



Fellowship Training for Laos Specialists

Scholarship Program Between

**Pfizer Thailand Foundation
Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand,
University of Health Sciences, Laos PDR, and
Health Frontiers, Laos PDR**

Thailand-Laos diplomatic relations have been established for over 60 years. As the major educational and health care institution in the Northeast of Thailand, the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University (“KKU”) has a long history of academic cooperation with higher institutions from Laos PDR, and has taken a leading role in supporting the development of capacity building for primary health practitioners in Laos PDR. For example, in 1995, a Memorandum of Understanding between Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University and Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies, University of Health Sciences Laos PDR (“UHS”) established Pediatric Residency Training in Vientiane, Laos PDR. In 2002, UHS established an Internal Medicine Residency Training Program, again with the strong support of KKU. Health Frontiers (“HF”) was also a key supporter in developing these training programs. There is a continued need, however, for building capacity in Laos PDR through training instructor-level personnel, namely capable subspecialists in pediatrics and Internal Medicine, who will contribute to a comprehensive medical education system in Laos PDR.

Now, KKU, Pfizer Thailand Foundation (“PTF”), UHS, and HF have agreed to join in collaborative agreement to develop pediatric and internal medicine subspecialty fellowship programs to train Laos subspecialists, designated as Specialist Level II. This three-year fellowship program will accept 2 fellows each year, beginning in June each year.

This agreement regulates the provision by UHS of the three-academic year training course, including that:

KKU will:

1. Coordinate with UHS to screen and select qualified fellowship candidates for the Specialist Level II program. The selection committee responsible for candidate selection will comprise of both faculty staff from UHS, including HF, and KKU.
2. Work together with UHS to develop an academic curriculum for Specialist Level II in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine. This curriculum will be based on standards of the Laos Ministry of Education. This will include class schedule, clinical rotation schedule, research project, etc.
3. Provide supervised clinical teaching and supported research opportunities in Khon Kaen, Thailand for a portion of the 3-academic year training program.
4. Support fellows to have an option to complete elective rotations in partnering medical institutes in Thailand during the training course. Fellows may also complete elective rotations in other partnering institutions worldwide as deemed appropriate by KKU, UHS, HF and PTF.



5. Provide certificate after completion of this fellowship program.
6. Assess the competency of the 2 trainee fellows.
7. Provide yearly reports to PTF, UHS, and HF, updating on the progress and performance of the 2 fellows.

UHS will:

1. Work together with KKU to develop an academic curriculum for Specialist Level II in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine, based on standards of the Laos Ministry of Education.
2. Provide supervised clinical teaching and research opportunities in Laos PDR for a portion of this 3-academic year training program.
3. Provide diploma and certification of "Specialist Level II" upon completion of the program, according to guidelines specified by the Laos Ministry of Education.
4. Coordinate with KKU to screen and select qualified Laos fellowship candidates for the Specialist Level II program.

HF will:

1. Offer technical support, mentorship, and coordination for all of the above activities, as needed.

PTF will:

1. Provide financial support, estimated at and not exceeding 170,000 Thai Baht per person/fellow per academic year for a period of 3 academic years from June 2015.
2. This total amount per year is intended to cover all fellowship expenses under this program, including living costs, accommodation, travel, meals, conference fees, textbooks, research costs, medical practice insurance, health insurance, and any other educational expenses. The exact distribution of funds will be jointly determined by UHS, KKU, and HF.
3. The total sum of this financial support is for the benefit of the fellows only. Neither HF, KKU nor UHS will use these funds to cover any other costs of supervising or coordinating the fellowship program.

Upon completion of the course of this fellowship training program in 3 academic years, Laos fellows are required to return to their country to contribute to the improvement of healthcare services in Laos PDR. They must agree to work as full-time faculty in the residency training institutes and/or affiliated hospitals for at least 6 years after completion of this fellowship training program.

This agreement will be effective for the two selected fellows in the coming 3 academic years (June 2015 to May 2018). The first 3-academic year programs will begin in Khon Kaen in June 2015, and the duration of this agreement is for 3 academic years from June 2015. At the end of this period, this agreement may only be extended if KKU, UHS, HF and PTF mutually agree to continue the collaboration under this fellowship training program, and if the continued need exists in Laos PDR for educational purposes.

Changes to this agreement can only be made after mutual consultation and concurrence in writing by all the parties (KKU, UHS, HF and PTF). Each party is free to interrupt the collaboration and cancel or terminate this agreement upon a written notice is given to all other parties at least one year before the termination date.



Each of the following parties has caused this to be executed by their authorized representatives in four (4) originals, one set for each party, to agree on all the terms mentioned above on June 26, 2015.

For and on behalf of
Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University

Charnchai Pal

Assoc. Prof. Charnchai Panthongviriyakul
Dean, Faculty of Medicine

For and on behalf of
Faculty of Postgraduate Studies, University of Health Sciences

Dr. Vanphanom Sychareun

Dr. Vanphanom Sychareun
Dean of Postgraduate Studies

For and on behalf of
Health Frontiers

Gordon Baike

Gordon Baike
Health Frontiers Representative

For and on behalf of
Pfizer Thailand Foundation

Christian Malherbe

Christian Malherbe
Chairperson