**Report on a findings of future direction of Cambodia Ophthalmological Society**

**1-INTRODUCTION**

Cambodia Ophthalmological Society started its first Continuation Medical Education Workshop in 2004 with a support from Non-governmental Organization who actively work to contribute the elimination of avoidable blindness in Cambodia, collaborating closely with National Program for Eye Health, the Ministry of Health. The purpose of CME is to provide the opportunity of eye care service providers in Cambodia to update advanced knowledge/learning among peers, share experiences/discussion and professional development.

This survey aims at identification how COScould possibly organized CME workshop by its own mechanism and resources. The survey was prepared collaboratively by Cambodian Ophthalmological Society and The Fred Hollows Foundation. The questionnaires developed targeting at the members of Cambodia Ophthalmological Society who participating in CME workshop which was conducted at Siem Reap from 12-13 June 2015.

**II-Method of Survey:**

The research engages ophthalmologists who participate in CME workshop. The prepared questionnaires distribute and instruct them how to fill up in the questionnaire given. Each participants fill up individually and returned it to a survey coordinator the same day.

**Analysis:**

The manual tabulation is designed and use excel spreadsheet for calculation, and make a graph and chart.

**Objective of survey:** to determine future direction of Cambodia Ophthalmological Society and other related activities.

**Findings:**

Total number of respondents is 52. 46 (88.46%) are the members of Cambodian Ophthalmological Society and other 6 (11.54%) are non-members.

Table 1: the total number of respondents

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of respondents | Number | Percentage |
| Members of Cambodian Ophthalmological Society | 46 | 88.46 |
| Non-members of Cambodian Ophthalmological Society | 6 | 11.54 |
| **Total** | **52** | **100** |

When asked if the participants are satisfied with organization of CME, 82.69 % of respondents stated that they satisfied with organization of CME workshop while 9 of them mentioned nothing.

Table 2 describe percentage of satisfaction of the organization of CEM Workshop (N=52)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Number** | **Percentage** |
| Number of satisfaction with organization of CME workshop | 43 | 82.69 |
| Number of not satisfaction with organization of CME workshop | 09 | 16.98 |
| **Total** | **52** | **100.0** |

The reasons of satisfaction are the improvement and new updated knowledge 84.62%. 88.77% is to share experiences. Well organized and good promotion is 36%. Benefit to everyone and communicate with each other is 46%.

Of 52 respondents, 84.62% informed that they improved and gained new updated knowledge and learning among peers. 88.46% of them mentioned they shared experience/discussion. Of 53.85% said that it benefited to everyone. 38.46% described that they communicated with each other and make a friend. Other 38.46% is professional development.

Figure 1: the reasons of satisfaction of CME, Multiple answers (N=52)

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Even though, 9 out of 52 respondents (16.98%) mentioned that they are not satisfied. They even did not mention about what they are not satisfied.

When asked what the recommendation for the improvement of CME workshop organizing, they suggested as the following:

* + COS key members should improve their attitude;
  + Present case study instead of lecture;
  + Make it short and comprehensive;
  + The venue at a comfortable place;
  + Should involve experienced persons to share the topic;
  + Update and increase the number of topics;
  + Make the members understood what benefit they received from attending the CME;
  + The date of workshop should inform the members two week prior to workshop date;
  + Presentation should be scientific;
  + Promote more doctors to present their own experiences; and
  + Improve communication.

As to the agenda for each workshop, 88.46% of them (N=52) said it is enough agenda; however 7.69% revealed that it is too much while 3.38% said it is not enough.

Chart 1: shows the agenda of workshop in percentage.

Asked if they have any recommendation for the improvement of topic presentation, 76.92% said to find more new speakers/invite more international speakers. 69.23% mentioned to update new topics/more training topics. 44.23% wanted the members to share topic/to pick up new topic. Meanwhile 38% recommended to involve all members to participate in CME activity/encourage all members to attend.

23% suggested that all should join and each of them should prepare a topic to give presentation.

Table 3: recommendation for the improvement on topic presentation? (Multiple choice) (N=52)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | Number | Percentage |
| Find more new speaker/invite more international speaker | 40 | 76.92 |
| Updated new topic/more training topic | 36 | 69.23 |
| Members to share topic/to select new topic | 23 | 44.23 |
| Involve all members to participate in CME activity/encourage all members to attend | 20 | 38.46 |
| All to join and each member has to give presentation | 12 | 23.08 |

Asked whether the participants wanted CME workshop to be continued every year, 88.46% of them said “Yes”; while other 11.54% gave no comment.

