 3.8 million to CHF 4.1 million was recorded in large donations. The earmarked donations (Switzerland) amount to about CHF 0.6 million (previous year CHF 3.9 million). However, there was a slight increase in bequests of CHF 0.7 million to CHF 8.7 million.
- The expenditures for the operation of the hospitals in Cambodia (*“recurring operation costs”*) were lower than in the previous year and decreased by CHF 2.4 million to CHF 38.0 million. This decrease is in particular due to lower wage costs (CHF 1.2 million) and lower costs of medication (CHF 1.4 million). At CHF 8.6 million, the operating costs were only marginally higher than in the previous year.

Furthermore, *investments* of approximately CHF 4.72 million (previous year approx. 8.66 million) were made in medical equipment and building extensions.

- The *“infrastructure expenses Switzerland”* (expenses for fund-raising, general advertisement expenditures and administrative costs) amount to about CHF 1.54 million and is CHF 0.3 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 2.1 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 **2.84%** (previous year: 2.56%) 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, in particular the 29th gala performance of the Circus Knie and other events.

Only the dignified memorial service for the passing away of Dr. Peter Studer at the church in Menziken (AG) took place on 23 October 2020. The consul and ambassador were present as official representatives of Cambodia.

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 2020.

7.3. Translation of the New Book «Dr. Beat Richner – Kinderarzt – Rebell – Visionär» by Peter Rothenbühler into English

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 12*). In July 2020, the English translation (Dr Beat Richner – Paediatrician – Rebel – Visionary) was published. All employees of Kantha Bopha Hospitals received a copy.

7.4. Video Message

As it was not possible to visit Cambodia due to Covid, the Foundation Board sent out a video message to the Cambodian employees of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals in October 2020, which was also posted on the website.

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 2020.

The contributions of the Cambodian government amounted to USD 6 million in 2020. Since February 2017, the Foundation receives a contribution of USD 2 for each tourist visiting the world-famous temple grounds of Angkor Wat. In addition, in 2020 we received USD 1 million each from the Cambodian Kantha Bopha foundation and the Cambodian Red Cross.

The yearly contributions of the Swiss confederation amounted to CHF 4 million in 2020. 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, 11 May 2021

For the Foundation Board:



Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach
President



Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer
Vice President



Dr. phil. Philip Robinson
Vice President

Enclosures:

- Press Communication of 7 May 2020 (Enclosure 1)
- Information Letter to the Royal Government (Enclosure 2)
- Letter from the Cambodian King (Enclosure 3)
- Letter from the Queen Mother (Enclosure 4)
- Letter from the Minister of Health, Prof. Mam Bunheng (Enclosure 5)
- Letter from the Minister of Finance and Economy, Dr. Aun Pornmoniroth (Enclosure 6)
- Letter from the Director of the SDC, Ms Patricia Danzi (Enclosure 7)
- Letter from Ambassador Helene Budliger Artieda (Enclosure 8)
- Certificate appointment of management team Cambodia (Enclosure 9)
- Advertisement Leuchtturm der Nachhaltigkeit (Lighthouse of Sustainability) (Enclosure 10)
- Table «Global Admission» (Enclosure 11)
- Flyer book on Dr. Beat Richner's lifework (Enclosure 12)

Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Foundation childrens hospital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Fondazione ospedale pediatrico Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

Presse Communiqué

Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

Dr. med. Peter Studer, Leiter der Kinderspitäler Kantha Bopha, verstorben

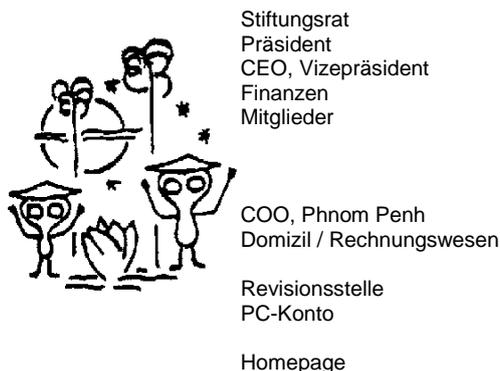
Wir haben die schmerzliche Pflicht bekanntzugeben, dass Dr. med. Peter Studer (geb. 14. März 1947, gest. 6. Mai 2020), Kinderarzt und Vizepräsident der Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, nach kurzer, schwerer Krankheit verstorben ist.

Peter Studer war seit Beginn des Wiederaufbaus der Spitäler Kantha Bopha in Kambodscha im Jahre 1992 dabei. Er war der langjährige berufliche Weggefährte des 2018 verstorbenen Spitalgründers Dr. med. Beat Richner. Seit dem krankheitsbedingten Ausfall von Beat Richner vor drei Jahren war Peter Studer Leiter der Spitäler Kantha Bopha. Seine Verdienste für die Stiftung und die Spitäler Kantha Bopha sind immens. Der Stiftungsrat bleibt Peter Studer zu grösstem Dank verpflichtet und spricht seiner Ehefrau Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer und der Trauerfamilie sein tiefes Beileid aus.

