



# Mongolian Emergency Service Hospital Hygiene Project

MeshHp.mn

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Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

## Report of the visit to Ulaanbaatar 21 – 24 August, 2019

### Participant:

Prof Dr Walter Popp, HyKoMed, Dortmund

This was the fourth visit in the project (2018-2020) “**Primär- und Sekundärprävention sowie aufsuchende Prävention bei Hepatitis B/C und Tuberkulose in der Mongolei**“ („**Primary and second day prevention as well as visiting prevention of hepatitis B/C and tuberculosis in Mongolia**“) funded by German Ministry of Health.

The project includes visits and interviews in different hospitals and health care units in Ulaabaatar as well as 4 aimag center hospitals and different sum hospitals. Detailed results of these will be given in a separate report, presumably in the first half of 2020.

The main purpose of this visit was to have a look regarding hepatitis risk by traditional medicine. The main report about it will be given next year.

### Hospitals

I had visits to 5 different hospitals working in traditional medicine:

#### **State University for Traditional Medicine:**

They are under Ministry of Education. The hospital is next to University Clinics which is built by Japanese. The construction quality is bad despite still not working. E.g. in the entrance hall is a big water damage with big growing of yeast.



They will open soon, starting with outpatient area.

**Institute of Traditional Medicine and Technology:**

They are also under Ministry of Education because they do research.

They are in a 83 years old building which was not renovated over many years.

Therefore, they do not have flowing water in many rooms and then they use water from small basins over the sinks.

They have 130 beds (!) and many patients come from outside UB and, therefore, stay there for some days.

Reprocessing of instruments could not really be clarified:



They also do animal research and produce herb drugs on their own.



**Sky hospital:**

The private hospital was opened in 2008 with 8 beds, since 2014 they have 20 beds. They have 22 workers, of whom are 8 doctors and 7 nurses.

They have Internal Medicine, Neurology, Gynecology and Traditional Medicine.

There is no sterilization there and they have a contract with an external company. We found a completely corroded pair of forceps, so we have some doubts about the quality of cooperation.

They have a lab for blood and urine. They also make hepatitis markers.



### **Chingeltej distric hospital – Traditional Medicine:**

We saw a wet cupping: First hot cupping, then using a sterile blade to make small holes in skin after disinfection with alcohol/spirit. Then cupping again.



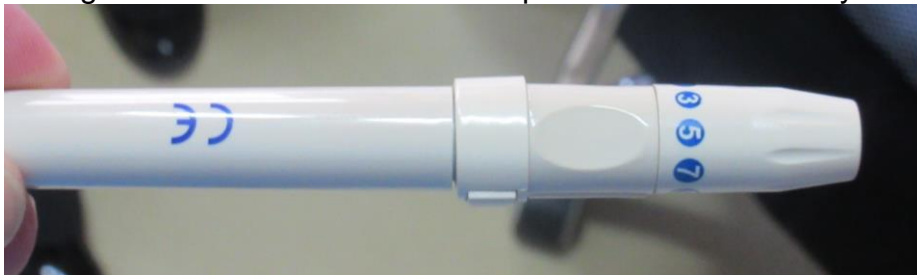
Wet cupping is done only once a year for one patient.

The blood is given in waste and the cup in water with washing powder. After that they use Hexanios G and R solution which is a Quat. After that drying. So only disinfection.

### **Hosvansemeru hospital:**

The hospital is located on border to ger district. The hospital opened 10 years ago. Now has 18 beds – inside everything with wood, so that patient should feel nice (but no chance to disinfect). They told us to try to avoid therapy with open blood.

Blood diagnosis was done for all of us visitors. A problem is the automated blood lancet which might be contaminated inside despite the needle is always changed:



They should clarify that.

We saw preparation of an infusion and it was not good: All was done in a small box despite the table was much bigger. There was blood in the box, maybe from former patients. Everything very narrow.



This should be changed. But it is not a typical problem of Traditional Medicine and might happen also in somatic hospitals.

**The visits taken together**, most of them use single-use acupuncture needles and blades. E.g. single-use needles cost 45,000 Tugrig for 50 packs a 10 pieces. So very cheap.

Only in some hospitals gold and silver needles are used and usually sterilized after disinfection.

The main problem seems wet cupping which is done with glass (working with heating) and also often plastic cups (working with vacuum – see below):



In no hospital was a final step with sterilization. Mostly, it was done some sort of cleaning and/or disinfection. If they have a sterilizer it is not working with the necessary temperature. Taken together they are cleaned and disinfected/heated in some way. So they are not sterile but the transmission risk for hepatitis may not be as high as with endoscopes or in dental medicine.

Fortunately, most of the hospitals do some skin disinfection before violating the skin for wet cupping.

Also moxibustion was shown which seems not to be a risk for blood borne infections. It seems that education books for traditional medicine are available. But there are no standards for reprocessing of instruments, no SOPs, nothing. Also IPC and reprocessing are not taught during study.

In many hospitals we saw dispensers for paper towels, but often empty. I was told that the dispensers are mandatory from MoH – but it seems they are not really used.

## **Social contacts**

Of course, there were several lunch and dinner meetings with our MeshHp friends.

## **Next steps**

Next **trip to Mongolia** in 2019 in our project will be from 6-16 September, 2019, mainly going to South-Gobi. Participants are : Walter Popp, Peter Renzel, Heike Kamphusmann, Christine Schoppe, Prof. Simonis, Jörg Spors, Michael Rossburg. Because of Mr Renzel (Vice Mayor of Essen) there will also be some political program: Meeting Mayor/City Administration and new German Ambassador Mr Rosenberg.

A **group of nurses from Mongolian nurses association** will come from 19 - 26 October, 2019, including

- Mrs Nyamsuren,
- 3 nurses,
- Dr Gantumur (translator). She will stay one week longer for training.

Two of us will go to UB in February, 2020, to have a look for **tattoo and beauty studios**.

A **group of MeshHp nurses** will come to Germany from 11-18 January, 2020. Topic will be mainly education of nurses, also with regard to hepatitis and tb. Members will be

- each one nurse from Maternity hospitals No 1-3,
- one from Sukhbaatar district hospital
- one from Chingeltej district hospital,
- Dr. Gantumur for translation.

**Dr Uyanga** from hospital No 2 will come for training from 11 to 23 May, 2020.

**Another trip to UB** will be 5-13 June, 2020.

A **private trip** will be done in July 2020, organised by Dr Purevdash and Dr Gantumur, starting with Naadam, going to Kharkhorin, Erdene zuu, Arkhangai aimag and to the north. Prof Walter will organize the German participants.

Prof Walter, Jörg and others from Essen Fire Brigade and City Department are invited to **90 years anniversary of Emergency Center 103** on 20 October, 2020.

Walter Popp, 31 August, 2019