



burma children medical fund

BCMF | Operating to give Burma's kids a future

Burma Children Medical Fund (BCMF)

August 2011 Activity Report



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“...Life has been full of hardship for Nyi Nyi. His mother died in 2004 and his father remarried and had 3 more children. Nyi Nyi’s two younger half-sisters were taken to Bangkok to work. They now work cleaning houses. When Nyi Nyi was fourteen, his father put him to work transporting goods between Thailand and Burma. When it became clear that Nyi Nyi wasn’t able to pull his weight (due to his heart condition), he was sent to live with an uncle in Burma...”

(16-year-old BCMF patient with heart disease)¹

August 2011 Cases: An Overview

In August 2011, BCMF accepted 12 new patients onto the program. This included referrals to the Burma Children Medical Fund (**BCMF**) and [Burma Adult Medical Fund \(BAMF\)](#). The conditions our new cases presented with varied greatly and included:

- Congenital heart disease
- Brain tumour
- Congenital mass (neck)
- Severe burn injuries (x2)
- [Imperforate anus](#)
- Restricted tongue movement (“tongue tie”)

Also in August, BCMF facilitated the [movement of 38 patients](#) from the Mae Tao Clinic (in Mae Sot) to Chiang Mai (360kms). 10 patients were scheduled for surgery for various conditions; two children were going to Chiang Mai to have chemotherapy top-ups in their fight against Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL) and one self-funded adult patient was scheduled to have radiation therapy for throat cancer. A 13-day-old baby came onto the BCMF program and was immediately transferred to Chiang Mai by ambulance as an emergency case.

In other BCMF news, we were able to engage with our friends and supporters in a new and exciting way when Daniel agreed to come on board as our official volunteer videographer. Having the creative talent and enthusiasm of Daniel means that BCMF will be able to pull together different forms of media to create informative short videos. These videos help people understand the journey that our patients undertake to access healthcare. They also highlight and educate our supporters about different medical conditions. Here are some short videos that Daniel has created already.



- Poe and Sandor: a family journey
- BCMF Patients at McKean
- BCMF Patient Van: 28 July 2011
- BCMF Shares a giggle (hydrocephalus)

You can view them on our Youtube page: www.youtube.com/user/burmachildren

¹ BCMF Patient Interview, Nyi Nyi, 1 August 2011

August 2011: Summary of New Cases

Total number of new cases across the program	12
- Children – Burma Children Medical Fund (BCMF)	5
- Children (under 12) with surgery funded by donor in Chiang Mai	5
- Special Adult Cases – Burma Adult Medical Fund (BAMF)	2
- Gynaecological Surgery – Burma Women Medical Fund (BWMF)	0

NAME	SEX	AGE	PROGRAM	CONDITION
Eh Lae Paw	F	5	BCMF	Brain tumour/drop foot
Nyi Nyi	M	16	BCMF	Heart disease
Win Win Maw	F	10	BCMF	Burn injury (chest/neck)
Lin Khant Kyaw	M	2	BCMF	Tongue-tie (<i>Mae Sot Hospital</i>)
Si Thu Oo	M	14	BCMF	Burn injury (back/arms)
Phyo Yadanar Oo	F	12	BCMF/CDF	Congenital Heart Disease
Aung Pyit Phyo	M	2	BCMF/CDF	Congenital neck mass
Thidar Lwin's baby	F	12days	BCMF/CDF	Congenital Heart Disease
May Zin Aung's baby	M	13days	BCMF/CDF	Imperforate anus/pneumonia
Naing Htet Kyaw	M	2	BCMF/CDF	Congenital Heart Disease
Aor	M	26	BAMF	Heart disease
Chit Snow War	F	19	BAMF	Heart disease

August 2011: BCMF Patient Movement

In August 2011, BCMF organised the logistics for the [departure of four \(4\) vans](#) departing the Mae Tao Clinic and one emergency ambulance departing Mae Sot Hospital. 38 patients (plus their carers) were transported to Chiang Mai for surgery and follow-up (existing cases) and also for initial investigation and detailed diagnostics (new cases).

The departure dates and patient load were as follows:

BCMF PATIENT VAN - 4 AUGUST 2011

NAME	SEX	AGE	PROGRAM	CONDITION
Hnin Ei Phyu	F	14	BCMF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)
Aye Thandar Oo	F	8	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)
Chit Htwe (SMRU Case)	F	2	OTH/CDF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)
Naw Mu's baby (SMRU Case)	F	2days	OTH/CDF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)
Ah Ngae Lay	M	25	BAMF	Heart disease (investigation)
Ka Ban Kyaw	M	3	BCMF/CDF	Hypospadias
Ma Ni Mar Aung	F	41	BAMF	Rheumatic heart disease (investigation)
Snow	F	8	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)
Maung Nyi Nyi	M	16	BCMF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)

BCMF PATIENT VAN - 13 AUGUST 2011

NAME	SEX	AGE	PROGRAM	CONDITION
Ka Ban Kyaw	M	3	BCMF/CDF	Hypospadias
U Edga Dama	M	26	BAMF	Heart disease (surgery)
Saw Pyint Zone	M	6m	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (surgery)
Saw Kyaw Min	M	5m	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (surgery)
Naw Pi Lay	F	9	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (surgery)
Eh Lae Paw	F	5	BCMF	Drop foot (neurological)
Mi Aye	F	14	BCMF	Congenital heart disease (follow-up)
Hsa Nlel Lay	M	2	BCMF/CDF	Imperforate anus
Nyi Nyi	M	16	BCMF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)

