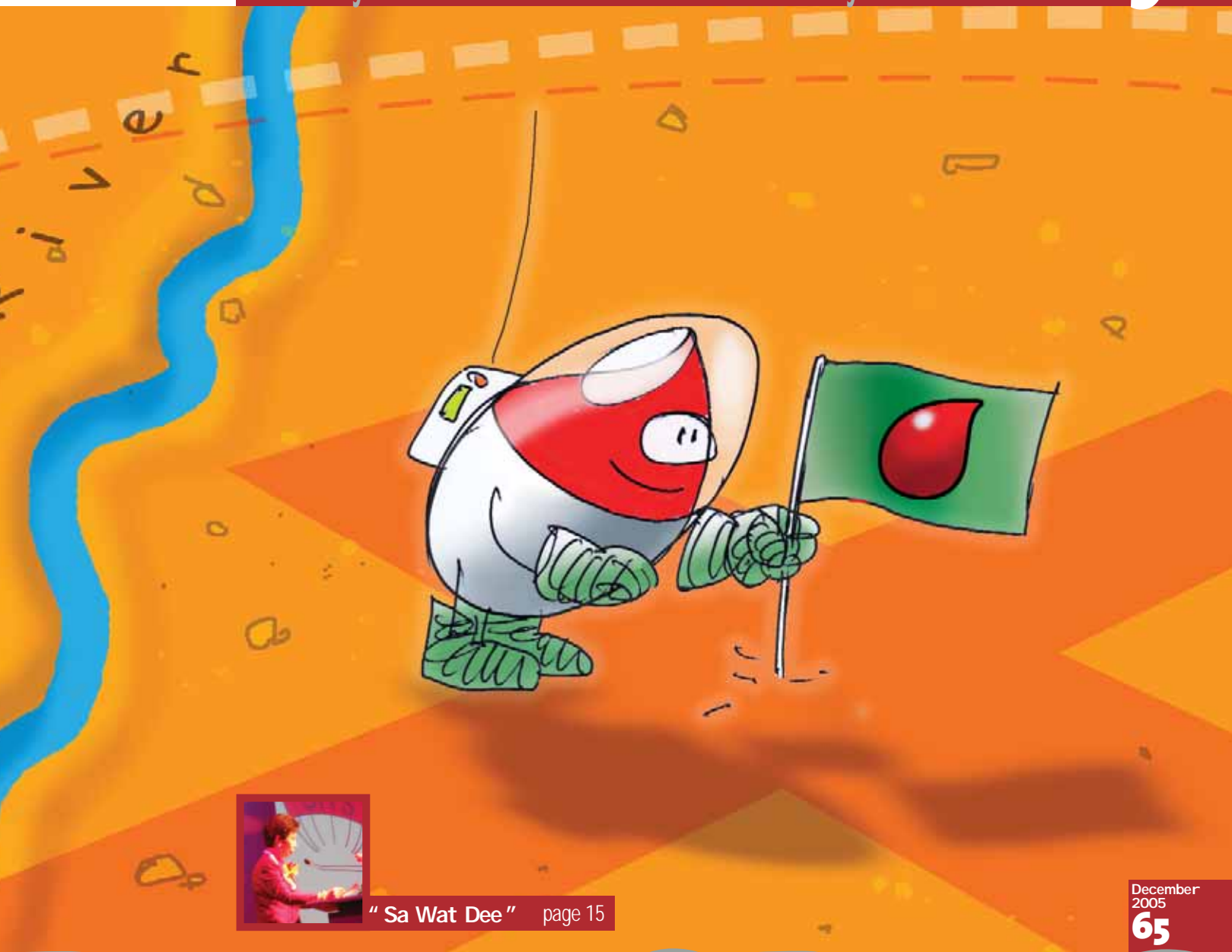




TransfusionToday

Quarterly newsletter of the international society of blood transfusion



" Sa Wat Dee " page 15

December
2005

65

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

BULLETIN TRIMESTRIEL D'INFORMATION
DE LA SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE
DE TRANSFUSION SANGUINE



• Mark Your Calendar
page 28

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Editorial

While the developed world is striving to attain zero risk transfusion, the developing nations are still trying to improve voluntary non remunerated blood donor sources

Supply of safe blood is a high priority subject for national health authorities because of the life saving nature of transfusion therapy. While the developed world is striving to attain zero risk transfusion, the developing nations are still trying to improve voluntary non remunerated blood donor (VNRBD) sources and to attain quality standards in blood transfusion services (BTS).

Coordination at national health authority level to improve VNRBD is of utmost importance, keeping in mind diverse socio-cultural differences in different countries. The ray of hope is that few developing countries have already achieved the target of 100% VNRBD in spite of all odds.

Second most important area of concern is the proper testing of collected units. All mandatory testing as per national regulation must be carried out before transfusion. Again, local authorities are to ensure availability and compliance of testing.

Various national and international agencies (WHO, IFRC IFBDO etc) are playing a very crucial role in uplifting the BTS in developing countries. Results are already visible in many countries. Post Graduate degrees, regular CMEs and workshops are needed for manpower development. National and transnational Associations/Societies also need to do much more in coordinating the activities of the BTS. The most important factor will be the commitment and involvement of Transfusion Medicine specialists at the local (primary) level.

Optimum standards should also be maintained in the blood banks so that, if required, blood units which we give to ordinary patients, can also be transfused to our next to kin without a second thought.

N. Chaudhury
Editorial board

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Design & Layout : A trois communication
Photos : © Transfusion Today
Sketches : Antoine de Chaumont

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