

REPORT

Pilot project on improving quality of oral health service at four health centres

(The 1st 3-month: August, September and October)

The pilot project on improving quality of oral health service at health centres (HCs) was received support from Aide Odontologique Internationale (AOI) since the beginning of 2005. The project proposal was developed in January by Oral Health Office (OHO) staff and reviewed few times under guidance of Dr. Francois Courtel, country director of AOI Cambodia. In July 2005, AOI released budget to implement the project for four HCs in two provinces: two HCs in Battambang and two HCs in Prey Veng.

1- Project Goal

To pilot an activities as model on improving the quality of oral health services at four health centres.

2- Target location

Four HCs were selected to pilot the project:

- Two HCs in Battambang province: HC Chamkar Samrong (OD Battambang) and HC Prek Luong (OD Sanke).
- Two HCs in Prey Veng province: HC Rong Damrey (OD Neak Loeung) and HC Popoeus (OD Prey Veng).

3- Project implementation

- On the 7th July 2005, OHO received budget from Dr. Francois Courtel in total amount of US\$ 3632. The budget was spent on dental equipment and instruments in total of US\$ 2260 and on dental supplies for 3 months (August, September and October) in total of US\$ 652 ([Annex 1](#)). The other expenses were spent on travelling to choose study site and to do pre-evaluation.
- On the 11th -12th July 2005, OHO staffs travelled to Battambang province to meet with provincial health directors for explaining and discussing about the project. The provincial dentist in charge of oral health promotion provided information about the oral health activities at HCs. Two HCs at different OD were selected to be the study site. After the meeting, OHO staffs travelled to the selected HCs to do pre-evaluation. During the pre-evaluation, list of existed dental instruments and equipments were recorded ([Annex 2](#)). Dental nurses who are working at those HCs were asked about their willingness to joint the project. After that, the staff of OHO conducted an interview with them to find out about their perception and opinion regarding their oral health activities at their HCs ([Annex 3](#)). In addition, the project team also did the evaluation of the cleanliness of environment and checklist on cross infection control. Some pictures were taken at the pre-evaluation.
- On the 14th -16th July 2005, OHO staffs were traveled to Prey Veng province and the same procedure was conducted as above step.

- Dental chairs, instruments and supplies were purchased at the dental instrument's shop in Phnom Penh.
- On the 20th -22th July 2005, OHO staffs were traveled to Battambang to provided dental chair, instruments and supplied (for 3 months: August, Sept, and Oct) to selected HCs (**Annex 4**). DNs at two selected HCs were instructed to record OH services provided in the special form (**Annex 5**).
- On the 25th -27th July 2005, OHO staffs were traveled to Prey Veng to provided dental chair, instruments and supplied to selected HCs. The same instruction was made for the DNs at the selected HCs.

The first 3-months period of the project was finish. The follow up activities will be conducted at the end of October 2005.

4- Results of the pre-evaluation

4.1- Questionnaire

- All four HCs had a dental nurse provide oral care services. At present, all of them are working as bi-functional nurse.
- HCs situate about 15 km from the nearest referral hospital.
- Generally, if they received dental materials from MoH, they could see about three dental patients daily. However, when they run out of dental materials, one HC would buy dental materials from market.
- Only HC Chamkar Samrong has separate room for oral health service.
- All DNs said that some people in their community knew them well as dental nurses.
- The main barrier perceived by DNs is not enough dental instruments, materials, supplies for service delivery. They also mentioned about the budget support for educational materials and traveling to conduct oral health prevention and promotion at schools and communities.
- When asked about their opinion for getting support, they requested some oral health educational materials such as posters, flip-charts, OH brochures, toothpaste, toothbrush for prevention and promotion program.
- They are strongly willing to do OH activities at their HCs. They expected that if they received enough dental instruments and materials, the OH activities will be improved in the future.
- 3 DNs provided oral health service outside their working place to generate their income.

4.2-Existed dental instruments

- Most dental instruments are in poor condition.
- HC Chamkar Samrong has very few dental instruments and they are very poor condition. This HC is the most active HC compared with others.
- Dental instrument at HC Rong Domrey are in good condition and has more instrument then other HCs.
- Dental supplies were not available at the HCs at present.

4.3- Checklist for Cross Infection Control

- On observation, rooms, floors are fair, dusty
- All four HCs have a pressure cooker. However, most of them in very poor condition so sometimes DN had to boil instruments in water or burning with alcohol. On the other hand, they had very few instrument so in case that patients come and wait, they had to burn with alcohol.