Wie Beat Richner hat Peter Studer stets das gemeinsame Ziel verfolgt, die Geschicke der Spitäler Kantha Bopha in die Hände des kambodschanischen Personals zu legen. Auch im Hinblick auf sein eigenes Alter, hat er die Ausbildung und Förderung des medizinischen Kaders vorangetrieben und Stellvertretungen sichergestellt. Dank dieser weitsichtigen Vorbereitung ist die Stiftung heute in der Lage, die Nachfolge nach den Plänen von Peter Studer zu organisieren, mit der Übergabe der Verantwortung an die Kader der Spitalorganisation, ohne dabei neue personelle Änderungen vornehmen zu müssen.

Die bisher von ihm als Leiter der Spitäler allein geleisteten Aufgaben werden jetzt auf mehrere Schultern verteilt.

Das Führungsteam vor Ort, mit dem operativen Leiter Dr. biol. Denis Laurent und den beiden Chefärzten Prof. Dr. med. Yay Chantana und Prof. Dr. med. Ky Santy ist seit Beginn dabei und arbeitete während Jahrzehnten mit Beat Richner und Peter Studer zusammen. Das Trio nennt sich gerne «Les fils spirituels de Beat Richner» und betrachtet es als Verpflichtung und Lebensaufgabe, die Prinzipien von Beat Richner, seine Vorstellungen von Gerechtigkeit, Arbeitsdisziplin und zeitgenössischer professioneller Medizin im Alltag zu vertreten und weiterzugeben.



Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach
Dr. med. Peter Studer
Tiziano Tuena
Susanna Cohen Straka, Prof. Dr. med. Andreas Fanconi, Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer,
Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar, Dr. med. Alfred Löhner, Prof. Dr. med. Felix Niggli,
Dr. med. Seraina Prader, Dr. Philip Robinson, Peter Rothenbühler,
Prof. Dr. med. Felix Sennhauser, Dr. iur. Florian von Meiss
Dr. Denis Laurent
c/o Intercontrol AG, Revisions- und Treuhandgesellschaft, Seefeldstr. 17, CH-8008 Zürich
Tel: 044 267 36 21 eMail: info@beat-richner.ch
PricewaterhouseCoopers AG
Nr. 80-60699-1 / IBAN CH98 0900 0000 8006 0699 1
Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
<http://www.beat-richner.ch>

Dieses Führungsteam übernimmt jetzt die Leitung der Spitäler.

Dr. biol. Denis Laurent wird vom Stiftungsrat zum Managing Direktor („directeur général“) ernannt, er übernimmt die operative Leitung der fünf Spitäler.

Die Professoren Dr. med. Yay Chantana und Dr. med. Ky Santy verantworten wie bisher die medizinische Leitung der fünf Kinderspitäler vor Ort.

Der Stiftungsrat sichert dem Führungsteam jegliche Unterstützung zu und freut sich auf eine weitere erfolgreiche Zusammenarbeit.

Aus- und Weiterbildung Mitarbeitende

Der medizinische Bereich mit der Aus- und Weiterbildung wird neu von Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, medizinischer Direktor des Universität-Kinderspitals Zürich, geleitet. Er wird unterstützt durch seinen Vorgänger Prof. Dr. med. Felix Sennhauser und Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar. Alle drei sind Mitglieder des Stiftungsrates und koordinieren auch die Missionen der Spezialisten aus dem In- und Ausland. Die strategische Zusammenarbeit mit dem Kinderspital Zürich wurde anfangs 2020 mit der Zuwahl von Prof. Dr. med. Felix Niggli und Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar in den Stiftungsrat nachhaltig verstärkt. Dank der engen Zusammenarbeit mit dem Kinderspital Zürich und deren persönlichen Vertretern im Stiftungsrat ist die hohe medizinische Qualität der Spitäler Kantha Bopha sichergestellt.

Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, Prof. Dr. med. Felix Sennhauser, Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar und der Präsident werden die Spitäler Kantha Bopha mindestens einmal pro Jahr in separaten Missionen besuchen.

Der Stiftungsrat wird auch weiterhin alles unternehmen, um das Lebenswerk von Beat Richner in seinem Sinn weiterzuführen.

Dr. med. Peter Studer, Pionier der ersten Stunde

Seit 2017 war Peter Studer als Leiter der Spitäler Kantha Bopha namentlich für den operativen und medizinischen Betrieb der fünf Kinderspitäler in Siem Reap und Phnom Penh sowie für die Aus- und Weiterbildung der 2'500 kambodschanischen Mitarbeitenden verantwortlich. Seit dem Tod von Beat Richner stand er mit dem Führungstrio Denis Laurent, Yay Chantana (Siem Reap) und Ky Santy (Phnom Penh) täglich in Kontakt. Peter Studer war während fast dreissig Jahren für rund 80 mehrwöchige Einsätze in Kambodscha tätig.

