

Sub-decree on Medical Ethics, No. 69 អនក្រឹត្យក
dated August 28, 2003

Article 50: The treatment fees must be charged based on rates of the service or special condition of the treatment. These treatment fees will be paid only after the service has been rendered. The physician must not demand for treatment fee for consultation or giving medical advice through telephone or correspondence. The physician must response to all inquiries for treatment fee. There is no mean of special payment can be a mandatory to the patient.

Article 52: In all circumstances, a summary contract for an effective treatment as well as demanding for money deposit is prohibited.

Free Medical Service:

- Immunization for children against 7 diseases: TB, hepatitis B, poliomyelitis, tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough and rubella.
- Anti-tetanus vaccine for pregnant women.
- Medical Check up and treatment of tuberculosis.
- Provision of antiretroviral drugs
- Treatment of AIDS-related opportunistic infection.

What do we do when seeking medical care at public hospitals or health centers?

- Check for price list for services provided at public hospitals or health centers.
- Check the price in the list for different medical services.
- Ask the cashier what is included in the bill before making any payment.
- Pay only for the service rendered by the hospital or health center.
- Ask for the invoice or receipt after payment for services.

Note: - No extra payment other than the official fees will be made for health care services in public hospitals or health centers.
- The cost of health care services provided may not be the same for all public hospitals or health centers.

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To Pay only Official Fees in Public Hospitals to Prevent Corruption

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What is Corruption?

Corruption occurs when someone uses their position, power or influence to obtain personal benefits for themselves or anyone connected with them. These benefits can be money, objects or other materials.

How does corruption affect you?

Corruption affects everyone in Cambodia. Corruption:

- Takes away funding for our irrigation canals, schools and health centers.
- Creates instability in and distrust of our government
- Prevents our businesses from growing and employing more people
- Increases the cost of public services to us.

What Commitments has our Government Made?

Fighting corruption is a central part of our Government's "Rectangular Strategy" for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency. During the First Cabinet Meeting of the Third Legislature of the National Assembly, Prime Minister Hun Sen stated, "The key thrust of the Royal Government of Cambodia's strategy to fight corruption is to take concrete actions that attack the roots of corruption".

At the Consultative Group meeting in December 2004 between the Cambodian government and donors, our government agreed to pass an international standard Anti-corruption Law by the end of 2005.

As citizens of Cambodia from government, private and civil society sectors we have the right to ensure that the government keeps its commitments to pass an international standard law on anti-corruption, and that the efforts to fight corruption are implemented.

How will reducing corruption benefit you?

- Greater income and more food for your family
- More jobs in the future for your children
- Improved education and health care services for your family
- Equal and affordable access to all government services and greater trust in the government
- Greater trust by businesses and investors in the government.

What can We do to Reduce Corruption?

Fighting corruption is the responsibility of every Cambodian. Corruption can be reduced if we all work together. We can help to reduce corruption in a number of ways:

- Refuse to accept bribes or pay bribes
- Always ask for a receipt when paying a government fee or other fees
- Ask officials what they use unofficial payments for when you are asked to pay them
- Allow time for official procedures to be followed and refuse to pay the speed fee
- Encourage local government officers to publicize official fees
- Ask your commune council for copies of official project budgets and documents
- Let your member of parliament know that you are concerned about the government passing an international standard anti-corruption law
- Advocate for Freedom of Information Law.

What can We Do to Reduce Corruption in Public Hospitals ?

We can reduce corruption in public hospitals and health centers by making only the official payment for services provided in the following manners:

- Refuse to give or take bribe in connection with public health care services.
- Ask for a receipt and check the price of public health care service before making payment.
- Pay only for services you have received and specified in the price list.
- Refuse to do any payment which is not specified in the public health price list.
- Do not force or encourage patients attending public hospital to go to your own clinic or pharmacy.
- Line up and wait for your turn and do not bribe for faster services.
- Report corrupt practices committed by public health officials by dropping the complaint letter into suggestion boxes in public hospitals or health centers.