When asked the reasons why they wanted CME Workshop to be continued every year, 88.46% said share experiences/discussion with each other. 84.62% described that to update advanced knowledge/learning among peer. 53.85% mentioned that it benefit to everyone. Make new friend/communicate with each other and professional development is 38.46% respectively.

Table 4: Reasons why they want CME to be continued (Multiple answers, N=52)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | Number | Percentage |
| Share experiences/discussion | 46 | 88.46 |
| Update advanced knowledge/learning among peer | 44 | 84.62 |
| Benefit to everyone | 28 | 53.85 |
| Make new friend/communicate with each other | 20 | 38.46 |
| Professional development | 20 | 38.46 |
| No comment | 1 | 1.92 |

69.23% of respondents commented that they wanted to have CME workshop to be organized twice a year however 26.92% wanted only once a year while 3.85% gave no comment.

Chart 2: Percentage of CME to be organized

When asked if there is no support for per diem and transportation, most of them hesitated to answer this question. Up to 42.31% of all respondents mentioned nothing while 38.46% mentioned that they will attend. 19.23% said they will not attend.

Table 5: Percentage of CME attendance if there is no support for per diem and transportation. (N=52)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | Number | Percentage |
| No comment | 22 | 42.31 |
| Yes | 20 | 38.46 |
| No | 10 | 19.23 |

Regarding opinion in order to make possibly CME workshop organized without support from NGO, 65.38% of them stated that they should get the support from the company. 57% mentioned that they should request the budget from MoH/National budget. 53.85% thought of the contribution from the participants. 26.92% wanted to reduce the per diem rate. 25% expressed that they must commit themselves to attend. 23% talked about volunteerism to do fund raising while other 23% said they would look for sponsorship through website. Only 13% wished to use the membership fee/selling ticket to enter the workshop and produce income from some of activities.

However, still 69% of them insisted that NGO should continue to sponsor/support them.

Table 6: Opinion of making CME possible without support from organization? (Multiple answer) N=52

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Number** | **Percentage** |
| NGO should continue to sponsor/support | 36 | 69.23 |
| Get support from company | 34 | 65.38 |
| Request budget from MoH/National budget | 30 | 57.69 |
| Contribute from the participants | 28 | 53.85 |
| CME team responsibility | 15 | 28.85 |
| Reduce per diem rate | 14 | 26.92 |
| Must commit to attend | 13 | 25.00 |
| Volunteer to do fund raising | 12 | 23.08 |
| Looking sponsorship through website | 12 | 23.08 |
| Member fee/sell ticket | 7 | 13.46 |
| Produce income from activity | 7 | 13.46 |
| No comment/think it later | 1 | 1.92 |

Of 52 respondents, 28% mentioned that they could possibly afford to contribute $20 and $50 respectively; 15.38% gave no comment while those who could pay up to $70 and $100 is 7.69% and 5.77%. Other 5.77% would afford to pay only $10.

Figure 2: Affordable amount of annual membership fee for COS (choose one) N=52

Ask for the ideas for supporting COS members besides CME, the majority of them mentioned as the following:

* 1. To find partners;
  2. Solve problem happen in each eye unit;
  3. Looking for sponsorship through website;
  4. Produce income from some of activities;
  5. Encourage members to share practiced experiences;
  6. To have more presentation from national and international;
  7. Monitor members closely the income and payment;
  8. Organize competition contest or poster presentation during CEM
  9. Short course for more fellow training and CME;
  10. COS should play as the facilitator to ogranise all activities such as fund raining, coordination, communication…; and
  11. COS should produce a clinic.

When asked what other activities COS should do to contribute to development of Eye Health Care in overall, they mentioned that:

1. Invite doctors from Eye Unit in Phnom Penh to make to-ings and fro-ings of glaucoma and/or retinopathy;
2. Should engage more members to contribute more;
3. Try to do anything for CME;
4. Ophthalmic nurse training and CME members;
5. Short course for more fellow training to improve our human resources;
6. COS and medical council should do these kinds of issues;
7. Eye camp;
8. Eye promotion;
9. Produce leaflets, broachers… to distribute to patients and for eye health education;
10. Request to get sponsorship;
11. Request budget from National budget;
12. PBL programmer should make mobile eye care project;
13. To get more international speakers;
14. Increase the membership payment;
15. Treatment protocol, and update treatment protocol;
16. Training more staff in ophthalmology to update knowledge;
17. Provide more facility to the province; and
18. Educate more nurses.
19. Any other comment?
    1. Teamwork and sharing;
    2. More helpful and responsible about team work;
    3. Don’t be selfish and have to challenge;
    4. Should set up more new refraction to province that has no eye unit; and
    5. Speaker should not be resident where we are but the international one.