Er hatte eine eigene Kinderarzt-Praxis im aargauischen Reinach und engagierte sich schon 1979 als Rotkreuz-Arzt in den Flüchtlingslagern im Grenzgebiet Thailand/Kambodscha, in den 80er-Jahren war er wiederholt in humanitären Missionen in Kambodscha tätig. Auf ein Inserat von Beat Richner meldete er sich 1991 für den Wiederaufbau des kriegsversehrten Spitals Kantha Bopha in Phnom Penh. Obschon er sich stets bescheiden hinter Beat Richner im zweiten Glied sah, prägte er die Spitäler nachhaltig.

Ohne seine Mitwirkung wäre eine Erweiterung der Spitäler in der Provinz Siem Reap undenkbar gewesen. Im Jahre 2002 wurde dort zu seinen Ehren die grosse Spitalbibliothek im Ausbildungs- und Konferenzzentrum «Dr. Peter Studer Library» benannt. Unter seiner Leitung wurde im Sommer 2019 der Neubau Kantha Bopha I in Phnom Penh eingeweiht und in Betrieb genommen, welcher auch das neue Herzzentrum sowie die neuen Intensivstationen umfasst.

Neues Stiftungsratsmitglied: Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer

Frau Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer begleitete ihren Ehemann Peter Studer in den letzten Jahren jeweils privat nach Kambodscha. Sie ist daher eine profunde Kennerin des Projekts und geniesst bei den Mitarbeitenden der Spitäler, der Regierung und dem Königspalast höchstes Ansehen. Der Stiftungsrat schätzt sich daher glücklich, dass Frau Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer neu dem Stiftungsrat beiträgt. Sie wird namentlich den Präsidenten des Stiftungsrates administrativ und im Tagesgeschäft unterstützen.

Zürich, 7. Mai 2020

Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

Der Präsident:

Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach

Kontaktperson: Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach

Mobil: 079 744 57 83

Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Foundation childrens hospital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Fondazione ospedale pediatrico Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

Important information to the Royal Government of Cambodia

Zurich, May 7, 2020

Kantha Bopha Hospital Managing Director Dr. med. Peter Studer deceased

The Board of the Kantha Bopha Foundation in Zürich, Switzerland, has the painful duty to announce that Dr. med. Peter Studer (14 March 1947 – 6 May 2020), Vice-President of the Foundation Board and leader of the Kantha Bopha hospitals, has passed away after a brief and serious illness.

Peter Studer has been involved in the reconstruction of the Kantha Bopha hospitals in Cambodia since 1992. He was the long-standing companion of the Hospitals' founder Dr. med. Beat Richner, who deceased in 2018. Peter Studer had resumed the director role of the Kantha Bopha hospitals following Dr. Beat Richner's absence due to illness three years ago. His services and achievements for the Foundation and the Kantha Bopha hospitals are immense. On December 28, 2005, the King of Cambodia Norodom Sihamoni appointed Dr. Peter Studer "Commandeur de l'ORDRE ROYAL DU SAHAMETREI". The Foundation board owes him an enormous debt of gratitude and expresses its deepest sympathy to his wife Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer and the bereaved family.

Dr. biol. Denis Laurent appointed as General Director

Dr. biol. Denis Laurent, Chief Operating Officer (COO), will take over the operational management of the five children's hospitals Kantha Bopha in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. The Foundation Board has appointed Dr. Denis Laurent as General Director (Directeur Général). He is in charge of the direction of the Kantha Bopha hospitals in Cambodia directly together with the chief-doctors Prof. Dr. med. Ky Santy and Prof. Dr. med. Yay Chantana. This leadership team has a deep knowledge and understanding of the hospitals and has supported Dr. Beat Richner and Dr. Peter Studer since the beginning.



Stiftungsrat
Präsident
CEO, Vizepräsident
Finanzen
Mitglieder

COO, Phnom Penh
Domizil / Rechnungswesen

Revisionsstelle
PC-Konto

Homepage

Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach

Dr. med. Peter Studer

Tiziano Tuena

Susanna Cohen Straka, Prof. Dr. med. Andreas Fanconi, Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer,

Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar, Dr. med. Alfred Löhner, Prof. Dr. med. Felix Niggli,

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<http://www.beat-richner.ch>

Dr. Denis Laurent is empowered to represent the Foundation Kantha Bopha in the Kingdom of Cambodia. He will be the person in contact with the official representatives of the Royal Government of Cambodia, in particular with the representatives of the Ministry of Health and of the Ministry of Economy and Finance as well as with the representatives of the Cambodia Kantha Bopha Foundation. Dr. Denis Laurent will be under the direct management of the President of the Swiss Foundation Board.

