

Pacific to invest \$1.94m in Indian heart care JV

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PACIFIC Healthcare will invest almost \$2 million in a cardiac care business in India through a joint venture.

Pacific said yesterday that it has agreed to pay \$1.94 million cash for a 15 per cent stake in Cure Heart, which has a subsidiary that owns and operates five heart centres in Bangalore and Goa.

Cure Heart is an investment vehicle managed by Kuwait Finance House's fund management unit in Labuan, East Malaysia. Based on Cure Heart's unaudited balance sheet at end-December last year, its net asset value is US\$5.08 million.

It has a 68 per cent stake in Srinivasa Cardiology Centre, a cardiac care group that owns and operates the Indian heart centres under the Vivus name.



Pacific Healthcare said that it has a call option to take a further 15 per cent stake in the venture.

Related link: [Click here for Pacific Healthcare's press release](#)

The company's chief executive, William Chong, said: 'Economic growth has brought with it a surge in diseases of affluence, such as heart disease. The World Health Organization estimates that by 2020, one in every four cardiovascular patients worldwide will be from India. As cardiology is one of our key focus areas and India an important growth market, our investment in Cure Heart will reinforce our position in this sector as we expand in the region.'

The investment is the second joint venture between Pacific Healthcare and Kuwait Finance House Malaysia (KFHM) since their signing of an agreement in February to

collectively invest up to \$32 million, either in cash, or by injecting businesses, to set up new medical centres in Asia.

In July, KFHM spent \$4.36 million for a 60 per cent stake in Pacific's wholly owned Synergy Healthcare Investments.

Synergy had exercised an option in March to buy a 30 per cent stake in Radlink Asia, which provides diagnostic imaging and radiography services here, for \$7.26 million.