

Empowering Lives Through Equitable Healthcare Access in Cambodia

Japan Heart, an international medical NGO established in 2004, has dedicated itself to providing free healthcare to underserved communities in ASEAN countries, including Cambodia, Myanmar, and Laos. Our mission aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in promoting health and well-being, reducing inequalities, and fostering sustainable development through local empowerment.

Addressing Critical Gaps in Pediatric Healthcare

In Cambodia, the survival rate for pediatric cancers is alarmingly low at approximately 20%, compared to 80% in developed nations. This disparity stems from a lack of advanced medical infrastructure, limited access to skilled professionals, and socio-economic barriers. To tackle this challenge, Japan Heart launched the Pediatric Cancer Treatment Center in 2016, providing free medical care, training local healthcare providers, and creating a sustainable model for addressing these urgent needs.

New Hospital Project in Cambodia: Transforming Healthcare Access

To further address the growing demand for equitable and advanced medical care, Japan Heart is constructing the Japan Heart Asia Children's Medical Center in Takmau, Kandal Province, near Phnom Penh, scheduled to open in October 2025. This state-of-the-art hospital will feature 200 beds, four operating rooms, and advanced pediatric departments, including surgery, oncology, neonatology, and intensive care.

Key Objectives and Impacts

The Japan Heart Cambodia project has been guided by several core values and principles of social impact in the creation and implementation of its pediatric cancer treatment solution.

1. Increase in Patient Reach:

The current pediatric treatment center serves only about 5% of children in need. The new hospital will significantly expand capacity, enabling us to treat a larger number of patients from Cambodia and neighboring countries such as Myanmar and Laos.

2. Empowering Local Medical Professionals:

The hospital will serve as a training hub for Cambodian and regional healthcare providers,

offering hands-on experience with advanced technologies and practices. By empowering local medical staff, we aim to create a sustainable healthcare ecosystem.

3. Equitable Access to Care:

The hospital will provide free treatment to children from low-income families while employing a means-tested system where wealthier patients contribute to subsidizing care for disadvantaged individuals.

4. Collaboration for Regional Impact:

In partnership with the Cambodian government, we plan to establish a "special medical zone" to ensure seamless access to care for patients across ASEAN.

A Holistic Approach to Pediatric Care

The Japan Heart Asia Children's Medical Center will go beyond medical treatment, offering comprehensive support for patients and their families. From psychological counseling to nutrition programs, we aim to address the diverse challenges faced by children battling cancer and other critical illnesses.

Sustainability Through Local Empowerment

Our approach emphasizes training local healthcare professionals in advanced pediatric treatments, fostering long-term sustainability. By building local capacity, we ensure that Cambodia and its neighboring countries can independently address their healthcare challenges in the future.

A Vision for the Future

Japan Heart envisions a future where every child, regardless of socio-economic status or geographic location, has access to life-saving medical care. Our new hospital in Cambodia will serve as a beacon of hope for children and families across Southeast Asia, reducing healthcare disparities and fostering a healthier, more equitable society.

Call for Support

We believe the iF Social Impact Prize can play a pivotal role in helping us achieve this vision.

With your support, we can complete this transformative project and bring quality healthcare to thousands of children in need.

New Hospital Project in Cambodia (scheduled to open in 2025)

Hospital Overview

Hospital Name	Japan Heart Asia Children's Medical Center
Target	Pediatric solid tumors: As the most advanced medical care hospital in the Kingdom of Cambodia, provide advanced medical care to eligible patients from all walks of life, from the wealthy to the poor. Other diseases: Provide free advanced medical care mainly to poor patients who cannot receive appropriate treatment.
Location	Takmau, Kandal Province, Kingdom of Cambodia (near Phnom Penh) <On the premises of Chey Chunmeas Referral Hospital >
Scheduled opening date	2025 October
Number of beds	Approx. 200 beds
Number of operating rooms	4
Total floor area	Approx. 7,000-8000m ²
Departments	Pediatric General Medicine, Pediatric Surgery, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Pediatric Intensive Care, Neonatology, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Pediatric Urology, Pediatric Plastic Surgery

Appendix

Learn more about the new hospital: [\[Japan Heart New Hospital Project\]](#) -Full Version-

Image of the new hospital



The ward will be a three-story building with 200 beds, comparable to those in pediatric specialty hospitals in Japan.

Images of Japan Heart's activities in Cambodia

Paediatric Cancer Treatment



Gynecology and Obstetrics



Mobile Clinics



Scholarship Program