The hospitals will continue to work, as they work independently

In terms of organization and medicine, the Kantha Bopha hospitals with their 2,500 Cambodian staff work in a sound and independent manner. To ensure the continuity of the hospitals as a model of high-quality, free child and maternal health care the education and training of Cambodian staff will continue under the oversight of Prof. Dr. med. Michael Grotzer, medical Director of the University Children's Hospital, Zürich. He will be supported by Prof. Dr. med. Felix Sennhauser and Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Kretschmar. All three Professors are board members of the Kantha Bopha Foundation and they will also coordinate the missions of specialists from Switzerland.

Visits and new member of the Foundation Board

The President and the Professors Michael Grotzer, Felix Sennhauser and Oliver Kretschmar will visit the Kantha Bopha hospitals at least once a year in separate missions. Mrs Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer accompanied her husband Peter Studer privately to Cambodia since 2007. She is therefore a profound expert of the Kantha Bopha hospitals and garners the highest support and admiration among the staff of the hospitals. The Foundation Board therefore considers itself fortunate that Mrs Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer has now joined the Board. In particular, she will support the President of the Foundation Board in an administrative and in a daily operational capacity.

Foundation Children's Hospitals Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

The President:



Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach



Sa Majesté Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath
NORODOM SIHAMONI
ROI du CAMBODGE

Au Dr. iur. René Schwartzbach
Président de la Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner
Au Dr. biol. Denis Laurent, COO, Phnom Penh

Monsieur le Président,
Monsieur le COO,

Je reçois avec une infinie tristesse la nouvelle de la disparition soudaine du Docteur Peter Studer, Vice-Président de la Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner.

Il était un grand Humanitaire du Cambodge et n'avait cessé depuis presque trois décennies de soigner, au côté de Feu le Docteur Beat Richner et après son départ prématuré, tous les enfants cambodgiens dans les meilleures conditions. Son courage et sa détermination infaillibles pour maintenir et développer l'œuvre du Fondateur des hôpitaux Kantha Bopha suscitaient le respect, l'admiration et la considération du peuple cambodgien.

Je rends hommage au Docteur Peter Studer, grand et fidèle ami du Royaume du Cambodge et de son peuple.

Sa Majesté la Reine-Mère se joint à moi pour présenter nos très sincères condoléances à son épouse Madame Geneviève F. Cattin-Studer et à la famille de l'illustre défunt.

Avec l'expression de mes sentiments profondément attristés,

Pékin, le 9 Mai 2020



*Sa Majesté la Reine-Mère
Norodom Monineath Sihanouk
du Cambodge*

Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner,
Dr. Iur René Schwarzenbach, Président.
et
Dr. biol. Denis Laurent, Directeur Général,

C'est avec beaucoup de tristesse que j'ai appris par votre lettre du 7 Mai 2020, le décès du Dr Peter Studer. C'est une grande perte pour sa Famille, et aussi pour le Peuple et les Enfants Cambodgiens, dont il s'en était occupé avec dévouement.

Veuillez accepter toutes mes condoléances.

J'exprime aussi toute ma gratitude à la Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner, qui va continuer d'aider les Enfants Cambodgiens, malgré la disparition de notre Cher Dr. Beat Richner, son Président. et maintenant, celle du Dr. Peter Studer son Vice-Président.

J'adresse aussi tous mes vœux au Dr. Denis Laurent, Directeur Général, qui a travaillé sans relâche depuis très longtemps pour les Hôpitaux Kantha Bopha.

Veuillez accepter l'expression de ma haute et amicale considération.

NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK

Phnom Penh, le 22 Mai 2020



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

No. 1099 DGH/DIC

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION - RELIGION - KING

Phnom Penh, Date: 13/05/2020

Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach,
Président,
Foundation Children Hospital Kantha Bopha,
Dr. med. Beat Richner

Dear Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach,

It is a profound sadness to hear about the news of **Dr. med. Peter Studer**, the Vice-President and CEO of Kantha Bopha Foundation, Dr. med. Beat Richner as he passed away this 6th of May.

Allow me to pay tribute to the good leadership and sacrifice of **Dr. med. Peter Studer** on his admirable devotion and greatest contribution in establishing and supporting the Kantha Bopha Children Hospitals to provide free quality healthcare services which have saved lives of many Cambodian children since 1992.

In this difficult time, on behalf of the Ministry of Health, and myself, I would like to express my profound sympathy and deep condolences to the late Vice-President and CEO of Kantha Bopha Foundation, Dr. med. Beat Richner and the Kantha Bopha Children Hospitals and the bereaved family.

I wish his soul being fully rest in peace.

