

WHO WE ARE

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CSC aims to improve the quality of life for disabled poor people in Cambodia by providing surgery for hearing, visual and orthopedic disabilities. Integral to this mission is a program of training local surgeons and health workers, focusing on the development of sustainable surgical services for Cambodians. CSC has become a mentoring organization for healthcare providers throughout Cambodia, training surgeons, nurses, and other health workers to care for Cambodians. Eighty percent of Cambodia is still rural, with truly impoverished people and little access to healthcare. We offer the option of our CSC staff to transfer their talents to other settings and organizations to accelerate the level of healthcare provided in the country.

Whatever you can give, please know we are grateful to receive it! Please consider signing up to give us a monthly gift, it makes a huge difference to our community. Even just a donation of \$10 goes a long way! Thank you for your continued support and helping us through what has become a challenging year. Please visit

[**donate-to-csc**](#)

A Letter from our CEO, Dr. Jim Gollogly

Surviving the COVID Pandemic

CSC has struggled over the past year to maintain enough revenue to keep the hospital running. Monthly donations dropped 90% over the past 12 months, and Phnom Penh was under lockdown for several of those months. The CSC Board made the difficult decision to start asking patients to pay a small portion of their estimated care to have CSC survive the pandemic. If the patients cannot pay, we still give them care, just as before.

The CSC surgical volume decreased during the pandemic just like in other hospitals in Cambodia as fear of catching Covid in hospitals took hold: approximately 1500 total surgical procedures were performed in 2021 as compared to 2666 in 2020, and 3900 in 2019 before the pandemic started.

The **ENT Department** has done less surgery, but they have managed to improve their skills in audiology. For the past year, they have been working with the University of Melbourne doing distance learning. Dr. Davy and staff had their first success with a hearing aid on a 13-year-old boy who had bilateral hearing loss since he was 5 years old. He suffered from delayed speech, and poor communication with his family. People in his family would get angry with him because he could not hear well and got confused in conversation. He was lonely and never spoke. At school, he could not follow the teachers and failed first grade. After receiving his hearing aid, he can now hear much better and is doing well in school. He may still need surgery but is working with our speech therapist to improve his language skills. *CONTINUED ON P. 2*



Children's Surgical Centre (INGO), P.O. Box 1060, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (National Rehabilitation Centre, Kien Khleang, Route 6A, Chroy Changvar, Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
Tel/Fax: +855 23 430 202–Email: info@csc.org or childrens.surgical.centre.pp@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.csc.org/>

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CHILDREN'S SURGICAL CENTRE

Our **Brachial Plexus Injury (BPI)** program has been very gratifying; we are the only hospital in Cambodia that performs this complex surgery. The brachial plexus is a nerve network that transmits signals from the spinal cord to the shoulder, arm, and hand. Injuries to this nerve network can result in loss of function and sensation. Patients suffer from lack of shoulder movement and cannot bend their elbows and use their hands normally; they often are very depressed that they cannot work and support their family. After surgery, they work with the physiotherapist to slowly increase strength and flexibility as the nerves regenerate, which may not be seen for several months, but most of them can slowly begin to use their arms again and find some suitable work, and the requests for amputations have disappeared.

We are looking forward to a better 2022 and hope to be doing surgeries more or less like before. Cambodia has dropped quarantine requirements, which we know will enable our visiting surgeons to return as many have already booked to come back. The French maxillo-facial team, led by Dr. Fred Lauwers, came for two weeks in December 2021. The CSC teams performed more than 40 surgeries for needy Cambodians. People whom they had treated before wanted to see them again or have something else done, and there was a good turnout as fear of catching Covid in hospitals is disappearing. Thank you for your continued support and helping us through what has been a challenging year.

Dr. Jim

Children's Surgical Centre releases new videos

We are proud to share several videos created last fall by Ian Wiggins. These videos showcase how the CSC staff makes a difference in the lives of Cambodians who need rehabilitative surgery.

- [Cataract Surgery](#)
- [ENT Surgery](#)
- [Brachial Plexus Repair Surgery](#)
- [Cleft Lip Surgery](#)
- [Hip Replacement Post-Op Care](#)

CONTACT US! info@csc.org or visit our website and donate [HERE](#)

