

# The International Symposium for Cardiac Care Teleconference Training Series

A Partnership Between



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- There are 4.5 billion people in the world who have no access to cardiac surgery because of lack of funding and capacity. Most are living in poverty and will die without care.
- There are not enough cardiac surgeons in developing countries trained in the latest surgical techniques, in particular for infants, newborns, and other complicated cases.
- The International Symposium for Cardiac Care Teleconference Training Series is a partnership between the VinaCapital Foundation, the World Heart Foundation, and the World Bank Global Development Learning Network in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- It consists of a series of videoconference training sessions that link world-class experts in cardiac care with physicians from developing countries in Southeast Asia.

## The International Symposium for Cardiac Care Teleconference Training Series

- The goal is to increase capacity for cardiac care and improve access and outcomes for children with heart disease through medical training.
- Doctors from all over Vietnam congregate in teleconferencing centers in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi for a series of lectures by exemplary leaders in the field of cardio-thoracic surgery.
- Learning centers in Indonesia, Cambodia, China, and Bangladesh are also connected, allowing doctors in those countries to participate interactively.
- Target audience is cardio-thoracic surgeons, cardiologists, and pediatric and family care physicians in developing countries.
- First monthly session took place in November 2008.



# Program Highlights

- From November 2008 through April 2009, **481 doctors** from Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and China participated in the monthly video-conferencing series.
- The lecturers are world-class experts in their field hailing from institutions such as Emory University School of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic, and the Children's Heart Institute in Washington, DC.
- The lectures cover a total of 12-20 topics in cardiac care including atrial fibrillation, congenital heart surgeries, and off-pump bypass.
- Lectures are interactive, enabling participants to ask questions after the presentation.
- Doctors from developing countries outside of the region also joined the training sessions via webcast. The training series will continue through 2009 and beyond 2009 if funding is available.

# Partnership Highlights

- **Reach**: The GLDN's network of learning centers allows us to broadcast simultaneously from several key locations and reach our network of doctors in many developing countries.
  - Simultaneous webcast of the series further expands our outreach into developing areas around the world.
  - Plan is to offer the series in Africa and the Middle East in late 2009 with GLDN centers there; currently seeking funding for this expansion.
- **Expertise**: WHF and VCF's network of the leading cardiology and cardiac surgery specialists provides the participants with training that helps raise level of care closer to international standards.
- **Lasting Impact**: Recorded and interactive learning binders on the series in multiple languages are created for free distribution to medical programs and libraries in developing nations.
  - Binders are sold to programs or individuals in developed nations to fund future training programs.