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 will 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 will build 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, and the 69th and 70th World Health Assemblies in 2016 and 2017.

MEMBERS

Member Organizations
- 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
- Dimagi
- International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations
- International Pediatric Association
- International Society of Hypertension
- NCD Alliance
- NCD Child
- 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
- 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

Technical Advisory Committee* (Founding Members)
- Tom Bollyky, Council on Foreign Relations
- Larry Deeb, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital
- Trevor Hassell, Healthy Caribbean Coalition (new in 2018)
- Marc Jaffe, Resolve to Save Lives (new in 2018)
- Marie Ka-Cisse, Ministry of Health and Social Action, Senegal
- Dorje Mundle, BSR (new in 2018)
- Kaushik Ramaiya, Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital
- Prashant Yadav, Harvard Medical School

*Technical Advisory Committee members contribute as individuals, not as official representatives of their institutions.

Foundational Funders and Members
- Novo Nordisk
- PATH
- Pfizer, Inc.
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. The World Economic Forum estimates that by 2030, NCDs will cost LMICs US$14 trillion. 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 will work with countries that are prioritizing NCDs and are involved with partner initiatives such as the Global Hearts Initiative, No Empty Shelves, and costing and modeling efforts.

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