

# PHOENIX KIDS

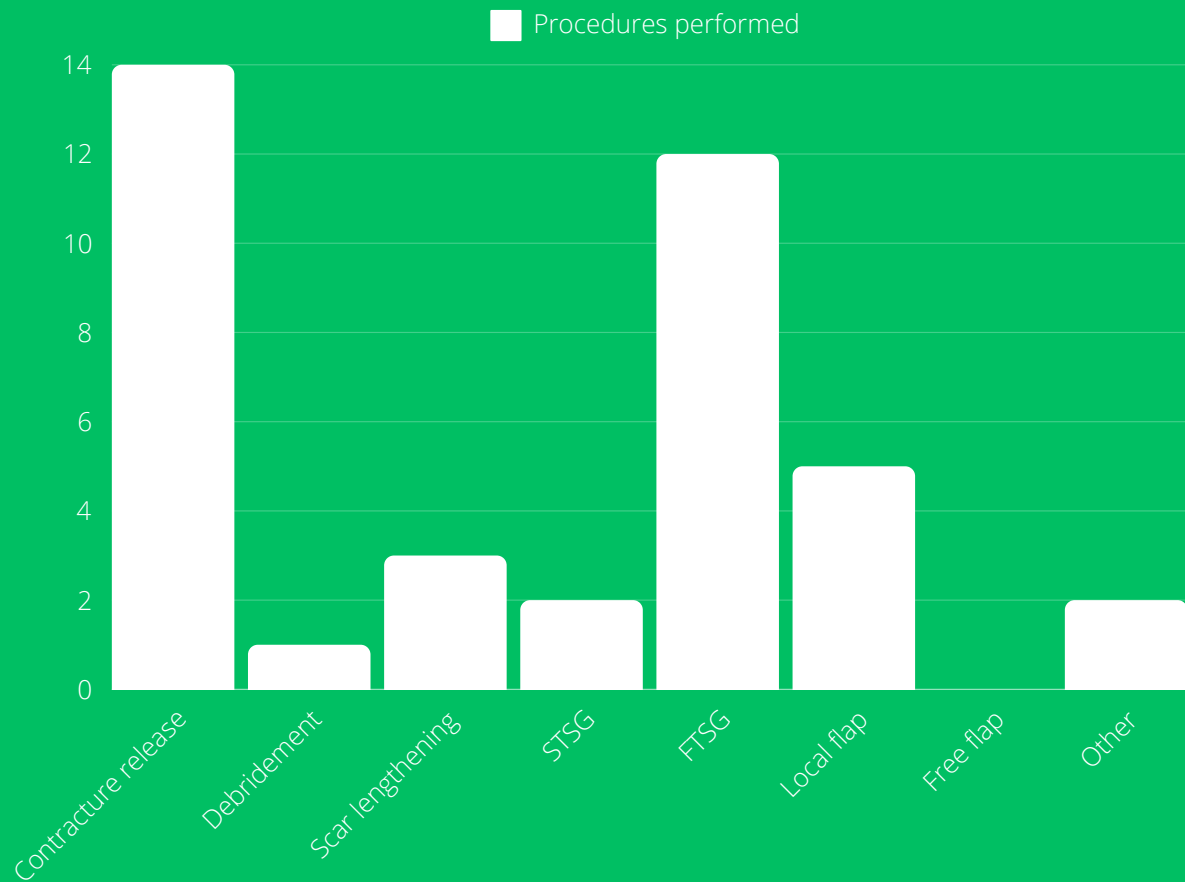
OCT-DEC 2024 ACTIVITY  
BRIEF ACTIVITY REPORT



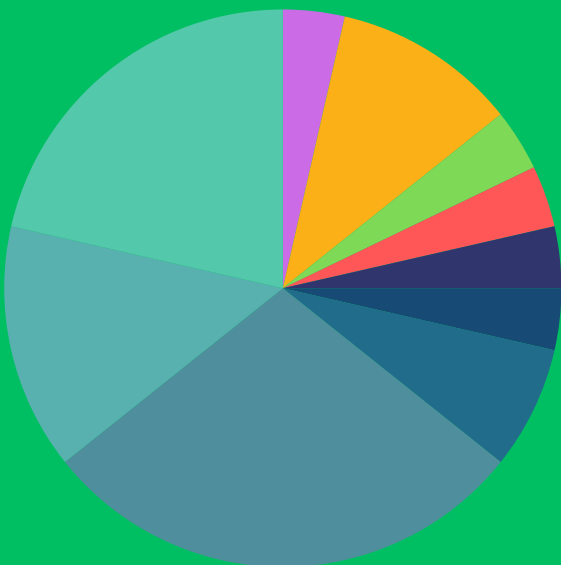
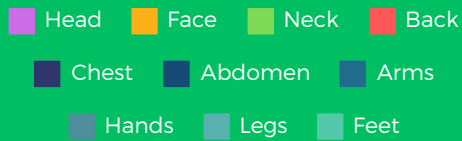
A COLLABORATION BETWEEN  
ROTARY CLUB OF PHNOM PENH  
AND THE CHILDREN'S  
SURGICAL CENTRE



# 14 CHILDREN - 18 OPERATIONS



## Body parts involved in burn injury



AVERAGE  
AGE:

**7.9**  
YEARS



*Note: More than one procedure can be performed per operation*

# OUR PHOENIX KIDS THIS QUARTER



# OUR PHOENIX KIDS THIS QUARTER



# CASE STORIES - RACHANY



PRE-OP



POST-OP



Rachany is a 2-year-old toddler from Cambodia with three siblings: two older brothers and a twin sister. She lives with her parents, siblings, and grandmother in a close-knit family. Her older brothers attend primary school, while her mother stays home to care for the children, and her father delivers wholesale rice noodles to retail stores.

