Improving Namatanai District Health Services
May 2015
NEW IRELAND PROVINCE:
Most north-eastern province in PNG

Working for a healthier PNG
New Ireland Province Health Statistics

- Malaria cases per 1000 population - 4th highest in PNG
- Diarrhoeal Diseases in < 5 years (cases/1000 children) - higher than national average
- Injuries reported at outpatients/1000 person, 2009-2013 - (Highest in the country)
- Couple years of protection (CYP) /1000 women 15-44 year – lack of access to Family Planning services, lower than the national average
- Only 59% of births in New Ireland are conducted at a health facility.
- 90% of health facilities have no telephone or radio communications
- Medical supplies are only available 50% of the time throughout New Ireland Facilities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility type</th>
<th>Number/location</th>
<th>Managed by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Referral hospital</td>
<td>Kavieng General Hospital – level 4</td>
<td>National Department of Health (NDOH)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District hospital</td>
<td>Namatanai District Hospital – level 3</td>
<td>Namatanai District Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health centre</td>
<td>27 in rural remote areas</td>
<td>New Ireland Provincial Health, Catholic Church and United Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+3 company owned</td>
<td>Lihir, Simberi (mines), Poliamba (NBPOL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aid posts</td>
<td>50 open +11 closed</td>
<td>Local level government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Management of the Namatanai Hospital is difficult as Provincial Health has no responsibility for staff or facility management.
- There is a long term plan to unify the health structures under one authority, this will take some years to administer the transition effectively.
NEW IRELAND: MASSIVE STAFF SHORTAGES

- 1 doctor per 32,344 people

- 14 government employed doctors - 13 at Kavieng Hospital, only 1 part-time at Namatanai hospital

- Approximately 243 rural health staff

- 45% staffing shortfall to meet WHO standards to deliver **minimum** primary health care services – additional 200 health workers needed.

- 35 staff short at Namatanai hospital; Covers a total population of **87,683** for Namatanai district

- Namatanai Hospital sees over 1.5 times the amount of outpatients that Kavieng hospital sees annually.
There are six buildings in the hospital

- main building (outpatients, lab, reception, Dr’s Office and clinic, dispensary, vacant x-ray room, operating theatre, and dental clinic)
- maternal and child health clinic
- male ward and TB ward
- female ward and paediatric ward
- antenatal, postnatal and delivery room
- kitchen, storeroom and laundry area
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Current Staff pre-restructure</th>
<th>Proposed New Structure</th>
<th>Shortfall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Worker</td>
<td>9 CHW (3 at aid posts)</td>
<td>7 CHW (3 at aidposts)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>7 N/O</td>
<td>10 N/O)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Extension Officer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Officer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthetic Technical Officer</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Technician</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Assistant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispenser</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiographer</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Theatre Nurse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Technician</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Assistant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NAMATANAI DISTRICT HOSPITAL
CHALLENGES: EQUIPMENT and INFRASTRUCTURE

- Limited funds for staffing increases, medical equipment and infrastructure upgrades.
- Problems with water and power supply
- Ageing infrastructure, medical equipment and vehicles
- Shortage of staff housing
NAMATANAI HOSPITAL STATISTICS

• PATIENTS SEEN PER MONTH IN THE OPD (ON AVERAGE) – > 2000 PATIENTS - Most regular presentations to the Outpatients Department includes: Accident and Emergencies, Motor Vehicle accidents, Fights and Domestic Violence

• ADMISSIONS/ Mnth – 163 PTS

• DEATHS / MNTH – 1 (ON AVERAGE)

• REFFERALS PER MONTH – 10 (ON AVERAGE)

• DELIVERIES PER MONTH – 60 (ON AVERAGE)

• TUBAL LIGATIONS PER MONTH – 7 (ON AVERAGE)
Referrals: Major causes of referral are emergency Obstetric cases, accidents and injuries and severe anaemia.

Outpatients: Malaria, pneumonia, accidents, and injuries and urinary tract infections and skin infections.
• **Paediatrics**: The major common conditions are malaria, anaemia and pneumonia.

• **Adults**: Malaria, pneumonia, lifestyle disease, accidents and injuries are the most common.

• **Major causes of death**: Malaria, anaemia, pneumonia and lifestyle diseases.
INFECTIONIOUS DISEASES: TB, YAWS, LEPROSY

Tuberculosis

Yaws

Leprosy

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• Staff supervision, supplies and ordering, referrals, reporting, meetings with NIPH, District Administration, Community groups, NGOs etc

• Outreach Health Promotions, screening and education with community and school groups
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A HEALTH EXTENSION OFFICER

Outpatients and ward rounds

Continuing Medical Education Sessions

Advocacy

Tubal Ligation Procedures – over 80 performed in 2014

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PARTNERSHIP with Australian Doctors International

- ADI has provided 4 doctors to the Namatanai hospital since 2012
- In-service training and capacity building
- Outreach support through the integrated patrol program
- Advocacy to NIPH for infrastructure and medical equipment upgrades

Working for a healthier PNG
PARTNERSHIP with Australian Doctors International

- Upgrade to the Operating Theatre and Pathology Laboratory

- Donations of small medical equipment including oxygen concentrators, BP machines, thermometer, stethoscopes, dopplers, glucometers, surgical instruments, operating theatre gowns and obstetric wheels have been very beneficial
SERVICES PROVIDED at Namatanai Hospital

- General outpatient clinic
- Maternal and child health clinic
- Medical officers/ HEO’s clinic
- Normal deliveries
- Tubal ligation and other minor procedures under local anaesthetic and ketamine
- LAB - MPS, HB, WCC, SPUTUM, BSL (glucometers)
CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION SESSIONS

• The importance of proper history taking in the OPD to determine the right diagnosis
• Basic life support flow charts
• Adult and Pediatrics ACLS flowcharts
• CPR using the AED machine
• Hypertension and Diabetes
• Ischemic Heart Disease and Stroke
• The difference between Febrile convolution Meningitis and Hypoglycaemic fits.
• Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilisation of surgical instruments
• Neonatal Resuscitation and Apgar scoring
• Determining gestational age for pre-terms and the different vertex positions of a foetus during labour etc.)
CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION SESSIONS

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Outreach Programs

Public Health Promotions – Lifestyle Disease, Diabetes, Hypertension

Pre-screenings for Eye Surgery

Family Planning - Implants

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• Namatanai Hospital Task Force
• Consultations with New Ireland Provincial Health
• Newcrest Mining - improvements to Namatanai Hospital upgrade
Improvements:

- Upgrade of the Operating theatre, the pathology laboratory and supply of water to these departments

- Provision of regular Tubal Ligation procedures – Namatanai hospital performs over 95% of TLs in the New Ireland Province

- Eye surgeries

- Provision of blood transfusions

- Supply of small medical equipment

- Outreach programs – eye surgery pre screenings, diabetes and hypertension screenings and community education

- Provision of hormonal implants for Family Planning
RECOMMENDATIONS

• Recruit more staff; staff to patient ratios very low; staff overworked
• Improve staff housing
• Continue to advocate for infrastructure upgrades including power and water
• Purchase essential medical equipment including an Autoclave, X-Ray Machine, Anaesthetic trolleys, Centrifuge Blood Transfusion machine and theatre lights.
• Allocate adequate space for the storage of medications
• Purchase new AMBULANCE
• Provide more staff training on various conditions and infectious diseases, particularly the diagnosis, management, reporting and contact tracing for TB
THANK YOU

National Rural Health Alliance Committee
Australian Doctors International

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