

Global Health Committee 2009 Update of Achievements



Global Health Committee Continues to Expand Treatment and Research Programs *Ending Diseases of Poverty through Delivery and Discovery*

This year, the Global Health Committee/Cambodian Health Committee continued its international expansion with a "South to South" transfer of its unique care model from Cambodia to Ethiopia. The GHC/CHC is enabling universal access to treatment for multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) in Cambodia, and in February we started treating patients at the first MDR-TB clinic in Ethiopia. Through our efforts, Ethiopians who previously had no access to treatment for drug-resistant TB are now receiving life-saving medicines.

Our children's programs are crossing borders, too. Following on the success of the Maddox Chivan Children's Center in Phnom Penh (Cambodia), we are in the design phase of a similar center in Ethiopia, to serve children and their families infected or affected by HIV.

Our research programs are forging ahead. We are on track to complete the CAMELIA study in early 2010, and a new study is getting underway to measure the prevalence of tuberculosis among Cambodian children. CAMELIA will reveal the optimal timing of combined TB and AIDS treatment, and its results are eagerly awaited by doctors around the world. The children's study is part of a larger effort to develop a TB vaccine for the young.

With direct delivery of medical services, and our advocacy, training and research programs, our goal is to build and support local health care infrastructures, thus improving access for everyone. To date, GHC/CHC efforts have resulted in more than 25,000 tuberculosis cures in Cambodia and over 5000 lives extended by HIV medicines and care, including 600 HIV-positive children. More than that, we have offered an umbrella of care and prevention to millions in Cambodia, Ethiopia, and other countries.

Cambodia

- CHC's community-based treatment model for TB has been expanded countrywide to cover all 15 million Cambodians through the Cambodian National TB program. The CHC is directly supervising and delivering TB care in the three most populated Cambodian provinces.
- With support from the Annenberg Foundation, the CHC expanded access to treatment for multi-drug resistant tuberculosis to 144 patients, from 62 last year. Using our powerful model of community- and home-based care, we aim to provide universal access to MDR care in partnership with the National TB program.
- GHC/CHC opened the Joseph P. Sullivan Outpatient Center of Excellence for TB and AIDS Care of Children at the Khmer-Soviet Friendship (KSF) Hospital, Phnom Penh's largest public hospital. Outpatient care is provided for more than 400 HIV-positive children, and an accompanying renovation of the pediatric ward has enhanced services for all children at the hospital.
- With continued support of the Jolie-Pitt Foundation, CHC's Maddox Chivan Children's Center serves more than 700 HIV-infected or -affected children with medical, nutritional, educational, social and vocational programs at the Maddox itself and at the Sullivan Center.
- CHC-led clinical trial (CAMELIA) of combined TB and AIDS treatment enters its final phase.
- CHC began a study of tuberculosis in children aimed at interrupting infection, funded by the AERAS TB Global Vaccine Initiative and the Gates Foundation.

- CHC researchers at Harvard Medical School and the Immune Disease Institute in Boston and at the Institut Pasteur du Cambodge in Phnom Penh, receiving key support from the Annenberg Foundation, the NIH, and the ANRS, continue their collaboration to develop new treatments for the "paradoxical reaction," a severe side effect that complicates HIV treatment in one-fifth of TB-infected patients.
- CHC efforts to fight TB and AIDS featured in pictures by award-winning photojournalist James Nachtwey in Berlin and at the US Senate in Washington, D.C. and many other venues including in the medical journal *The Lancet* and *National Geographic*.

Ethiopia

- After training in Cambodia, Ethiopian doctors began the first-ever treatment program for MDR-TB in February 2009. The new program, which is supported by the Jolie-Pitt Foundation, is working with the Ministry of Health and the GHC.
- GHC/CHC obtains free medicines to treat MDR-TB in Ethiopia from Eli Lilly, the Chao Center of Purdue University, and Jacobus Pharmaceuticals.
- To date, 74 patients have received life-saving MDR-TB medicines and care under the new program. Plans for national scale up of the program are underway.
- Architects begin work on Zahara Center for AIDS- and tuberculosis-affected children in outskirts of Addis Ababa, modeled after the CHC's successful Maddox Chivan Children's Center in Cambodia.

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