Innovate4Health: How Innovators Are Solving Global Health Challenges

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How Innovators Are Solving Global Health Challenges
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The I4H Report

- Our motivation: To explore how on-the-ground innovation is tackling global health challenges.
- Healthcare innovation isn’t just about new medicines and doesn’t happen only in labs in wealthy countries.
- IP-driven innovation in healthcare is happening everywhere.
Innovate4Health Case Studies
Innovate4Health: The Six Challenges

- Adapting healthcare interventions for environments where resources and infrastructure are challenging;
- Providing affordable and robust tests for diagnosing diseases;
- Improving HIV diagnosis and care;
- Developing affordable interventions to meet basic needs in challenging environments;
- Getting healthcare to the people in places where it’s hard for people to come to the healthcare;
- Fostering health innovation in emerging economies.
Challenge: Getting Healthcare to People in Places Where It’s Hard for People to Get to Healthcare Providers

- 1 billion people lack access to essential health care.
- Global shortage of 7 million public healthcare workers, with that number expected to rise to 13 million by 2035.

Source: WHO
Arktek

A passive vaccine cooler developed to keep vaccines at a steady cool temperature for 30 days.
Peek Eye Exam Kit (PEEK)

Bringing the optometrist’s office to the patient.
Miriam Cancer Screening

Miroculous’ affordable, easy to deploy cancer screening tool.
Nearly 1 billion people lack access to electricity. Access to reliable electricity is even more difficult.

Source: World Bank
Embrace Infant Warmers

Developed to save premature babies from hypothermia.
FRE02—Siphon oxygen machine

Provides oxygen using water pressure, without electricity.
Lessons Learned From the I4H Case Studies

- Developing countries have unique challenges, but global health challenges are increasingly commonly shared.
  
  - 70% of fatalities in developing world from non-communicable diseases.
  
  - High burden of heart disease and cancer.

Image of a CAR-T cell (reddish) attacking a leukemia cell (green).
Lessons Learned From the I4H Case Studies

▪ Access challenges remain significant.

  – Essential medicines available in public-sector facilities in developing countries only 40% of the time.

  – More than two billion individuals lack adequate access to essential medical products/supplies.

▪ Innovators creating unique solutions to the challenge of access to medicines, supplies, and health services.
Zipline

- “Zips” serve 21 Rwandan hospitals.
- Provide instant access to emergency medical supplies for 2/3rds Rwandans.
- Enable more agile, adaptable supply chains and expand product availability.
Cardio-Pad

- World’s first medical tablet facilitating remote heart examinations/diagnosis.
- Tackled lack of specialists while dramatically raising affordability.
The Importance of Intellectual Property Rights

1. IPRs create incentives for innovation.

2. IPRs enable entrepreneurs to focus on innovating, not protecting IP.

3. IPRs serve as a validator that helps entrepreneurs secure financing.

4. IPRs induce knowledge spillovers that help others innovate.

5. IPRs boost domestic levels of exports, R&D, and FDI.
Ryan: “Patents provided incentives for biomedical technology entrepreneurs to make risky investments into innovation in Brazil.”

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Conclusion

- The human mind, with its vast capacity for ingenuity, is the one resource that exists everywhere.

- Intellectual property, far from being an impediment, plays a vital role toward helping solve global health challenges.
Thank You!

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