

Facts and figures for the year 2016

5,524

Children with cancer accessed improved services

3,800

Healthcare Professionals accessed training opportunities

4,465

Children newly diagnosed with cancer at programme hospitals

Highlights from our programme partners:



Ghana

Location: Korle Bu Teaching Hospital (KBTH), Accra

Medical Leads: Prof Lorna Renner & Dr Cathy Segbefia

Twinning Partner Hospital: Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh

Programme Start Date: November 2010

- A bead-making income generation project was established at KBTH which allows mothers of patients to acquire a new skill and raise funds for treatment costs.
- Advocacy efforts with policy makers have resulted in an agreement to re-assess the inclusion of childhood cancer drugs into the health insurance scheme.
- Succession planning is under-way, with two doctors receiving specialist training overseas in paediatric oncology.
- UK AID funded key activities in Ghana, including awareness events to raise the profile of childhood cancer in the community.
- A new satellite centre, in Tamale (northern Ghana) was brought into the network, with the aim of improving access to diagnosis for some of the most vulnerable children.



Myanmar

Location: Yangon Children's Hospital, Yangon

Medical Lead: Dr Aye Aye Khaing

Twinning Partner Hospitals:

Guy's & St Thomas', London & Dana Farber / Boston Children's Hospital

Programme Start Date: July 2014

- Education for nurses is progressing with trainers from Boston, including capacity building opportunities for staff from Mandalay Children's Hospital.
- The pathology team at YCH have been receiving specialist support from experts in London, tackling the problem of missed and delayed diagnosis.
- A new hospital school was opened in the paediatric oncology department, to enable children to access academic and play education during treatment.
- A partnership with The Amelia Project is ensuring that partial transport costs are covered for some patients to travel to and from hospital for appointments.
- Work with satellite centres in the region has been explored, and advocacy efforts will result in a National Cancer Control Plan highlighting children's needs
- Training has commenced for frontline health workers around the country, in an effort to improve diagnosis and referral rates to YCH.





Malawi

Location: Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH), Blantyre

Medical Lead: Dr George Chagaluka & Professor Elizabeth Molyneux

Twinning Partner Hospitals: RVI Newcastle & VUMC Amsterdam

Project Start Date: January 2009

- New treatment protocols were introduced for more complex tumours, expanding on the care that can be provided for patients at QECH.
- More than 1,500 children attended out-patient appointments on the ward, highlighting the need for expansion which would provide adequate space for all patients.
- The government has funded two nurses for the ward, who are undergoing training with the experienced nursing staff.
- Survival rates for Burkitt lymphoma and Wilms' tumour continue to improve.
- There is a growing interest in paediatric oncology amongst junior doctors, providing future opportunities for succession planning.



Philippines

Location: South Philippines Medical Centre (SPMC), Davao City, Mindanao

Medical Lead: Dr Mae Dolendo

Twinning Partner Hospitals: St Jude, USA & University Hospital Singapore

Programme Start Date: November 2009

- A new satellite centre has been opened on Mindanao, to further improve access to treatment for more children in the region.
- Facilities within the network have been renovated and improved due to the support of government and hospital administrators.
- A new 50-bed cancer unit has been opened at SPMC, with the infrastructure to provide quality care for more children in Davao.
- Regular training opportunities are strengthening the satellite network teams, producing dedicated and skilful nurses around the country.
- Patient numbers are increasing through improved diagnosis and referrals from satellite centres as well as increased awareness activities in the community.



Cameroon

Location: Mutengene Baptist Hospital, Banso Baptist Hospital, Mbingo Baptist Hospital

Medical Leads: Dr Francine Kouya / Professor Peter Hesselning

Twinning Partner Hospital: Stellenbosch University / Tygerberg Children's Hospital, SA & Leeds General Infirmary, UK

Programme Start Date: January 2012

- A new twinning partnership was agreed with Leeds General Infirmary (UK) to provide increased support and training opportunities for healthcare staff in Cameroon.
- Palliative care nurse Joel Kaah made 122 home visits in 2016 and continued to reach children in remote settings who would otherwise have been without care.
- Construction began on a new hostel for patients and families to give them a safe place to stay at Mbingo hospital and reduce the need for travelling back and forth.
- Patients no longer have to pay for diagnostic or management costs, and nutritional support is provided to families through the programme. Additional support is provided for the most vulnerable families who cannot afford any treatment costs.
- Long-term follow-up of patients has shown that those treated for Burkitt lymphoma now have a 55% survival rate.