5- Annexes

5.1- Annex 1

Dental instruments

S.N	Description	Quantity	Unit price (US\$)	Sub-total (US\$)
1	Dental Chair (China)	04	215	860
2	Dental forceps	28	15	420
3	Elevators	20	05	100
4	Metal cartridge syringe	08	25	200
5	Flat trays	40	02	80
6	Mirror handles	24	02	48
7	Mouth mirrors	04 dozen	12	48
8	Tweezers	20	03	60
9	Dental explorers	20	02	40
10	Excavators	12	05	60
11	Cement spatula	04	05	20
12	Mixing spatula	04	05	20
13	Hand scalers (Post/Ante)	16	04	64
14	Pressure cooker	04	60	240
Total:				2260

Dental Supplies

S.N	Description	Quantity	Unit price (US\$)	Sub-total (US\$)
1	L.A	16 boxes	12	192
2	Dental disposable needles	12 boxes	06	72
3	GIC	08 boxes	25	200
4	Cotton	12 rolls	03	36
5	Gloves	12 boxes	03	36
6	Mask	12 boxes	05	60
7	Eugenol	08 bottles	05	40
8	Oxide de Zinc	08 packs	02	16
Total:				652

5.2- Annex 2

List of dental instruments existed at HC

Name of HC:

Pre-evaluation:

OD:

Post-evaluation:

Province:

Date:

s.n	Items	Quantity	Condition			Remarks
			Good	Fair	Poor	
	Examination set					
	Mouth mirror					
	Dental explorer					
	Tweezers					
	Flat tray					
	ART set					
	Spoon excavator (S)					
	Spoon excavator (M)					
	Spoon excavator (L)					
	Chisel					
	Mixing spatula					
	Filling and carving spatula					
	Forceps					
	Upper molar L & R					
	Upper universal					
	Upper incisor					
	Upper root					
	Lower molar					
	Lower universal					
	Lower incisor					
	Lower root					
	Cow horn					
	Elevators					
	Straight elevator S					
	Straight elevator M					
	Straight elevator L					
	Crayer elevators (L&R)					
	Others					
	Metal cartridge syringe					
	Instrument tray with cover					
	Instrument forceps					
	Instrument forceps container					
	Posterior scaler					
	Inferior scaler					
	Scissor					
	Scapel handle					
	Dental chair					
	Pressure cooker					

5.3- Annex 3

Questionnaire for pre-evaluation at Health Centre

Date :

1. Name of Health Centre: OD: Province:
2. Name of dental nurse:
3. Age (Date of birth):
4. Gender: M F
5. Month/Year of graduation: Course:
6. How far is it from your working place to the nearest referral hospital? km
7. How many dental patients do you usually see each working day?:pts
8. How many dental patients did you see yesterday?:pts
9. Where is the major source for your supplies?
10. How regularly do you get supplies?
11. Do you have a separate room for dental treatment? Yes , No
12. Do you have dental chair/table? Yes , No
13. Does the manager (PHD, district and health center directors) support your dental activities? Yes , No
14. Do you have a good relationship with your local dentist at the district or provincial hospital? Yes , No
15. Do you provide dental care outside your working place? Yes , No
16. Does the community know you well as a dental nurse? Yes , No
17. Do you perceive any barriers to your ability to deliver dental care? Yes , No
18. What kinds of barriers? please describe:
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19. What would you like to recommend for supporting your oral care activities?
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20. If we provide you essential instrument and supplies, do you think that oral health activities in this health centre will be improved?
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5.4- Annex 4

List of instrument and supplies provided

Health centre: OD:Province:

Date:.....

S.N	Items	Quantity	Remarks
I	Instruments		
1	Dental chair	1	
2	Pressure cooker	1	
3	Examination set (mirror, explorer, tweezers)	6 sets	Mirror handle=6 Mirror = 12
4	Flat trays	10	
5	Dental forceps (include 7 forceps)		
	- upper molar	1	
	- upper universal	1	
	- upper root	1	
	- cowhorn	1	
	- lower molar	1	
	- lower universal	1	
	- lower root	1	
6	Elevators		
	- straight elevators (S,M,L tip)	3	
	- cryer elevators (L&R)	1 set	
7	ART instrument set	1 set	
	- excavator	3	
	- cement carver spatula	1	
	- mixing spatula	1	
8	Dental cartridge syringes	2	
9	Anterior scaler	2	
10	Posterior scaler	2	
II	Supplies (for 3 months: Aug, Sept and Oct)		
1	LA	200 cart.	
2	Disposable dental needles	300	
3	GIC (Fuji IX)	2 boxes	
4	Cotton	3 rolls	
5	Masks	3 boxes	
6	Gloves	3 boxes	
7	Eugenol	2 bottles	
8	Oxide de Zinc	2 packs	

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