

Report of the World Sight Day

12-14 October 2011

One month before the ceremony, we had many tasks to prepare for whole ceremony such as invited to stakeholders and partners, made banners, public radio announcement, informed to each health centers by outreach team, sent email to inform all NGOs and interviewed with Radio Free Asia for public announcement. Further information click on: http://www.2shared.com/document/V_GFqQXJ/IMG_0001_NEW.html;
http://www.2shared.com/audio/Jo_8Y9yC/KHM-2011-1011-2230.html

In the early morning of October 12, 2011 before the opening ceremony begin, we provided eye health education for 30 minutes to all patients how to take care for eye health and available eye services in Cambodia. At the meantime, we also illustrated the purpose of the World Sight Day in order to make them aware about enormous burden eye issues and eye health in the world. This purpose of this event was presented every early morning during event.

When the opening ceremony was started, approximately 400 patients had participated in this ceremony to listen the speech of 4 delegations such as Sr. Myrna, who is the representative of Caritas, gave a speech about the reason of World Sight Day and welcomed to patients, Mr. Ung Sambath, who is the deputy director of Disability Action Council-DAC, gave a speech about disability gender inclusive in Cambodia, Mr. Sim Ang, who is the Deputy Director of Provincial of Social Affairs, gave a speech about disability inclusive and Dr. Hem Sareth, who is Director of Takeo Provincial Health Department, welcomed to all patients and opened the ceremony. Nevertheless, ten relevant health NGOs were also attended. Most of patients were highly concentrated and fascinated to listen and expressed their congratulation every end of speech.

During registration and consultation process, old and new patients have to get different serial number for registration before going to eye examination process by doctors. All patients could get different eye health service such as eye treatment by medicine, eye surgery and refraction service according to doctor's prescription. All patients were gotten warm introduction and well guided by staff before referring to another service. Additionally, food and accommodation were served to admitted patients who are poor by counselor beside consultation and surgery. Takeo Eye Hospital was crowded during three days; nevertheless, staff still happy to dedicate helping patients without any complaints even they didn't have time to rest after lunch. We were curious learning new eye disease and new experience with others either students, nurses or doctor during operations. The other hand, there were three journalists from Catholic Social Communication-(CSC), communication department from Caritas Cambodia and Reaksmie Kapuhea came to make an interview with Mr. Bonn about the purpose of World Sight Day and general management of TEH. Right now, it has been announced in public. We achieved the huge result of 842 patients were consulted and 104 patients were operated during these three days. 82% of patients were cataract (Cataract patients compared to other patients who got surgery). Although the number of eye glasses were high given (155 units) than usual, there were a lot of patients required it in each day of ceremony.

In short, the World Sight Day was spent for three days from 12-14 October 2011 to provide free eye care service to all age population under opening by Dr. Hem Sareth who is director of Takeo health Department. Patients were well managed for registration, consultation and surgery. Thus, we consulted 842 patients and 104 patients were received eye surgery. Having a good communication between staff with patients in all days; furthermore, staff were also happy to complete their tasks in the professional manner.



