



BAIRRO PITÉ CLINIC

Bairro Pite Clinic, Dili, East Timor
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A group of seven Brazilian Missionaries arrived at the clinic. They work for an International NGO named [JOCUM](#). The group comprised a dentist, an agriculture engineer, and five university students. Their objective was to provide information regarding individual hygiene and dental problems. And, at the same time to spread word of Jesus Christ presented drama and song. The head of the group is Mr. Fernando. They were in East Timor for one and a half months.

As none of the group spoke fluent English, I assisted translating their Portuguese to Tétum. They are all nice and very polite to everyone. It is not the first time this NGO contribute their favours to us. They have helped us in the past by providing an unpaid English Teacher and a group to assist with cleaning twice a week around the clinic.

An issue that has spread over the territory is concern that now many Timorese have moved to the Protestant faith due to money and materials supplied by the members of Brazilian group. This is the life process. We need to realize that sometimes things need to be change and accept it as a reality but we also need to realize that the impact by changing things can also influence our life in future.

Nowadays, life has changed but I still hardly believe that not all the Timorese will easily change their faith. Who knows what will happen in future. Their presence in our clinic during two weeks does not change anything.

Everything goes normal as usual. People still crowd our clinic confidant of the service we provide. Recently, the clinic has expanded the services in some districts. Besides the three districts out of capital, we have reached Ilimanu and Hatulia. Hatulia is far from Dili requiring an overnight stay at Hatubuilico. We hope by running new Mobile Clinics in these districts we will support the Ministry of Health to maintain health services delivery in our lovely country.

The Ministry of Health had a meeting on 27 October, regarding the establishment of NGO's that run private health services in Dili and surrounding districts.

They have legislated a precondition that all NGO's and every health professionals in the clinics fulfil several requirements. These include;

- Submit a proposal to the Division of Politics and Planning, regarding the establishment of the clinic, pharmacy, kiosk, etc.
- Obtain approval from the MoH,
- Verification or Observation to the Appropriate Place,
- Characteristics of the Division of Rooms,
- Have appropriate Equipments,
- Ensure literacy of every staff
- Local and international staff need to obtain a Health Professionals ID Card,
- Acceptance to Work Permanently

- List additional equipments that needs to be complete as electricity, water, etc
- Provide evidence of legality of property
- Incinerators, etc

This legislation will be implementing start from the beginning of November 2006. Every clinics, health professional and NGO's, are to be register every six months. Fines for failure to do so vary from \$ US 1000 to US \$ 3000.00. If they cannot afford to pay it a prison sentence would be an alternative either at Becora and if it is full, Gleno – Ermera Prison.

1. Approval of Medical Supplies Tax Exemption Request

The Ministry of Health has approved our clinic along with Timor Aid, Katilosa and Clínica da Paz, exemption from tax regarding three containers which arrived from Australia over two years ago.

These goods include the goods donated by Mayne Pharmaceuticals in Perth, which was shipped with the assistance of Rotary Perth from Darwin. These goods have been in limbo for on the Dili wharf for two years because of disputes over import duty. Unfortunately because of the delay, some of the medical goods have perished and no longer usable. But most are still in a useable condition and will be invaluable to the work of the clinic. The exemption that we got from MoH is not to get it free, but the MoH have to pay for all the fees include distributing it to the NGO's mentioned above. The equipments is being kept in at :ahne in the former Portuguese Hospital. The MoH will distribute the equipments for each NGO's just after we submit the Official Memorandum of Understanding between each parts and MoH. We hope that we will get it soon, because we are now in immediate needs regarding to the furniture.

2. Volunteers Development

Volunteers that have left the clinic this month are Greg and Lauren.

Lessl, Shannon, Mary and Simon are still working at the clinic along with the employed officers as Dr. Thiha Maung Maung and Virginia.

Mathew and Rebecca are two volunteers who have recently arrived.

3. General Information

Celeste Soares, the clinic manager has recently taken a decision to do cleaning around the clinic every Sunday. It is done after mass. It used to start at 10.30 am until 4.00 pm. Firstly, every staff cleans their own rooms and finally together they clean around the clinic. At noon, everyone have lunch together providing by the cook of the clinic. They then restart until 4.00 pm.

A medical doctor, previously a volunteer at the clinic, is returning to East Timor. She comes alone and donated some boxes of medical supplies to our clinic. She feels different with recent situation around the clinic. After returned last year to her hometown, she still supports us by send money to help run the clinic. We appreciate on her contribution and we hope she wills always success in her career.

4. Patient Record

Month	General Consultation	Maternity	Post Partum	Family Planning	Immunization	Dental Care	Inpatient	Total
October, 2005	3449	308	40	Pill = 29, Injection = 205	TT1 = 163, TT 2 = 99, BCG = 64, DPT 1 = 86, DPT 3 = 81, Measles = 81,	322	308	5235

5. Great and Sad History

Fatinha Flor, a new Timorese medical doctor graduated from Indonesia, recently arrived at the clinic. She will help for some time along with Aida Gonçalves. We have no official contract yet with them. They will work voluntarily for few months alongside with Dr Dan and Dr Thiha Maung Maung.. They still want to gain experience before plan to work permanently for a clinic or NGO's.

Most of patients diagnosed by malaria were prescribed with Artesunate cannot get this medicine immediately as we have run out of this medicine.

We have met many times with the Head of Central Pharmacy to provide this medicine. Due to the prices, we cannot afford to buy it and it is not on sale in the private pharmacy in our country as yet. If any support is able to assist with a supply of this life-saving medication, our patients will be appreciative.

By : Ana Jeánnie !

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