At home, Rachany enjoys playing with her twin sister and watching cartoons. However, her early childhood has been marked by challenges. When she was learning to walk, she fell into a hot pot, severely burning both her hands and forearms. The resulting burn scar contractures limit her ability to grasp objects and play, and loss of all use of her fingers. The damage has also affected the underlying muscles and bones, with most nerve endings destroyed, leaving little to no sensation in the area. Her parents worry about how these injuries will affect her future—especially her ability to write and interact with others when she starts school.

Realizing the severity of her injury, surgeons at CSC (with the assistance of international expertise), devised a multi-stage plan for reconstructing her upper limbs to maximize any possible long term function.

Firstly, in October, surgeons at CSC performed the first stage, releasing the contracture of her right wrist with a groin flap procedure, restoring some mobility and functionality to this joint. Despite the ordeal, she was incredibly brave during surgery and recovery. Rachany has since undergone the same procedure on the left wrist. Her family remains in close contact with CSC to monitor her progress and plan for her future needs, as undoubtedly further surgeries will be needed to improve elbow and hand function.

Her dad shared, "We are thankful Rachany had surgery, and we feel more happy to think about her future."

# CASE STORIES - KUNTHEA



PRE-OP

Kunthea is a bright 12-year-old student from Cambodia who lives with her parents and older brother in Kampong Speu province. Her parents work as rice farmers, and she is currently in grade 5, where Khmer is her favorite subject. In the future, Kunthea dreams of becoming a nurse. In her free time, she enjoys visiting her friends and doing homework together.

About a year ago, Kunthea's life changed when she was caught in a gasoline fire near her home. The incident caused severe burns to her face, neck, chest, and upper body, leaving her with scars and a deformity in her right ear. The burn injuries also limited her neck movement, making daily activities challenging and affecting her confidence.



After receiving initial treatment for the acute burns at a local hospital, Kunthea and her family learned about CSC. Kunthea and her mother traveled three and a half hours to seek specialized care.

In November, skilled surgeons at CSC performed a burn contracture release surgery to alleviate the tight scar tissue restricting her neck movement and improve her appearance. This surgery significantly enhanced her mobility and reduced the discomfort caused by the scars.



POST-OP

Thanks to the procedure, Kunthea is now on the path to recovery. She looks forward to moving her neck more freely, enabling her to study, play, and interact with friends without pain or limitation. The surgery has not only improved her physical comfort but also boosted her confidence and self-esteem, helping her feel more at ease around others.

Kunthea expressed her gratitude, saying, "I am happy I had surgery, and I will rest at home before I go back to school."

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- **Contracture Release:** A surgical procedure to correct the tightening of skin, muscles, tendons, or ligaments due to severe burns. This surgery aims to improve the range of motion and functionality of the affected area.
- **Full-Thickness Skin Graft (FTSG):** A surgical method where a complete layer of skin, including both the epidermis and dermis, is transplanted to cover a burn wound. This type of graft is typically used for smaller, more critical areas.
- **Split-Thickness Skin Graft (STSG):** Involves transplanting the top layer of skin and a portion of the dermis from one area of the body to another. This technique is commonly used for covering larger burn areas.
- **Local Flap:** A section of tissue moved from an adjacent area to cover a burn wound. This technique uses nearby skin and tissue to repair the affected area without completely detaching it from its original location.
- **Free Flap:** A surgical procedure where a section of tissue, including skin, muscle, and blood vessels, is entirely detached from its original site and transplanted to a burn area. This method often involves reconnecting blood vessels using microsurgery.
- **Debridement:** The process of surgically removing dead, damaged, or infected tissue from a burn wound to promote healing and prepare the site for grafting or reconstruction.
- **Escharotomy:** A surgical incision through the eschar (dead tissue) to relieve pressure and restore blood flow and respiration in cases of severe circumferential burns.
- **Z-Plasty:** A surgical technique used to release scar contractures by creating a Z-shaped incision. This method helps to lengthen the scar tissue and improve flexibility and function.
- **Reconstructive Surgery:** Surgical procedures aimed at restoring the appearance and function of body parts affected by burns. This includes a variety of techniques to rebuild damaged structures and improve the patient's quality of life.
- **Microsurgery:** A specialized surgical technique involving the use of a microscope to repair and reconnect small blood vessels and nerves. This is often utilized in free flap procedures to ensure proper blood flow and functionality of the transplanted tissue.

## DONORS THIS QUARTER

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THANK YOU!



Rotary  
Club of Phnom Penh

