An outreach medical program to help the underprivileged children

On 3-5 May 2013, a group of doctors from KKH and medical students from Duke-NUS collaborated with Citramas Foundation, local hospital (RS Budi Kemuliaan) and Indonesian Red Cross to conduct pediatrics health screening to the less privileged children in Batam, Indonesia. This program was started in 2007. The aims are to assess developmental milestones and general health of children under five years old. In 2 days, we screened 1186 children.

Program schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03-05-13</td>
<td>04-05-13</td>
<td>05-05-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrived in Batam</td>
<td>610 children were screened.</td>
<td>576 children were screened.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final preparation</td>
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<td>Back to Singapore</td>
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What did we do?

Initially, local doctors assessed the children at triage station. Subsequently, medical students assessed the children’s growth and development by plotting their heights and weights on growth chart. A team of pediatricians from KKH further examined the children, some of who were referred to local hospitals or polyclinics for further follow up.

Written by Maria Noviani
Isabelle (MS3) and Maria (MS2) - team leaders -

To live is to love and to live is to give.
There is no word to express how satisfying it is to work together as a team to help the less fortunate and see their lovely smiles.

William (MS1):
As a first year medical student, it was an absolute privilege for me to work alongside and learn from my senior students, KKH pediatricians, and local Indonesian health workers. The trip was truly an enlightening and rewarding experience that highlights the invaluable influence of such community health service projects.

Chester (MS2):
"It's always immense joy to learn while you serve the community. But at the end of the day, what I remember most from the trip may not be the Bahasa or the Pediatric knowledge, but rather the smiles of the kids and the many "thank-you" from the grateful moms."

Connie (MS3):
"A fine example of teamwork where doctors, students and translators of different nationalities come together to bring healthcare to the patients who need them. Pediatrics Health Screening @ Batam is hands down one of the most enriching experience I have ever had!"

Udayan (MD/PhD):
“I am very grateful for the opportunity to participate in this year’s screening. Having been away in research for two years, it was refreshing to be able to contribute in some way to clinical activities. I think it is especially useful for MD-PhD students like me because it is an opportunity for re-invigoration; we are able to put faces to the diseases we research at the bench, thus it serves as an important reminder that there is a great urgency and need for continued medical research for communities all around the world.”