



WHAT IT IS

The global, multisectoral Coalition for Access to NCD Medicines & Products is dedicated to increasing access to essential medicines and health products for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) to reduce the impact of diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease. Through technical support, advocacy, and resource mobilization, the Coalition works with ministries of health to address barriers and identify opportunities for the procurement, supply, distribution, and rational use of needed products. Members include government agencies, private-sector entities, nongovernmental organizations, philanthropic foundations, and academic institutions.

The goal: To achieve or exceed the World Health Organization’s target of 80 percent availability of the affordable basic technologies and essential medicines, including generics, required to treat major NCDs in both public and private facilities.

WHAT MAKES THIS DIFFERENT

The Coalition complements and bolsters the work of other NCD initiatives and is unique in its focus on (1) a multisectoral approach, (2) increasing access to essential medicines and health products (EMPs), and (3) providing technical and advocacy expertise for individual countries and at the global level. All sectors have an equal voice and equal vote.

HOW IT WORKS

The Coalition will build on existing initiatives and innovate to identify and remove barriers to access to NCD EMPs. The Coalition is committed to providing an inclusive, neutral convening space that creates new opportunities, complements existing initiatives, and in which varied perspectives and technical expertise drive innovative solutions. It will enable like-minded institutions to come together to achieve objectives shared across sectors, raise the profile of key issues, and leverage the range of skills and expertise of members to improve access to health commodities. Objectives include:

- Augmenting selected global initiatives through technical guidance and data, harmonization of efforts enhancing efficiency and return on investment, and establishing a common framework to measure success.
- Strengthening supply chain and health systems as needed to increase access to affordable quality-assured NCD EMPs in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).
- Influence policy change at global and national levels to establish an enabling environment for NCD supply security.
- Fostering cross-sectoral collaboration to improve access to affordable NCD EMPs.

Coalition members with core expertise lead four workstreams to drive implementation of activities at the global and national levels: (1) supply chain strengthening; (2) financing and costing; (3) health systems strengthening; and (4) advocacy. The work builds on program efforts by PATH and other founding members, which have been laying the groundwork for several years, beginning in 2014 with the launch of the No Empty Shelves: Diabetes Supplies, There When Needed project; the release of a global landscape report alongside the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 (UNGA 70); a global call to action; and roundtables and presentations alongside UNGA 71, UNGA 72, UNGA 73 and the 69th and 70th World Health Assemblies in 2016 and 2017.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS and GOVERNMENTS

Ministry of Health, Kenya
Ministry of Health and Social Action, Senegal
Ministry of Health, Uganda
Arnhold Institute for Global Health
The George Institute for Global Health
RTI International
International Federation of Pharmaceutical
Manufacturers & Associations
International Society of Hypertension
NCD Alliance
PATH (Secretariat)
World Economic Forum
World Heart Federation
World Hypertension League
Novo Nordisk
Access Accelerated
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany
Pfizer, Inc.
Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
Sanofi
Servier
Joep Lange Institute

Steering Committee

Jean Claude Mbanya, Cameroon
Rachel Nugent, RTI
Sir George Alleyne, Director Emeritus, PAHO
Thomas Cueni, IFPMA
Katie Dain, NCD Alliance
Joseph Kibachio, MoH Kenya
David Heller, Arnold Institute for Global Health

Technical Advisory Committee

Tom Bollyky, Council on Foreign Relations
Allison Colbert, WHO
Danny Edwards, The Access to Medicine Foundation
Trevor Hassell, Healthy Caribbean Coalition
Dorje Mundle, BSR
Kaushik Ramaiya, Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital
Prashant Yadav, Harvard Medical School
Hitesh Hurkchand, Interagency Supply Chain
Group

Secretariat

PATH

WHY THIS, WHY NOW

NCDs are the number one cause of death and disability worldwide, forcing 100 million people in low-resource settings into poverty annually. We can reduce premature morbidity and mortality from NCDs by using innovation and existing technologies to increase access to NCD prevention and care, yet current availability of EMPs falls far short of what is needed.

Approximately 74 percent of NCD-related deaths occur in LMICs.¹ The World Economic Forum estimates that by 2030, NCDs will cost LMICs US\$14 trillion.² Prevention and effective treatment are critical and within reach. We must identify and address barriers to access to EMPs for NCDs, strengthen supply chains, control the risk of interruptions or delays, and efficiently get products to those who need them. Moreover, addressing NCDs and providing access to quality-assured, affordable EMPs are key components of the global drive to attain universal health coverage, which will allow people to access basic health services without incurring financial hardship.

Global health coalitions have successfully strengthened supply security in other disease areas through technical support, advocacy, and resource mobilization. The need for such concentrated, coordinated action for NCDs is clear. The global community recognizes that improved access to EMPs is critical to reduce the impact of diabetes, hypertension, and other NCDs on individuals, families, and economies. This is evidenced by the World Health Organization's Global Action Plan, which calls for 80 percent availability of EMPs by 2025. Additionally, the Sustainable Development Goals include NCDs, and the third United Nations High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2018 represents an important future milestone to keep NCDs on the global agenda.

WHERE

The Coalition has prioritized East Africa (starting with Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania) for the implementation of an integrated workplan to address health systems, supply chain, advocacy, and finance/ costing barriers to supply security for essential medicines and products at the global, national, and local levels. The Coalition plans to expand efforts to Asia and possibly Latin America in subsequent years.

ENGAGE

We seek engagements from governments, private-sector entities, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, philanthropic foundations, and international business associations interested in, and willing to commit to, an action plan to improve availability of affordable essential medicines and health products.

Please contact Helen McGuire, Global Program Leader for NCDs, PATH at hmcguire@path.org

[1] World Health Organization. *Global Status Report on Noncommunicable Diseases 2010*. Geneva; World Health Organization; 2010.

[2] Bloom DE, Cafiero ET, Jané-Llopis E, et al. *The Global Economic Burden of Non-communicable Diseases*. Geneva: World Economic Forum; 2011.