

Case Study

Auk Heng's history

On 5 April 2012, is a very important day for Ms. Auk Heng. That was the day her grandson accompanied her to Kous Health Center and the beginning of an experience that will completely change her life.

She met the staffs of CTEH who were at the health center conducting the eye screening in her village. She was diagnosed to have cataract on both eyes. It had been explained to her that she needs

to undergo eye surgery and with the health education and counseling given by the hospital staff she agreed to join with the other patients to go to CTEH.

The following week the hospital organized the pick up service for the patients. She had for more eye examination at the hospital and she had the cataract surgery. The next day early in the morning as the nurse on duty removed the eye pad on her eye.. she feels like being born again there was so much beauty around her. She could see the face of her husband, her grandson and the other patients coming from her village. The people around her were smiling and she knows her life will not be the same.

She recalled that for almost 3 years she could not see the face her husband and the other members of her family. Then, the last year she had bee completely blind with cataract, so she could not cook for her family, cleaned the house or walked around the village. She could hardly help herself without causing harm to her. She experienced boredom and was depressed. She is afraid to think about herself just sitting inside the house day after day until her death. She extremely wished that one day she would be able to cook for her family, take care of her grandchildren and move around in the village with her friends. These wish come through with this visit and surgery at CTEH.

CTEH is being supported by cbm since 1997. The hospital directly aims to reduce poverty by providing services that prevent blindness and train health personnel to deliver the needed eye care services in different provincial eye units. The hospital tries to break the barriers by having the services be accessible to the poor by conducting eye screening in remote areas, and provides cost of transportation, food, and other needs as the patients stays at the hospital during the treatment.



As Mrs. Auk Heng prepares to go home with Mr. Sao Choeun her husband and her grandson, she knew that her life will be more fruitful and she feels more confident to move around. She wished that she can have the next operation for her left eye.