**Conclusion and recommendation**

Based on the results from survey, it is known that of 52 respondents, 84.62% acknowledge that they improved and updated new knowledge and learning among peers. 88.46% of them mentioned they shared experience/discussion. Of 53.85% said that it benefited to everyone. 38.46% described that they communicate with each other and make a friend. Other 38.46% is professional development. This shows that the majority of them understood that CME is very important to them; however, they feel rather hesitate to put their own resources to make CME be organized.

Even though most of COS members hesitate to contribute their pocket money for organizing CME, they give some good suggestion to make CME possible such as looking for the national budget or looking for some companies who make business on eye health to contribute. They also think about a volunteerism to do fund raising.

Alternatively, the venue for CME should be considered to reduce cost or else they should find out some big facility such as Phnom Penh municipal Referral Hospital as an option or other facility like Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital. Asides, the transportation cost and per diem should be not included in additional to the membership fee they contributed each year.

COS should develop its own plan for a step to move ahead to be more independent rather than reliant on NGO/outsider. NGO who works on eye health program should play a role to support COS to develop its strategic plan for their growth.

**Annex 1**

# Cambodia Ophthalmological Society

## Survey on Future direction

**Objective of survey:** to determine future direction of COS (CME and other activities)

Prepared by: Cambodian Ophthalmological Society and The Fred Hollows Foundation

I am a:

1. Member of Cambodian Ophthalmological Society 🞎
2. Member of Cambodian Ophthalmic Nurse Society 🞎
3. Non-member of above Society 🞎

**QUESTIONNAIRES**

1. Are you satisfied with CME organization?

🞎 Yes why?

* Improved and updated new knew 🞎
* Share experiences 🞎
* Well organized and good promotion 🞎
* Benefit to everyone 🞎
* Communicate with each other/ make friend 🞎

🞎 No why? ………………………………………………………………………………….………………………………………………

* Too much topic/not interest topic 🞎
* I spent much time to attend the session 🞎
* No comment 🞎

1. What is your recommendation for improvement of CME organising?
2. What do you think about an agenda?
3. The number of topic cover?

Too much 🞎

Enough 🞎

Not enough🞎

1. Do you have enough time to discuss/ask question?

Yes 🞎

No 🞎

1. What is your recommendation for the improvement on topic presentation? (multiple choice)

* Updated new topic/more training topic 🞎
* Find more new speaker/invite more international speaker 🞎
* Members to share topic/to select new topic 🞎
* All to join and each member has to give presentation 🞎
* Involve all members to participate in CME activity/encourage all members to attend🞎
* Increase number of ophthalmic nurse 🞎
* Continue work of CONS/continue their work 🞎
* No comment 🞎

1. Do you want CME to be continued every year?

🞎Yes why?

* Update advanced knowledge/learning among peer 🞎
* Share experiences/discussion 🞎
* Benefit to everyone 🞎
* Make new friend/communicate with each other 🞎
* Professional development 🞎
* No comment 🞎

🞎 No why? …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. How often CME to be organized per year? (choose one)

🞎 Once

🞎Twice

1. Will you attend CME if there is no support for per diem and transportation?

🞎 Yes 🞎No 🞎No comment

1. What is your opinion in order to make CME possible without support from outsider/organization? (multiple answer)

* Contribute from the participants 🞎
* NGO should continue to sponsor/support 🞎
* Member fee/sell ticket 🞎
* Request budget from MoH/National budget 🞎
* Must commit to attend 🞎
* Volunteer to do fund raising 🞎
* CME team responsibility 🞎
* Get support from company 🞎
* Looking sponsorship through website 🞎
* Reduce per diem rate 🞎
* Produce income from activity 🞎
* No comment/think it later 🞎
* Other 🞎………………………………………………….

1. What would be the affordable amount of annual membership fee for COS/CONS member? (choose one)

🞎 USD 50

🞎USD 70

🞎 USD 100

🞎 Other please specify………………………………………….……………………………

1. What other activities (besides CME) COS should do to support members?
2. What other activities COS should do to contribute to development of Eye health Care in overall?
3. Any other comments,………………………………………………………………………………………..………….…………………… ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……………………………

THANKS FOR YOUR TIMES