Bangladesh

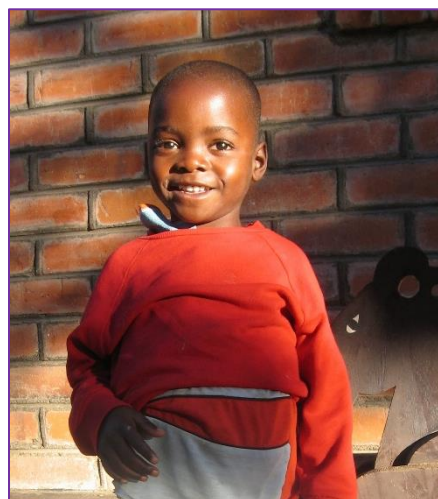
Location: Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Dhaka

Medical Leads: Prof Afiquel Islam, Prof Yakub Jamal & Dr Megan Doherty

Twinning Partner Hospitals: UCLH UK & BCCH Vancouver

Programme Start Date: June 2012

- A new project focusing on improving palliative care for children with cancer commenced in 2016, providing specialist training for doctors and nurse leaders.
- A country-wide paediatric oncology nursing curriculum has been accepted by the government.
- Financial support for drug costs and transport was provided to patients in Dhaka, ensuring more children had the chance of completing their treatment.
- World Child Cancer opened a new office in Dhaka and the team are forging new partnerships with civil society organisations in the country for collaborative working.
- UK AID funded core activities in Bangladesh and enabled growth of the programme to key strategic satellite centres around the country; extending our support and building the capacity of healthcare professionals to provide improved care.



Collaborative Wilms Tumour Africa Project

Location: Malawi, Ghana, Cameroon, Uganda & Tanzania

Steering Committee: Dr Israels, Prof Molyneux, Dr Renner, Dr Kouya

Twinning Partner Hospital: VUMC Amsterdam

Programme Start Date: March 2014

- Two new centres joined the collaboration in 2016; Ethiopia and Zimbabwe, taking the number of participating centres to eight.
- The collaboration continued to strengthen, resulting in the increase of overall survival rates to an estimated 50%, and increase of 25% since the start of the programme.
- The number of patients abandoning treatment has also decreased, from 31% to around 13%, thanks in part to the provision of free treatment, subsidised transport and nutritional support.
- A working meeting was held during the SIOP conference in Dublin, October 2016, and mentors from the steering committee visited both of the new sites to provide support and training for multi-disciplinary teams involved in this collaboration.



Mexico

Location: Pachuca & Oaxaca

Medical Lead: Dr Arturo Moreno Ramirez, Dr Yannis Cortes & Dr Rodriguez Brindis

Twinning Partner Hospital: Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, USA

Programme Start Date: November 2015

- Programme developed and supported by World Child Cancer USA
- Approx. 800 cases expected in the region, with survival rates currently of around 50% and 20% of families not able to complete treatment.
- Education activities resulted in 150 nurses and 100 doctors accessing training in paediatric oncology.
- Parent focus groups were formed in Pachuca and basic parent information videos were created in native languages
- In Oaxaca a previously empty cancer ward was fitted with equipment and beds thanks to a partnership with Project C.U.R.E., which arranged the donated supplies.
- A patient database was established in 2 hospitals in order to collect reliable information and analyse outcomes.

AHOPCA

This year we have provided funding support the salaries of data managers in 4 countries within this network; Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Guatemala. 2016 was the final year which World Child Cancer provided support to this valuable programme in Central America, and funding will be taken over by St Jude Children's Research Hospital.