Please accept, Dr. iur René Schwarzenbach, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours, 



Prof. MAM BUNHENG
MINISTER OF HEALTH



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

ក្រសួងសេដ្ឋកិច្ច និង ហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ
លេខ 386.7.....សហវ.....

Phnom Penh, 12 May, 2020

To :

- Dr. René Schwarzenbach, President,
- Dr. Denis Laurent, Chief Operating Officer,
- Foundation Childrens Hospital Kantha Bopha, Dr. Med Beat Richner

Dear Dr. René Schwarzenbach ,dear Dr. Denis Laurent:

It is with profound sadness to learn about the passing of Dr. Peter Studer. I had the privilege of knowing him. He will always be recognized as being one of the great humanitarians of our time. I recognize the painful loss to the staff of the Kantha Bopha Hospitals. Dr. Studer was truly a guardian angel, who, through his tireless commitment towards the well-being of millions of Cambodian children. He was one of the driving forces to help our children to regain their smiles and their happiness through good healthcare.

On this grief time, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Cambodia Kantha Bopha Foundation, and people of Cambodia, I wish to convey our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and the Foundation Children’s Hospital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med Beat Richner. Dr. Studer will always be fondly remembered,together with Dr.Richner, in our hearts with the deepest gratitude for their contributions and the legacy to Cambodia. The Cambodia Kantha Bopha Foundation will stand firm, with the Foundation Children’s Hospital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med Beat Richner, to ensure that their legacy will live on, May his soul lay in peace.

Please accept, Dr. Ren Schwarzenbach and Dr. Denis Laurent, the assurance of my high consideration and solidarity.

Yours Sincerely

Dr. An Purnmoniroth
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and
Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Cambodia Kantha Bopha Foundation



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Département fédéral des affaires étrangères DFAE
Direction du développement et de la coopération DDC
La Directrice

CH-3003 Bern, DEZA

Courrier A

Mme Geneviève Cattin-Studer
Fondation hôpital de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha
c/o Intercontrol AG
Seefeldstrasse 17
8008 Zürich

Berne, le 12 mai 2020

Madame,
Mesdames et Messieurs membres du Comité de Fondation,

Au nom de toute la Direction du Développement et de la Coopération, nous apprenons avec tristesse le décès du Dr Peter Studer. Nous vous prions ainsi d'accepter nos plus sincères condoléances.

Le Dr Studer a été un partenaire capital dès le début de notre collaboration en 1995. Mes collègues ont eu de nombreuses occasions de le rencontrer en Suisse comme sur son lieu de travail à Phnom Penh et Siem Reap. On dit qu'à chaque fois, il insistait – et avec raison – pour mettre particulièrement les femmes et enfants bénéficiaires au centre de tous nos efforts. Ce message visionnaire nous est assurément resté.

Le Dr Studer était réputé pour sa modestie et sa discrétion; selon de nombreux récits, il accordait la plus grande attention à chacun de ses interlocuteurs, que ce soit lors d'événements publics ou en plus petit comité. En fait, il personnifiait la passion des médecins pour les rapports humains.

Son pragmatisme et sa détermination à valoriser le savoir-faire des confrères et consœurs cambodgiens ont marqué ; la direction des hôpitaux semble aujourd'hui assurée, entre autres grâce à ses investissements continus dans la formation du personnel soignant.

Avec le Dr Richner, c'est une génération de compatriotes, engagés pour une plus grande solidarité avec les pays du Sud, qui passe la main. Leur œuvre restera comme l'une des plus marquantes de la coopération suisse en Asie. La Direction du Développement et de la Coopération restera fidèle à son engagement d'assurer conjointement le modèle Kantha Bopha dans la durée.

Chaleureuses salutations,

Direction du développement et de la coopération

Patricia Danzi
Directrice

Direction du développement et de la coopération DDC
Patricia Danzi
Freiburgstrasse 130, 3003 Berne
Tél. + +41 58 462 34 05
www.deza.admin.ch

*Chère Madame Geneviève Cattin-Studer,
Cher Dr Denis Laurent,
Mesdames et Messieurs membres de la Direction des Hôpitaux de Kantha Bopha
à Phnom Penh et à Siem Reap,*

C'est avec grande tristesse que nous avons appris la semaine passée le décès du Dr Peter Studer. L'Ambassade de Suisse à Bangkok et le Bureau de Coopération DDC à Phnom Penh vous prient d'accepter nos plus sincères condoléances.

Ami intime, proche associé, compagnon de route, dans les moments de bonheur et de difficultés, le Dr Peter Studer a œuvré aux côtés du Dr Beat Richner, au secours du petit peuple d'enfants cambodgiens, afin de leur offrir les meilleurs services de soins possibles. Chère Madame, c'est grâce à votre patiente et précieuse collaboration que ce succès a été possible, et grâce à vous, Dr Denis Laurent et de l'équipe dirigeante des hôpitaux, que ces miracles de vie, au quotidien et au long cours, ont pu avoir lieu, et se poursuivent à ce jour. Quel plaisir de voir que tout au long des presque trente ans d'existence, les hôpitaux continuent à offrir des soins d'excellente qualité et gratuits, par un personnel engagé et professionnel, à autant de femmes et enfants du Cambodge.

