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HIV in Myanmar: Lives in the balance

Wednesday 14 March 2012, 9.10am

Ms Khin Nyein Chan, Medical Coordinator for Médecins Sans Frontières (Myanmar)
Ms Gina Bark, Médecins Sans Frontières Regional Coordinator (Bangladesh and Myanmar)
Dr Kamalini Lokuge, ANU College of Medicine, Biology and Environment

Lecture Theatre 1

Hedley Bull Centre [Building 130], Garran Road
The Australian National University, Canberra



Médecins Sans Frontières Myanmar 2012 © Greg Constantine

The ANU College of Asia and the Pacific and international medical humanitarian organisation Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders invite you to an event focussed on the critical need for HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) treatment in Myanmar today.

Médecins Sans Frontières, the largest provider of HIV treatment in Myanmar, will present the findings of its new report, *Lives in the Balance*. The report shows that there are 85,000 people in Myanmar who urgently need lifesaving anti-retroviral therapy (ART) but are unable to access it.

Between 15,000 and 20,000 people living with HIV die every year in Myanmar because of lack of access to treatment. TB prevalence in Myanmar is more than three times the global average and Myanmar is among the 27 countries with the highest MDR-TB rates in the world.

Myanmar, the least developed country in Southeast Asia, is one of the lowest recipients of Official Development Aid in the world. With recent political reform being reciprocated by greater engagement from the international community, there is an opportunity to put access to treatment for people living with HIV and TB at the top of donor priority lists.

The report will be presented by MSF's Myanmar Medical Coordinator and MSF's Regional Coordinator. MSF has been working in Myanmar since 1992 and currently provides treatment for over 23,000 HIV patients; 6,000 more are due to start treatment in 2012.

The event will be moderated by Dr Nicholas Farrelly, a scholar of Myanmar politics and society based in the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific.

Presented by

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