

TEAM

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A more detailed report can be downloaded from www.neo-for-namibia.org

MISSION REPORT 2023-1

SHORT VERSION

January 27 to February 25, 2023

Mission goals

- To assess progress made at Katima Hospital under the guidance of Dr. Cristy Victor and to prepare for the introduction of MTTS Dolphin® CPAP devices
- To evaluate the current organization of the Prem Unit at Rundu State Hospital after the arrival of additional medical officers (MOs) and interns
- To assess the neonatology units at both Swakopmund Hospital and Walvis Bay Hospital for possible support by NEO FOR NAMIBIA – Helping Babies Survive

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Hospitals visited

- Katima Hospital
- Rundu State Hospital
- Swakopmund and Walvis Bay Hospitals

Scenes from the Kavango River near the Kaisosi River Lodge.



Katima Hospital

The Neonatal Unit is kept very clean, and Dr. Cristy Victor and her nurses try to deliver the best possible care. Suggestions made on our previous missions are largely followed.

The Neonatal Unit at Katima Hospital is kept very clean, and the local medical staff deliver the best possible care.





The Pumani® device is robust and easy to service; this makes the machine very suitable for low-resource settings.





It only takes a screwdriver: servicing, and occasionally repairing a Pumani[®] CPAP device is simple.



Mobile X-ray has again become available in Katima: discussing X-ray findings with Dr. Cristy Victor.

Rundu State Hospital

The Prem Unit at Rundu State
Hospital continued to be extremely busy.
Fortunately, the number of physicians
had finally been increased: next to
Dr. Kamara and Dr. Beukes, six additional
medical officers (MOs) had joined the
Pediatrics team.

Prof. Berger on rounds with one of the interns assigned to the Department of Pediatrics at Rundu State Hospital; Job was trained in Russia, eager to learn but still requiring a lot of supervision.



Insertion of an umbilical venous catheter (UVC) by an intern under the supervision of a medical officer: sterile precautions are clearly inadequate.

Equipment

Since the introduction of the MTTS Dolphin® CPAP machines, Pumani® bubbleCPAP devices are only used as back-up.

The malfunctioning MTTS Dolphin® CPAP machines were disassembled and shipped to John Namwira's office in Ondangwa for repair.









The locally made wall-mounted brackets for the Masimo® Rad-G pulse oximeters are installed in the Prem Unit at Rundu State Hospital.



Erongo region

Invited by Dr. Helvi Joel, a pediatrician from the Erongo region of Namibia, the team for the first time visited both Swakopmund Hospital and Walvis Bay Hospital. Dr. Joel and the Chief Medical Officers at both Hospitals went out of their way to show us their facilities.

The new neonatology unit (grey building in the background) has remained unfinished for months; it is now supposed to open in May 2023.





Pumani[®] bubbleCPAP training at Swakopmund Hospital: explaining the basics of the device.





Visiting our African friends

As always, it was a pleasure to meet our African friends in their homes.

Moruru (left) still could not find a job and continues to live under most dire conditions; and yet he smiles.

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