Mais la contribution du Dr Studer allait bien au-delà. Si le fonctionnement des hôpitaux à Siem Reap et à Phnom Penh est assuré par les Cambodgiens, c'est grâce aux efforts du Dr Studer et de la Fondation. Son engagement a aussi contribué à renforcer les relations amicales entre la Suisse et le Cambodge, et le Dr Studer restera également un symbole de cette relation. Ces témoignages d'amitié ont été particulièrement prononcés lors de l'inoubliable cérémonie d'inauguration de la nouvelle unité de chirurgie cardiaque le 1^{er} août 2019, co-présidée par Sa Majesté le Roi Norodom Sihamoni et Sa Majesté la Reine-Mère Norodom Monineath Sihanouk et le Dr Peter Studer avec vous chère Madame Cattin-Studer. Ce furent des moments très chaleureux, témoignages de cette amitié khméro-suisse, auxquels une délégation de la Confédération Suisse, dirigée par la Secrétaire d'Etat du Département Fédéral des Affaires étrangères a assisté.

Nous sommes confiants que les hôpitaux continueront à prospérer avec vous, Dr biol. Denis Laurent, et les deux médecins-chefs Pr. Dr. med. Yay Chantana et Pr. Dr. med. Ky Santy. Nous sommes heureux de constater que les valeurs et modes d'organisation des hôpitaux présentes depuis leur création continuent de perdurer. La Suisse, à travers de sa Direction de développement et de coopération internationale DDC, restera fidèle à son engagement pour le maintien du modèle des hôpitaux.

Tout en réitérant notre profonde sympathie, nous vous prions de bien vouloir recevoir, chère Madame, Mesdames et Messieurs, l'expression de mes meilleurs messages.

H. Budliger A.

*Helene Budliger Artieda
Ambassadrice*



*Carin Salerno
Cheffe du Bureau de Coopération*



**FONDATION HÔPITAL
DE PÉDIATRIE KANTHA BOPHA,
DR MÉD BEAT RICHNER**



Le conseil de fondation a décidé de régler la succession du Dr Beat Richner et du Dr Peter Studer, en confiant la direction des hôpitaux Kantha Bopha aux dirigeants actuels, dans le but de garantir la poursuite de l'œuvre du fondateur Dr Beat Richner dans son esprit de justice et de perfection médicale et éthique

Il nomme le

Dr biol. DENIS LAURENT
Directeur général des Hôpitaux de pédiatrie Kantha Bopha

Il confirme la direction médicale des hôpitaux en les personnes de

Dr méd. KY SANTY
Directeur et professeur agrégé

Dr méd. YAY CHANTANA
Directeur et professeur agrégé

Dr méd. IV MALÈNE
Vice-directrice et professeur assistant

Dr méd. HENG SOTHY
Vice-directeur et professeur assistant

Dr méd. KHUN LEANG CHHUN
Vice-directeur et professeur assistant

Zurich et Phnom Penh, le 12 mai 2020



Dr iur. René Schwarzenbach
Président de la Fondation



Prof. Dr méd. Michael Grotzer
Vice-président de la Fondation





Zürich/Phnom Penh, im Oktober 2020

Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha, Dr. med. Beat Richner

Leuchtturm der Nachhaltigkeit

Als sich der Zürcher Kinderarzt Dr. med. Beat Richner im Jahr 1992 aufmachte, dem Ruf des Königs von Kambodscha zu folgen und ein Kinderspital im kriegsversehrten Land wieder aufzubauen, waren die Kritiker sofort zur Stelle. Kaum war er abgereist, hiess es von Ärztekollegen, von Regierungsbeamten, von sogenannten Entwicklungshilfespezialisten grosser Zeitungen: Wie nachhaltig ist das Projekt des Doktors? Was geschieht, wenn er krank wird? Was, wenn er stirbt? Immer wieder war dies das Mantra der Kritiker.

Auch nach zehn Jahren. Auch, als schon drei Spitäler standen, auch als schon das Leben von Hunderttausenden Kindern gerettet war, auch nachdem internationale Experten die Kantha Bopha Spitäler als bestes je gesehenes Projekt der medizinischen Hilfe in einem armen Land beurteilt hatten. Was geschieht, wenn er stirbt? Heute kann man sagen: Es brach grosse Trauer aus, als er starb. Aber den Spitälern geschah gar nichts. Weil Dr. Richner für Nachhaltigkeit gesorgt hatte.

