## WFWP Cambodia Brings Vital Healthcare Services to Ponhea Kraek District

Masumi Schmittat December 5, 2024



For the past 15 years, a Japanese medical group has been dedicated to improving healthcare in Cambodia. Recently, in collaboration with WFWP Cambodia, they implemented a medical outreach project in Ponhea Kraek District, Tbong Khmom Province - their first initiative in this location.

The two-day program, held under the auspices of the Royal School of Administration (Ministry of Civil Service), was a joint effort involving the Ponhea Kraek District and Popel Commune. The Vice-Governor of the district, local referral hospitals, police, a youth organization, and other stakeholders actively supported the program. Their collective efforts enabled the team to provide free medical treatment to 1,088 patients. The local authorities widely promoted the project to reach underserved individuals who otherwise could not afford hospital visits, resulting in an impressive turnout.

## **Comprehensive Medical Care for the Community**

The medical team comprised 10 specialists, including experts in general internal medicine, diabetes, psychiatry, and acupuncture, as well as six pharmacists and six nurses. The most common health issues treated were hypertension, diabetes, muscle pain, and insomnia caused by excessive stress. Local medical professionals also addressed cases of infectious diseases prevalent in Cambodia, highlighting the project's critical role in combating both chronic and acute health challenges.



## **Empowering Collaboration and Community Involvement**

A key highlight of the initiative was the active cooperation of the district authorities and community members. With departments working together, participants took pride in contributing to a project that benefited society. Many young people were recruited through local youth organizations, providing them with valuable insights into the region's healthcare challenges and an opportunity to serve others.

This dual impact - offering vital medical care to those in need while fostering new experiences and awareness among service providers - underscored the program's broader social benefits.

## Addressing Lifestyle Diseases and Building Sustainable Solutions

As lifestyle-related illnesses such as hypertension and diabetes continue to rise in the region, the project emphasized the need for sustainable, long-term solutions. Beyond immediate treatments, the initiative sought to engage local medical professionals in ongoing dialogue and collaboration to strengthen healthcare infrastructure and promote preventive care.

The program not only provided critical medical services but also set a foundation for continued efforts to address underlying health issues in the region. By combining medical expertise with local engagement, the project aims to create a lasting impact on community health in Cambodia.