

WHEN ANTIBIOTIC OPTIONS RUN OUT



Two-year-old Solkin was not getting better. After almost two weeks of antibiotic treatment his symptoms of diarrhea and dehydration continued to get worse. It was only after travelling hours to the Angkor Hospital

for Children in Cambodia that it was confirmed his infection was resistant to the available antibiotics he had received.

In Angkor, Solkin was prescribed meropenem, an antibiotic provided through HPIC, generally given when other antibiotics fail to help. After three days, Solkin's fever had reduced and his symptoms were under control. Within a week, Solkin completed his course of treatment and was happily discharged, returning to his home in Battambang.

HPIC partners with hospitals like Angkor around the world to provide lifesaving treatments to kids like Solkin — ensuring the options for healing do not run out.

WHEN STORMS COME: RESPONDING TO CYCLONE IDAI

This spring, one of the worst tropical storms ever recorded slammed into the southeast coast of Africa. Cyclone Idai caused severe damage in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi, taking the lives of over 1,300 people and leaving many more injured.

HPIC's financial and pharmaceutical partners immediately responded to the need, and over the course of the spring and summer, medicine arrived in our distribution centre. HPIC responded with Humanitarian Medical Kits, airlifting 4 skids of medicine, which were easily carried into disaster areas or used to restock clinics and hospitals. Two 20-foot containers full of hygiene products for sanitization and personal care were sent, one to Mozambique and one to Malawi. Working with partners on the ground in all three countries, offering support to several more, HPIC made sure all our contacts were safe and had access to medicine.

Months after the disaster, HPIC continues to support the area. A 40-foot container of medicine will be shipped at the end of the summer for areas where the supply of medicine has been interrupted.

LEARNING FROM PARTNERS IN ZIMBABWE



Dr. Peter Agwa, a surgeon and physician from Kenya, is the Executive Director of EMAS Canada. HPIC partners with EMAS to provide medicine all over Africa and central and south America, with the shared goal of self-sustaining community development through short-term missions.

This past summer, Dr. Agwa visited the Gutu Mission Hospital where his team worked with local physicians to treat patients and stock the hospital pharmacy with HPIC medicine. While there, a

drought in Zimbabwe and a shortage of electricity and fuel only made the work more difficult.

Zimbabwe has faced decades of harsh economic conditions — but the local surgeons have learned how to adapt. Dr. Agwa learned from his colleagues in-country, watching as they conserved and collected water for pre-op scrubbing, proving that everyone has something to teach and to learn.

HPIC RESPONDS TO EMERGENCIES IN 2019

- 90 Humanitarian Medical Kits were sent to Iraqi Kurdistan to be distributed to hospitals, clinics and Syrian refugee camps
- 11 bulk skids of medicine were airlifted to an internally displaced peoples camp in northern Nigeria, providing over 11,000 treatments to the area
- In response to the Cyclone Idai emergency:
 - 32 Humanitarian Medical Kits were sent to Zimbabwe
 - A 20-foot container of hygiene supplies and 15 Humanitarian Medical Kits were sent to Mozambique
 - A 20-foot container of hygiene supplies was sent to Malawi
- 10 Humanitarian Medical Kits were sent to Venezuela as part of HPIC's emergency response
- Over \$2 million worth of medical aid was sent as emergency response

BUILDING A PATIENT RELATIONSHIP IN HONDURAS



On her morning walk from her hotel in Honduras to the clinic, Ontario registered nurse Marcella Veenman-Mulder met a blind woman. She noticed the woman had a bandage on her leg that was wrapped too tightly. Gently touching her shoulder, Marcella invited the woman to the clinic, insisting she have her leg examined.

Marcella works with Medical Ministry International (MMI), volunteering for two weeks at a time in the developing world. She always brings a Humanitarian Medical Kit from HPIC to provide essential medicine and supplies to care for her patients.

The woman Marcella met on the road had been injured five years ago. To treat her wound, she was opening antibiotic capsules and sprinkling the medicine on the surface of her skin. No one explained these pills should be taken orally.

Each day the woman came into the clinic and Marcella cleaned and rebandaged her wound. After four days of proper treatment and care, the woman's leg looked much better.

The team left their patient with a month's worth of supplies, educated her on how to care for the wound and helped her purchase a new bed, some cheese and milk. Marcella will never forget her special patient who showed up each day and asked, "Marcellita, is that you?"

OTHER NEWS OF HEALTH AND HOPE

- On June 10th, HPIC hosted a delegation of local MPPs for a busy and engaging morning packing Humanitarian Medical Kits in support of our important work.
- 180 Newborn Incentive Kits were packed as part of HPIC's maternal and child health project in Kenya. The kits will be given to pregnant women as an incentive to encourage them to seek skilled healthcare during pregnancy and delivery. These kits include a warm blanket, baby clothing, soap and other supplies to help mothers give their babies a good start.
- HPIC engaged with over 100 AstraZeneca pharmaceutical employees who packed 250 Personal Hygiene Kits. These kits were sent to internally displaced peoples camps in northern Nigeria to meet the need for hygiene and personal care.
- HPIC staff just came back from the field after visiting professional and committed partners in Ghana where we are implementing mother and child health projects, and Benin where we support mental healthcare.
- In Ghana, 40 community healthcare workers were trained in the diagnosis and treatment of common childhood illnesses of children under five. The trained CBAs will carry backpacks of HPIC supplies and medications, visit households, give health advice, and provide treatments for sick children of families with difficulty accessing health facilities.



AID AFTER THE WORST FLOODING IN A CENTURY

Peni is a day labourer for hire in Kerala, a state on the southeastern tip of India. She cleans houses, sells coconuts and works in the rice paddies during harvest season. Last August, when Kerala faced the worst flooding in over a century after a summer of high rainfalls, Peni took shelter at a government relief camp located in the city of Changanassery.

Thankfully, HPIC was able to work with the government of Kerala to send medicine and medical supplies to camps like the one where Peni found refuge. While there, Peni was treated by a physician and received medication to control her high cholesterol.

After the flooding subsided, Peni was able to return home and go back to work. She conveyed her deepest appreciation and blessed everyone who assisted the relief effort, saying, "I will pray for all your health and well-being, just as you cared for mine."

HPIC WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT MARCELLE MCPHADEN



HPIC is indebted to Denis St. Amour, now retiring, who served intermittently as a board member since 1992 prior to taking up the role as President in 2015.

Marcelle began as a volunteer with HPIC in 2005, assisting with the Indian Ocean tsunami emergency response. She quickly joined the staff and worked with HPIC's pharmaceutical donors as the Director of Product Planning until 2009. Returning to the

organization in 2017, most recently as the Senior Director of Healthcare Relations and Programs, Marcelle continues to build strong partnerships in every area of HPIC's impact.

Marcelle has dedicated her career to national and international healthcare and system improvement. She worked as a clinician and a hospital manager. She has experience in the pharmaceutical industry and facilitated assessments of health professional training programs and health facilities. As a volunteer, Marcelle serves on the board of two health and social service agencies.

Marcelle's experience is extensive. She carries the knowledge of HPIC and the many collaborative partnerships required to provide patient care and create lasting change. Marcelle's leadership will strengthen HPIC as we enter our 30th year.

Your gift of health and hope changes lives. Every new donation you give before December 31st will be matched up to a total of \$75,000. Be part of our Perfect Match campaign and double your impact now.