Beat Richner machte die Kritik traurig, aber sie stachelte ihn und seinen Stellvertreter Dr. med. Peter Studer erst richtig an. Sie sagten stets: «Zeigt uns ein nachhaltigeres Projekt. Wenn wir auch nur ein paar Hundert Kinder retten und heilen könnten, wäre die Nachhaltigkeit sicher für diese Kinder gegeben, sie haben nämlich ein ganzes Leben vor sich.»

Heute darf man feststellen, dass es weltweit kaum ein anderes Hilfsprojekt gibt, das nach dreissig Jahren so gut und effizient arbeitet wie die fünf Kinderspitäler Kantha Bopha von Dr. med. Beat Richner. Als genialer Kinderarzt, Spitalmanager und vernünftiger Visionär hat er von Anfang an eine Mannschaft exzellenter Mediziner nachgezogen, von denen er wusste, dass sie die Spitäler nach seinem Weggang autonom führen könnten. Er und sein Stellvertreter Dr. Peter Studer hatten angekündigt, dass sie sich spätestens kurz nach siebzig von der operativen Leitung zurückziehen möchten. Sie haben alles auf diesen Wechsel hin eingefädelt. Sodass die 2500 Angestellten der Spitäler heute auch ohne Schweizer Leitung funktionieren.

Leider kam bei beiden der Tod einer Pensionierung zuvor. Aber ihr Lebenswerk ist aufgegangen: Gerade die monatelange Covid-Krise hat es noch klarer gemacht. Die Schweizer Spezialisten des Kinderspitals Zürich konnten nicht, wie sonst üblich, regelmässig ihre Kollegen in Phnom Penh und Siem Reap vor Ort mit Rat und Tat unterstützen. Die Spitäler funktionieren trotzdem einwandfrei, unter der Leitung des Generaldirektors Dr. biol. Denis Laurent wurden sogar wichtige Weichen gestellt, das Herzzentrum in Phnom Penh konnte eingeweiht werden, die Patientendatei wird digitalisiert, der Spitalbetrieb läuft auf Hochtouren.

Während zahlreiche andere Hilfsprojekte im medizinischen oder touristischen Bereich leider wegen der Covid-Krise abbauen oder gar schliessen mussten, sind die Kantha Bopha Spitäler heute ein Leuchtturm der Nachhaltigkeit im grossen Meer der Hilfswerke.

Einzig für die Finanzierung ist das Lebenswerk von Dr. Richner und Dr. Studer noch auf die Grosszügigkeit der Schweizer Regierung und Bevölkerung angewiesen, auch wenn die kambodschanische Regierung und eine örtliche Stiftung inzwischen grosse Beiträge an das Betriebsbudget leisten.

Jeder Franken hilft heilen, retten und vorbeugen.

Dr. iur. René Schwarzenbach, Präsident,

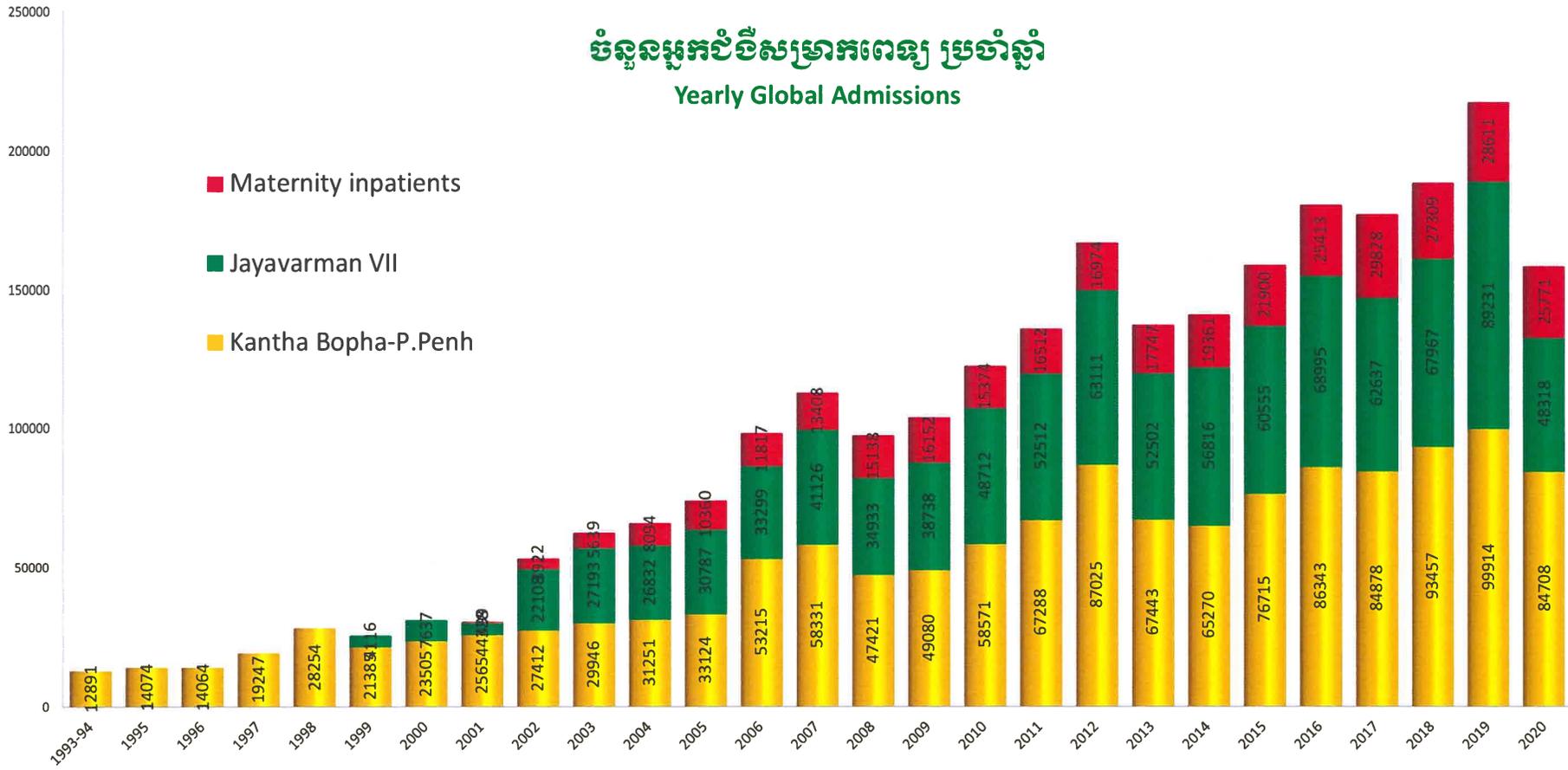
Dr. phil. Philip Robinson, Vizepräsident