BCMF PATIENT VAN - 18 AUGUST 2011

NAME	SEX	AGE	PROGRAM	CONDITION
Phyo Htwe	F	5	BCMF	Meningocele (neuro follow-up)
Paw Htoo Wah (SMRU case)	F	2	OTH/CDF	Congenital heart disease (follow-up)
Ngar Ngar	F	28	BAMF	Heart disease (surgery)
Tha Zin Pan (SMRU case)	F	3m	OTH/CDF	Congenital heart disease (follow-up)
Naw Soe Myint	F	5	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (surgery)
Pyint Thit Sa	M	6m	BCMF/CDF	Hydrocephalus (post-op neuro follow-up)
Myint Myint Swe	M	2	BCMF/CDF	Imperforate anus (surgery: drop colostomy)
Ma Myo	F	40	BAMF	Rheumatic heart disease (surgery)
Sein	M	55	BAMF	Throat cancer (<i>radiation self-funded</i>)
Thidar Lwin's baby	M	3wks	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)
Phyo Yadanar Oo	F	12	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (investigation)

BCMF PATIENT VAN – 25 AUGUST 2011

NAME	SEX	AGE	PROGRAM	CONDITION
Naw Soe Myint	F	5	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (surgery 26/8/11)
Nyi Nyi Phyo	M	5	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (follow-up)
Ma Kyi Aung	F	19	BAMF	Pituitary dysfunction (neuro follow-up)
Tin Zar Maw	F	5	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease (follow-up)
Saw July Moo	M	1	BCMF/CDF	Congenital heart disease/Downs
Naw Pi	F	18	BAMF	Congenital heart disease (surgery 1/9/11)
Zin Ko Pyint Maung	M	6	BCMF	Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL)
Than Zin Moe	F	6m	BCMF/CDF	Large congenital growth
Pyho Maung Maung	M	4	BCMF	Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL)

EMERGENCY TRANSER (AMBULANCE)

NAME	SEX	AGE	PROGRAM	CONDITION
May Zin Aung's baby	M	2wks	BCMF/CDF	Imperforate anus/pneumonia/other

August 2011: Meet some of our new cases...

Nyi Nyi – 16 years old – heart disease

When Nyi Nyi's mother died in 2004 his father moved to Thailand and started a new family. Nyi Nyi was left behind to live with his uncle in Burma. In 2009, when Nyi Nyi was fourteen, his father sent for him. He was put to work transporting goods between Thailand and Burma. Soon after, Nyi Nyi fell ill with shortness of breath, lethargy and lack of appetite. He was not taken to hospital but instead sent back to live with his uncle. In January 2011, Nyi Nyi's condition was deteriorating so he went to see a medic in his village. He was told that he must take himself to Mae Tao clinic (MTC) in Thailand.

Nyi Nyi has since been an out-patient at MTC with a diagnosis of heart disease. He was instructed to return on a monthly basis for check-ups and to receive medicine. His attendance has been sporadic because he doesn't have sufficient money to pay for travel. In the last week of July 2011 Nyi Nyi arrived at the MTC looking destitute, disheveled and in a very poor state of health. He was referred to Burma Children Medical Fund (BCMF) for

assistance. An effort was made by staff to contact and locate his father.

Life has been full of hardship for Nyi Nyi and his siblings. His two younger half-sisters were taken to Bangkok by a relative to profit from child labour. They are now working as domestic labourers cleaning houses. Nyi Nyi also has an older brother working in Bangkok and a 7-year-old brother who lives with Nyi Nyi at his uncle's home. Nyi Nyi's father is not in contact with any of his children.

Nyi Nyi says that his hope is to get better so that he too can go to Bangkok. He wants to be able to earn money so that he can have a better life. He is currently restricted by his illness and is not able to work. Without an income, Nyi Nyi also does not have access to an education.



Si Thu Oo – 14 years old – burns



Si Thu Oo is an only child. His parents are farmers; in wet season they grow rice and then green beans for the rest of the year. Most of their rice is for the consumption of the family of three and their extended family.

His mother explains

that in the cold season their extended family, all living in the same farm compound, light up the fire pit so that they can warm themselves by the flames. In February 2011, Si Thu Oo was feeling cold and was sitting by himself with his back to the fire pit. He had multiple layers of clothing on and he was well alight before he realised he had caught fire. He sustained large areas of burns to his back and arms.

You can read Si Thu Oo's full story on our website: www.burmachildren.net/our-cases/children/si-thu/

AUGUST 2011 ACTIVITY REPORT – MORE INFORMATION:

PATIENT STORIES

(new cases)

Si Thu Oo	www.burmachildren.net/our-cases/children/si-thu/
Win Win Maw	http://www.burmachildren.net/our-cases/children/win-win/

VIDEOS/PHOTOS:

Sandor & Poe – a family journey (short video)	www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Pxb4TfvZ2E&feature=related
What do we do - BCMF	www.youtube.com/watch?v=6GntYMRq6PE&feature=related
Hydrocephalus	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4drytAilms&feature=related

MORE INFORMATION

About BCMF	www.burmachildren.net/about-us/
Sponsor a Van	www.burmachildren.net/get-involved/sponsoravan_2011/
More links	www.burmachildren.net/links/
BCMF Facebook	www.facebook.com/burmachildren
BCMF Twitter	www.twitter.com/burmachildren
BCMF Youtube	www.youtube.com/burmachildren
Mae Tao Clinic	www.maetaoclinic.com
Diagnosis Critical (report in English)	http://bit.ly/pYDEDt
Diagnosis Critical (report in Thai)	http://bit.ly/piytch

