



Disrupting the Emerging Cancer Crisis in Africa

At BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH), we understand that prompt, coordinated responses by governments, private industry, and experts are critical to stemming the tide of Africa's cancer epidemic and scaling the benefits of life-saving cancer innovations across the globe.

In this first part of our special series, [Disrupting the Emerging Cancer Crisis in Africa](#), we present a case example of how through the [African Access Initiative \(AAI\)](#), BVGH is building cancer diagnostic capacity in Africa.

BVGH partnered with the Center for Global Health at the American Society for Clinical Pathology, Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene, and the Ivorian Society of Pathology to organize a three-day pathology workshop that brought together nearly 100 participants from 10 Francophone African countries. Three experts from Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital in Montreal, Canada led the workshop sessions using training materials customized to the expertise, expectations, and needs of the attendees.

This type of coordinated response serves as a replicable model for African countries seeking to improve their oncology capacity in order to save lives.

We will share more models of collaboration from Côte d'Ivoire later in this special series:

- Part 2: BVGH – American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) multidisciplinary prostate cancer workshop
- Part 3: BVGH – Ameera Fund cervical brachytherapy training

Join us in our initiative to build sustainable solutions to the cancer crisis in Africa.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BIO Ventures for Global Health

Case Example: Building Cancer Diagnostic Capacity in Francophone Africa



Pathologists gathered in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire for a three-day workshop.

There is a tremendous need for cancer pathology training across Africa. In many sub-Saharan African countries there is only one pathologist for every one million patients, a ratio approximately 50 times lower than in high-income countries. Increasing the accuracy and timeliness of cancer diagnoses can mean the difference between survival and death for patients. In this story from Côte d'Ivoire, BVGH demonstrates a model of public and private collaboration that is building the cancer diagnostic capacity in sub-Saharan Africa.

“The future of caring for my patients has improved after this training because now I have a better understanding of what it takes to conduct a high-quality diagnosis. By communicating and working with pathologists, members of the clinical team and I will take action to improve patient care.” – Participant and Medical Resident at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Treichville in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

[Read Disrupting the Emerging Cancer Crisis in Africa, Part 1](#)

Join the Fight

To learn more about AAI and to get involved, please contact [Katy Graef](#).



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