



BAIRRO PITÉ CLINIC

Bairro Pite Clinic, Dili, East Timor
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East Timor clinics have been quite crowded by the presence of children from birth to 5 years old attending polio immunization, at every health post, including Dili National Hospital of Guido Valadares.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has launched a national immunisation programme. It goes all day; from 8.00 a.m. until 5.00 p.m., Bairro Pité Clinic is responsible for 24 Health Posts, in two sub-districts. The target number for each health post is 229 children. Some of health posts could not achieve this number. They need to sweep the area for two more days, in order to reach the target, set by the MoH. The Ministry is now very concerned about the situation of children affected by polio disease as well. Indonesia recently launched a massive immunisation campaign aimed against polio aiming to reach 24 million children under the age of five. This resulted from the diagnosis of polio in a 20-month old in Java in March this year. Go to <http://www.polioeradication.org/> for more information about this deadly illness.

Children are the future of the nation. We have a big responsibility towards them, especially their health. To achieve development in our country, we need good human resources. After the third day of searching, we still could not achieve the target number of children.

We had submitted the report, indicating 86% reached, to the MoH. They declared that this second result is much better than our first efforts. The health staffs are highly motivated to conduct the immunizations. The population is more aware and conscious of the problems caused by not immunizing against polio.

American Singer, Paul Simon visited East Timor to make a contribute to the East Timorese, especially in the health area. He also visited the clinic. Besides that, Mr. Paul Simon with some of his friends was planning to visit Hatubuilico, sub district of Ainaro district. Unfortunately, he could not make it due to illness and could not distribute mosquito nets, which had been his vision.

Dr. Daniel just returned to the clinic after spending a couple of weeks in America. He went to visit his family and at the same time to participate in the Graduation Celebration of a Timorese Medical Student. She is Aida Gonçalves. She is studying in America since the referendum, when she was in the third year. She has qualified as a General Practitioner and is planning to come back to East Timor by the middle of September.

Due to Dr. Daniel's absence at the clinic, the Japanese NGO – Frontline has sent a few medical doctors to conduct the consultations along with Dr. Thiha Maung Maung, the Acting Director. They are Dr. Norihiko Kuwayama, Dr. Keiko and Dr. Kauru.

The East Timor Medical Association was established on 26 August 2005. Now we have 54 medical doctors present all around this country. A few are still studying in some countries such as Australia, Portugal, Cuba, Philippines and Indonesia etc.

There are 30 Timorese students currently studying in Cuba. These are the first and second waves of students sent for the development of a medical vocation. Now, the MoH will be sending in total 200 more students to Cuba. The MoH is also playing an important role in the development of our country.

The Government, especially the MoH, chose Cuba due to quite developed level of health there. Cuba ranks seventh in the world in overall healthcare. Both countries would be diminished if, when some of these students fail, they do not need to return to their country but they can choose another specialisation that also related to health.

Two of our workers have left us. They are Flora and Lourenço. Flora now is studying in Singapore and Lourenço in America.

Efrosina, a local volunteer who has been working at the clinic during eight months, is also included in the 200 students. She is quite experienced in healthcare. At the clinic, she is acting as interpreter and as a laboratory technician as well. She has attended a course of TBC Sputum Examination offered by the Australian Caritas lasting two weeks. Eventually, she was chosen to take a full responsibility for the examination. She is not only does the sputum examination in her daily activities, but she also does the smear tests for malaria. She has done a very good job, even comparing to other real laboratory technician that we have. She will leave East Timor by the beginning of September to begin studying medicine for the next six years.

Besides, Efrosina, another volunteer at the clinic named Suzana will leave East Timor for the same scholarship. She has just worked at the clinic, for two months.

We appreciate their invaluable contribution. We hope that Efrosina and her three friends realize their aspiration and succeed in achieving good things. These will not only benefit themselves and their families, but will also contribute to the overall population in a country with serious needs upon their return.

1. Donation Delivery

A Psychologist from America just arrived at the clinic. He brought some medical supplies to help the clinic from our “Clinic Needs” page. He was able to walk them through the customs without any serious problems.

2. Volunteers Development

Volunteers that have left the clinic this month after sharing their experiences with us are Natalie, Rachael, Nikki, Heather, Mary, Fiona, Afric, Ivin, Jason Bae and Dr. Keiko.

The old faces that still present are Leesl, Virginia Dawson, Dr. Thiha Maung Maung, Michael, Jennifer, Greg and Katie.

There are a few new volunteers just arrived: Lauren, Tara Connelly, Jem and her daughter, Bobby (a pre-medical student), a Japanese Medical Doctor, Kauru. She has been coming here since 2003, and now is her third visit to the clinic. Jamie, a Psychologist from America. He contacted last year’s volunteers, Andrew and Blair, who gave outstanding reports about the clinic, encouraging his coming.

Now, we have a total of 13 volunteers that help run the clinic along with the local staff.

3. Patient Record

| Month | General Consultation | Maternity | Post Partum | Family Planning | Immunization | Dental Care | In Patient | Total |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-------------|--|---|-------------|------------|-------|
| June 2005 | 2304 | 569 | 65 | Depo Provera 341 OCP 21 Condom 2 | BCG 134 DPT 212 Measles 55 Polio 86 Tetanus Toxoid 230 Malnutrition 204 | 461 | 100 | 4784 |
| July 2005 | 2336 | 404 | 71 | Depo Provera Injection 280, OCP 14, Condom 6 | BCG 82 DPT 185 Measles 44 Polio 150 Tetanus Toxoid 252 Nutrition Program 637 | 350 | 90 | 4921 |

"WE APPRECIATE ON YOUR CONTRIBUTION"

~~*"WE APPRECIATE ON YOUR CONTRIBUTION"*~~

By : Ana Jeánnie !

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