

NEO FOR NAMIBIA HELPING BABIES SURVIVE



TEAM

- Thomas M. Berger, MD
- Sabine Berger, RN

A more detailed report
can be downloaded from
www.neo-for-namibia.org

MISSION REPORT 2026-2

SHORT VERSION

May 4 to June 2, 2026

Mission goals

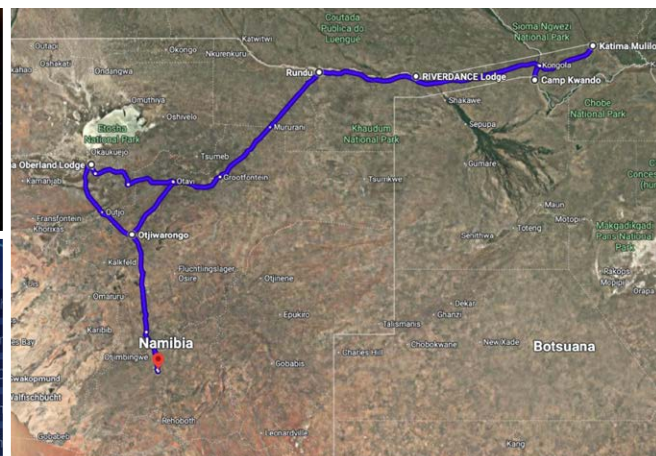
- To oversee the distribution of the NGO's largest donation yet (monitoring equipment, incubators, resuscitation units, X-ray view boxes)
- To introduce a handheld ultrasound scanner (Clarius C7)
- To make final arrangements for the introduction of the Vayu® bubbleCPAP device
- To finalize and possibly sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)

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Flight Information	
Ground Speed	964 km/h
Altitude above Sea Level	11,887 m
Outside Air Temperature	-54.0 °C
Distance to Destination	772 km
Tail Wind	103 km/h



Hospitals visited

- Rundu Intermediate Hospital
- Katima State Hospital

The mission team members flew across the African continent and covered more than 3'000 km by car in Namibia.

Rundu Intermediate Hospital

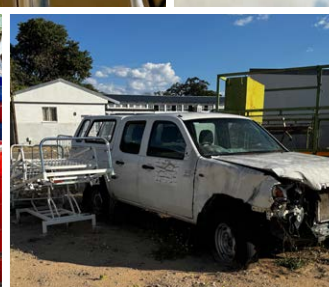
During their visit, the team was satisfied by the overall quality of care but also observed deficiencies that will have to be addressed without delays.

The Prem Unit has two EVE TR neo ventilators donated by NEO FOR NAMIBIA – Helping Babies Survive. Most nurses and many doctors (interns and even medical officers) do not fully understand how the machines should be used.

A lack of strong leadership was apparent both among nursing and physician staff; if this situation cannot be corrected rapidly, the quality of patient care will likely decline resulting in worse outcomes for sick babies.

These concerns were discussed with the Prem Unit's leaders, Dr. Isha Kamara, MD, Cecilia Ndepavali, RN, and Natalia Murongo, RN.

Invasive mechanical ventilation remains challenging: knowledge gaps, equipment malfunction and unreliable availability of X-ray imaging put patients at risk.



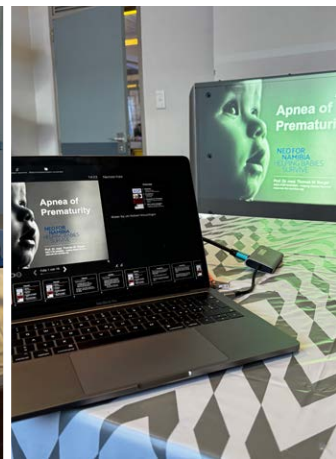
Equipment graveyards (left, middle) at Rundu Intermediate Hospital are growing; the main storage room (right) is cluttered and not well organized.



While trying to find storage space for medical equipment, Prof. Thomas M. Berger came across a litter of kittens hidden in a cardboard box in a cupboard in an empty room in the women's shelter.

Prof. Thomas M. Berger was able to give formal lectures to new interns and medical officers and nurses on various topics.

Lectures for the nurses were given in the Prem Unit (left and middle: patient room; right: staff kitchen) to allow for as many nurses as possible to attend.

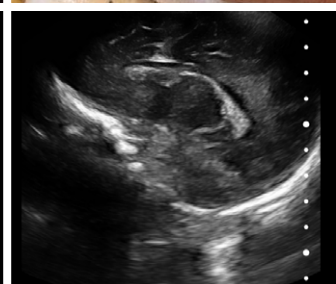
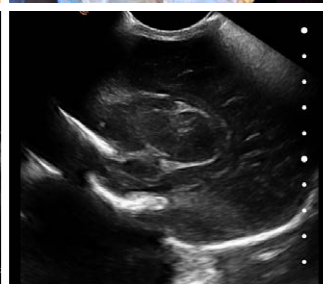
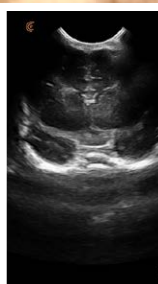


Ultrasound allows non-invasive examination of the neonatal brain. With adequate equipment, it can be done at the bedside.

Bedside teaching of the Clarius C7 POCUS scanner: Prof. Thomas M. Berger and Dr. Isha Kamara examine the brain of a baby with late-onset sepsis and possible meningitis.



The Clarius C7 POCUS device is easy to use and provides excellent image quality.



Katima State Hospital

During their short stay in Katima (four days), the mission team was able to abstract statistical data, to update the neonatology unit's inventory list and to give a lecture on neonatal resuscitation to doctors and midwives in the obstetrical unit.

Syringe feeding of a preterm baby.



With winter approaching, keeping babies warm becomes increasingly challenging, both in the neonatology unit and in the villages. The mission team was once again able to bring knitted hats and socks for babies.

Always keeping babies warm: knitted hats and socks are welcome (they are used in the neonatology unit and given to mothers when their babies are discharged).





Largest donation yet

After an odyssey lasting more than eight months, the largest donation of NEO FOR NAMIBIA – Helping Babies Survive arrived on board of a container ship in Walvis Bay, Namibia. Following repetitive interventions to facilitate customs clearance, the container truck arrived in Rundu on Saturday, May 23, 2026. With the help of hospital employees, the mission team was able to unload the container and sort the equipment over the weekend:

- Monitoring equipment donated by the Zuger Kantonsspital and Anandic
- Resuscitation units donated by Anandic and bought from Hirslanden Klinik Cham
- Incubators donated by Anandic



Arrival of the container truck from Walvis Bay with donations.



Impressions from the 26th mission

To conclude this report, some few images will illustrate scenes the team encountered during their one-month-trip through Namibia. Enjoy!

Evening scenery at the Kavango River.



Sports event: happy kids following an afternoon of sports activities (including tennis practice with rackets and balls donated 'la vie en tennis', Adligenswil, Switzerland) with food and drinks.

Donate and help babies survive

neo-for-namibia.org/donate



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