

Columbia Asia expands to Africa

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Singapore: In line with its expansion strategy, Columbia Asia, one of the largest and fastest-growing healthcare companies in Asia, is expanding its operations to Africa to serve the rising demand from the continent's middle class for affordable, modern and efficient healthcare facilities. The new facility is expected to raise the healthcare standards of the African nation and provide quality services to the people.

The company's first facility in Africa is located in Nairobi, Kenya. The 5,300-square-foot multispecialty clinic and diagnostic center was inaugurated this week and operates under a new brand Columbia Africa. This multispecialty clinic boasts of specialization in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, gynecology, general surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology and dental care.

The facility offers health checks, as well as telemedicine to allow patients to consult with specialist doctors at Columbia Asia hospitals. The Nairobi clinic also has a patient services center to facilitate patients travelling for surgery at Columbia Asia hospitals in Asia, which had already been receiving a significant number of patients from East Africa.

Mr John Northen, Group Chief Executive Officer of Columbia Asia, said, "Africa has become a growing market for us, as patients are increasingly seeking multispecialty, affordable healthcare services delivered at international standards. Kenya is the economic, commercial and logistical hub for all of East Africa, with Nairobi as a major center of growth and foreign investment, so the city was a great fit for our first Columbia Africa facility."

Columbia Asia, part of Seattle-based Columbia Pacific Management, has 27 hospitals and one clinic in India, Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia, built with an innovative business model focused on serving a rapidly growing middle class with modern and efficient multispecialty facilities located close to where patients live and work. With the addition of the Columbia Africa clinic, the company has 10,000 employees serving more than 2.5 million patients a year, with 2,200 beds across 27 hospitals and two clinics.