



**“one machine will
save the lives of
dozens of babies
every year”**



Join the International Children Assistance Network, the East Meets West Foundation, and Project Vietnam of the American Academy of Pediatrics to help save the lives of thousands of tiny, helpless premature babies in Vietnam



Two Premature Babies in a CPAP Unit

Thousands of tiny, helpless premature babies die every year in Vietnam because they can't get enough air into their lungs. You can literally be their breath of life.

There are 1.6 million babies born in Vietnam every year. 128,000 are born premature. Half of premature babies suffer from respiratory distress, and thirty percent of babies with respiratory distress will suffocate if they don't get the help of a simple machine called CPAP – Continuous Positive Air Pressure. That is ~20,000 babies every year, dying for the lack of a basic piece of medical equipment found in every US hospital. Vietnam is so poor, and the medical needs so many, that hospitals cannot afford to buy these machines.

ICAN is pleased to announce a new partnership with East Meets West Foundation and Project Vietnam of the American Academy of Pediatrics to save the lives of the very smallest babies. We will provide hospitals with this simple machine, which is designed and manufactured by KSE Medical, Inc. in Vietnam. With CPAP, premature

babies with respiratory distress are provided with the gentle breaths of air – just enough to inflate their lungs for a few days until they can breathe on their own.

One machine, if available, will save the lives of dozens of babies every year. Our CPAP machine costs only \$1,800 (including training and warranty) – compared to the \$8,000 (plus training) it costs to import and operate a machine made in the U.S. It is estimated that Vietnam needs about 700 CPAP machines to properly outfit its hospitals.



Baby after CPAP therapy with mom

How Does CPAP Work?

Thousands of premature babies die or suffer from irreversible brain damage each year in Vietnam due to breathing problems. Using Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) therapy prevents this by keeping the babies' lungs expanded. Ventilation is the number one medical problem for neonates and CPAP is the first line of emergency treatment. Hence the tremendous need for CPAP in Vietnam, where about



ICAN Breath of Life Program

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50,000 infants a year need this treatment.

In addition to the higher purchase price, a machine from the U.S. presupposes a good working hospital infrastructure with stable power and pressure systems, as well as a well trained staff who can use these sophisticated pieces of equipment. However, that is not the case in the majority of hospitals in Vietnam. Moreover, once these machines break down, expensive foreign parts deter hospitals from fixing these machines, thereby rendering them useless.

Why the KSE CPAP?

KSE Medical was established to develop medical devices that are tailored to local needs in Vietnam. Its first product, a locally designed and built CPAP system, is now being used at 4 hospitals in Hanoi, Vietnam. With this machine we have reduced the 24-hour infant mortality rate for babies with respiratory distress from 30% down to 10% and treated over 2,000 babies to date. This amounts to over 500 babies saved from death or other debilitating conditions due to lack of oxygen.

Since this CPAP machine is designed specifically for Vietnam, and is made with all local materials, replacement parts are cheaply and easily replaced. The simpler, more pragmatic design also enables hospital staff to use it with greater ease. The cost of this CPAP machine: \$1,800US. With low capital cost, low maintenance cost, ease of operations and local support, this locally produced CPAP system currently used at the Children's Hospital can be replicated on a national scale in Vietnam.

Saved Lives

The "Breath of Life" partnership was launched in March 2005 and has deployed (since September 2005) 50 CPAP machines at city and provincial level hospitals in Vinh Phuc, Khanh Hoa, Saigon, Binh Duong, Dong Nai, Vung Tau, Tay Ninh etc. Preliminary data (collected in 3 months at Vinh Phuc and Khanh Hoa pilot sites) show that 59 babies had been saved by CPAP machines, and 150 babies saved by resuscitation techniques trained by Project Vietnam. Our goal is to install 100 more CPAP machines in 2006.

How To Help

Make a donation of any amount to ICAN. One CPAP system, at a cost of \$1,800US, can save the lives and prevent brain damage for more than 50 babies -- in just the first year. That's about \$30 for the life of one sick baby in the first year alone. You can use the form below to select a gift level and send in your donation.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

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Santa Clara, CA 95056-5863

Please write in the amount or select a donation level you would like to give:

- Any Amount: _____
- One Machine: \$1,800 _____
- Two Machines: \$3,600 _____
- Three Machines: \$5,400 _____
- Four Machines: \$7,200 _____
- Five Machines: \$9,000 _____

