

Malaysia



With a population of 31 million people, Malaysia is the smallest country that's home to a Children's HeartLink partner hospital. The Government of Malaysia guarantees coverage of pediatric cardiac care to children with heart disease at the national hospital and one private hospital, Institut Jantung Negara, a Children's HeartLink Center of Excellence. Despite the protection from financial burden, children are dying while waiting for care simply because capacity can't keep up with the waiting lists of children who need care. Children's HeartLink is committed to working with local providers to strengthen diagnostic and treatment capacity and increase access to pediatric cardiac care across Malaysia.

Partner Hospital

**Institut Jantung Negara
Children's HeartLink Center
of Excellence**

Kuala Lumpur

Partner since 2007

Children Served* (2016): 10,206

Volunteer training partner

- Birmingham Children's Hospital

*based on clinic visits



The Need

- 1 out of 100 babies is born with congenital heart disease
- 5,000 babies are born with congenital heart disease each year, two-thirds of whom will require surgery in the first year of life
- 400 children under the age of 5 died from congenital heart disease in 2016, representing 34,000 years of life lost
- Only three facilities provide pediatric cardiac care for all of Malaysian children
- Over 25,000 youth are living with congenital heart disease

Our Vision

Our vision is a world in which all children have access to the cardiac care they need. In Malaysia, our goal is to develop two Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence by 2030. To achieve this, we are establishing long-lasting partnerships with local stakeholders — including providers, clinic administrators and government officials — to increase awareness of the need for pediatric cardiac care. Our focus is on building clinical and organizational skills, and increasing support for the inclusion of universal access to pediatric cardiac care into Malaysia's health care system.



Congenital Heart Disease

Every year around the world, 1 in 100 children is born with a birth defect within the structure of their heart. This condition is called congenital heart disease. By 2030, it is estimated that congenital anomalies will be among the top five causes of child death. Cardiac anomalies are the most common of all birth defects, and 70% of them are surgically correctable. These children can live full, productive lives if they get skilled care. Unfortunately, 90% of children with heart disease live in regions of the world without access to pediatric cardiac care; far too many of them will die preventable deaths.

Children's HeartLink

Since 1969 Children's HeartLink has been dedicated to caring for children with heart disease. We invest in long-term, multi-phase partnerships to ensure greater access to pediatric cardiac care. Thanks to our expanding team of medical volunteers, over 5,000 local doctors, nurses and technicians are now more equipped to care for children with heart disease. On an annual basis, over 96,000 children receive care at our partner hospitals and programs around the world. Our goal is to develop 50 Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence by 2030.

We can't change the incidence of congenital heart disease. But with your help, we can reach more children who need lifesaving care.



5075 Arcadia Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55436-2306
952.928.4860
childrensheartlink.org

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Children's HeartLink Partner Hospital in Malaysia

Institut Jantung Negara

Institut Jantung Negara (IJN) became a Children's HeartLink Center of Excellence in 2012, just four years after establishing our partnership. IJN is a leader in pediatric cardiac care in the region, serving over 10,000 kids every year. The program is committed to their own patients and to ensuring access throughout Malaysia and across the region. IJN supports professional development and training programs in Malaysia and abroad in countries such as Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar and Vietnam. Their work exemplifies Children's HeartLink's model of health systems strengthening through paired training mentors.



Contact Information:

Andreas Tsakistos, Country Director, Brazil, China, Malaysia: andreas@childrensheartlink.org