



Strengthening respiratory care for children in Cambodia


Rich or poor, children in Cambodia have few options for quality respiratory care


In low- and middle-income countries like Cambodia, acute respiratory infections are responsible for **30% to 50% of all paediatric out-patient visits and more than 30% of hospital admissions**. After haematology and neurology, respiratory was our third busiest specialty in 2024.

Our respiratory clinicians operate across several hospital units, including intensive care, oncology, in-patient and out-patient. They intend to grow their capacity by training clinicians across several departments in the usage of new equipment such as the bronchoscope and the spirometer, allowing more children to access this essential care for years to come.



2024 in numbers: Respiratory

 **1,612**
children treated in our paediatric intensive care unit

 **1,751**
children treated for respiratory diseases
(41.32% increase from 2023)



Our response

Established in 2017, we run the only specialised chest clinic for children in Cambodia. While our specialty doctors do a fantastic job of providing quality, compassionate care, we still lack some vital pieces of equipment to diagnose respiratory problems quickly and effectively. We're currently seeking support to purchase a bronchoscope and a spirometer to give our clinicians the tools they need to accurately diagnose many lung conditions.

Our team is trained and ready to treat more childhood lung conditions, improving their ability to breathe.



"I've been mentoring AHC's respiratory specialists since 2017. They're the only paediatric respiratory specialists in the country and they're ready to advance their care."

Thank you so much for your support in getting the team the right equipment to begin!"

Dr Michael Wall
Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics
Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital
AHC respiratory volunteer

What is a spirometer?

A spirometer is a vital piece of equipment that allows doctors to quickly identify abnormal ventilation patterns, including both obstructive and restrictive. This equipment allows physicians to measure the amount of air that a child can breathe out in one second and the total volume of air that can be exhaled in one breath.

Spirometers can be used to quickly diagnose asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other conditions affecting the ability to breathe. Doctors may also use a spirometer to diagnose certain chronic lung conditions that might require life-long care.

We're so grateful for your continual dedication and support for the health of children in Cambodia. With the purchase of a spirometer, you could continue saving and improving the lives of countless children in Cambodia.



Thank you so much for your consideration.