

Introduction to the Journal of Cambodian Health

Editorial Note

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Welcome to the Journal of Cambodian Health

Health touches all of us, whether it is looking after a sick child, vaccination against disease, improving our quality of life through preventative healthcare, or, most recently, coping with a world pandemic. Thomas Fuller stated that “health is not valued until sickness comes.” This has become particularly true as we cope with the effects of COVID-19—not only the immediate global carnage but also the long-term impacts—and refocus on health, poverty, education, economics, and social cohesion.

The value of health is as true about individuals as it is about society. There is a very clear correlation between high levels of health and education and the success of both individuals and nations. Put simply, educated, healthy societies have higher standards of living than those who don’t, making health and education (as well as technology) the main drivers of progress not only for Cambodia but across the world.

However, health is critical not only for individual wellbeing but also for our future economic prosperity. Economic growth, too, is dependent on health - KPMG recently reported that 63% of new jobs created in the next 5 years will be in health, education, or science.

Cambodia, and other countries, can simply passively accept a future imposed by others or we can lead and create our own future.

But we can only do this if we continue to promote health and the research and education that drives health improvements, including policy, preventative healthcare, social healthcare, and alleviation of poverty. Health and education are our investments in the future for all of us.

This is the function of this new Journal, the Journal of Cambodian Health. It is hoped that this new journal will support and encourage health improvements by advancing knowledge that relates to all areas of health – and create a brighter future for all.

We urge you to join this journey with us.

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