

Update on the Mater Hospital – Nairobi, Kenya

The Mater Hospital Nairobi, first opened its doors in 1962 as a 60 bed unit. That was the culmination of six difficult years of negotiation, fundraising and hard work on the part of Sr. Dolorosa and her companions from the Diocese of Dublin.

Gradually over the years the Hospital grew – significant additions being a maternity extension in 1970, the paramedical building in 1987, a consultants clinic and family life centre in 1988, additional operating theatres, Accident and Emergency and ICU block in 1994, a separate chapel in 1997, and a School of Nursing in 2004.



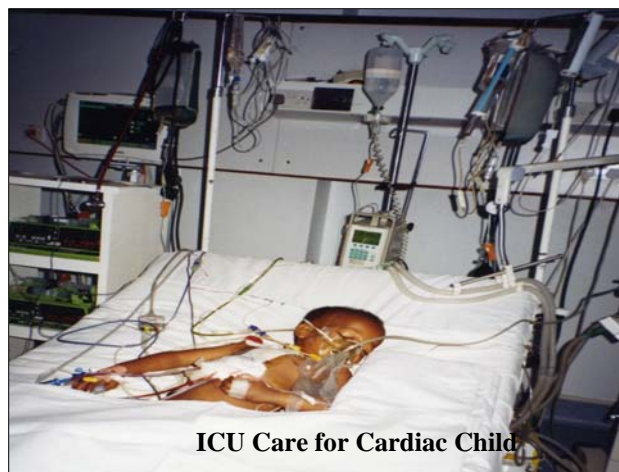
Today the Hospital has 137 beds, a 9 bedded ICU/HDU, a Renal Dialysis Unit, four operating theatres, a Cardiac Unit, a 24-hour A & E service, a School of Nursing and numerous outpatient services including a very busy Comprehensive Care Clinic (CCC) for HIV/ AIDS clients.



There are plans to upgrade many areas in the next two to three years – one of the most significant being to create twenty seven doctor's offices. Upgrading of the hospital infrastructure and acquisition of additional equipment, which is ongoing, has brought Mater in line with the best in Nairobi.

Throughout the years the Congregation has kept a significant presence of Mercy Sisters in the Hospital. The Catholic ethos is very much in evidence. We have a full time hospital chaplain and daily Mass is piped to the wards.

The hospital has over eighty visiting Medical Consultants in the various specialties who cover the hospital round the clock. There are over thirty hospital doctors employed between Theatre, A & E , ICU, Maternity and X ray. All major specialties are catered for i.e. Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics and Obs/Gynae. Practically all the subspecialties are also represented.



The Hospital is particularly active in reaching out to the most needy through the Cardiac Program and the CCC. The Cardiac Program addresses the needs of children with congenital and rheumatic heart ailments through cardiac catheterisation (both diagnostic and interventional) and cardiac surgeries. The CCC reaches out to the nearby slum of Mukuru to offer free and comprehensive care to people suffering from HIV/ AIDS. Both of the above programs are free to the clients with the help of financial support from the US Government (for HIV/AIDS) and local funding efforts and Terre des Hommes for the Cardiac Program.



Mater has a School of Midwifery since 1972, but in 2004 additional facilities were added and this enabled the Hospital to widen the curriculum to General Nursing at Diploma level. There are plans in the next two years that it be elevated to the level of BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing).



Mater Hospital Management, the staff and the Sisters are proud of what has been achieved, despite great constraints, over the years. It is now one of the top three hospitals in the country. Mater takes a decisive stance on issues of ethical significance in a society where morality is being threatened daily.

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Hospital (2012) we are sorely stretched financially to achieve our goal of really making Mater a first class tertiary care hospital where clients are assured they will get quality care at affordable cost. Can you help us realise this dream?

Our web site is www.materkenya.com

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