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

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

www.beat-richner.ch, www.facebook.com/dr.beat.richner

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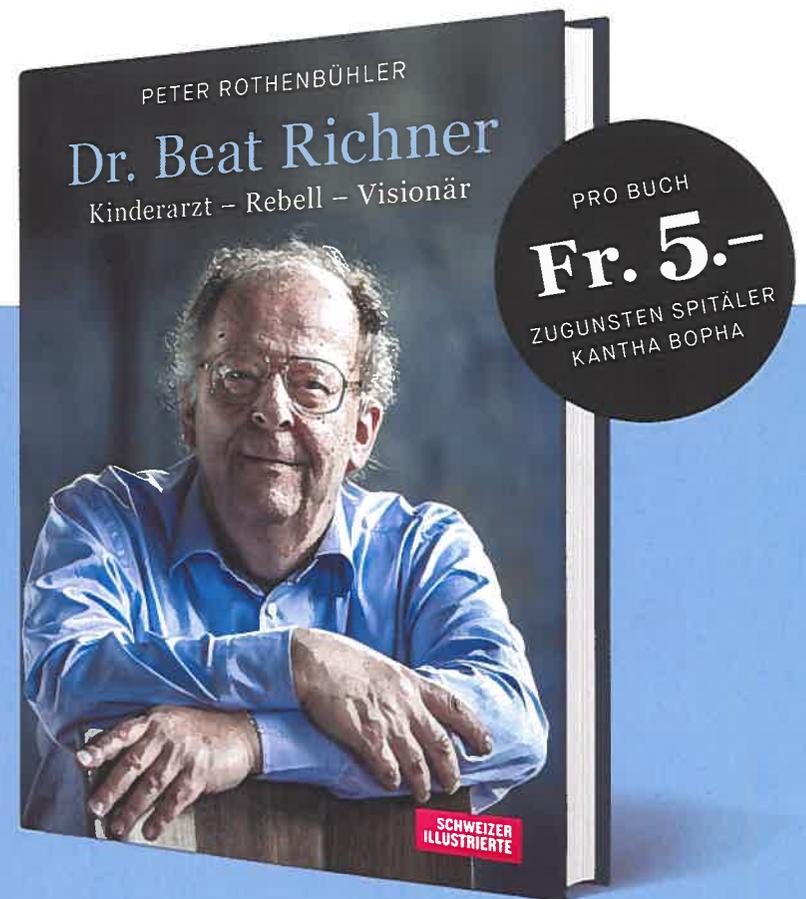


«Ich bi der
Beatocello und
möchts jetzt
gmüetli ha»

Beat Richner

DIE BIOGRAFIE:

Dr. Beat Richner – sein Lebenswerk für die Kinder Kambodschas



In Zusammenarbeit mit der
Stiftung Kinderspital Kantha Bopha

Eine beeindruckende Lebensgeschichte

Beat 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.

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

