

# Enabling a world free from the burden of NTDs

The Global Public Health team at Johnson & Johnson is supporting global efforts to address the burden of NTDs by expanding treatment access and accelerating R&D.



## THE CHALLENGE

Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are a group of about 20 communicable, often-debilitating conditions that affect more than 1.7 billion people in nearly 150 countries around the world. These diseases disproportionately impact the most vulnerable individuals in low-resource countries, including populations living in poverty and in areas without adequate access to clean water and sanitation. With the emergence of climate change, NTDs stand to threaten even more people in more places as warming global temperatures make it possible for certain NTDs, like dengue, to spread from their native regions. NTDs have a considerable impact on the lives of the people they affect, contributing to significant morbidity and long-term loss of economic productivity.

## OUR RESPONSE

Johnson & Johnson has been a partner in the fight against NTDs for 15 years. In 2006, we began donating our medicine for intestinal worms, or soil-transmitted helminths (STH) infections — the most widespread of all NTDs and which have a particularly damaging impact on the health and development of children.

In 2012, Johnson & Johnson signed the London Declaration on NTDs, a landmark, first-of-its-kind public-private partnership and committed to provide 200 million doses of our STH medicine annually through 2020 and have since extended this commitment through 2025. Despite the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued meeting our commitments, and to date, Johnson & Johnson has donated more than 2 billion doses of our STH medicine to more than 50 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

Johnson & Johnson is also continuing to advance innovative solutions for NTDs. We have developed a pediatric-friendly, chewable formulation of our STH medicine, are accelerating the development of new preventive and therapeutic options for dengue and are exploring new and simplified therapeutic options for leprosy.

As part of our pledge to the 2022 Kigali Declaration, we remain steadfast in our commitments to help drive progress toward addressing the burden of NTDs and will continue to work in collaboration to build a healthier, more equitable world for everyone, everywhere.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Johnson & Johnson is tackling three WHO-identified NTDs impacting underserved people and communities around the globe.

**1.5B**

people affected worldwide by STH, or intestinal worms, including approximately 835 million children

UP TO

**400M**

people infected annually by dengue fever, a mosquito-borne viral disease

**200,000**

new cases of leprosy in 2018 alone, an under-addressed disease that results in skin lesions and significant disability

## OUR IMPACT AGAINST INTESTINAL WORMS

**2 BILLION+ DOSES**

of our medicine for intestinal worms donated since 2006

**200 MILLION DOSES**

of our medicine for intestinal worms donated each year

**53+ COUNTRIES**

receiving our medicine through our donation program

## OUR ENDURING COMMITMENT

Johnson & Johnson joined with the public and private sectors in signing the 2022 Kigali Declaration, reaffirming our longstanding commitment in the global fight against NTDs. In signing the Declaration, Johnson & Johnson is proudly pledging to:

- Continue donating our medicine for intestinal worms to high-burden countries through 2025 to help children live healthier lives,
- Continue advancing the clinical development of an antiviral compound to potentially prevent and treat dengue, and
- Explore the clinical development of simplified regimens to improve the efficacy and safety of treatment for leprosy.

### Spotlight on: Treatment Access



**Reaching children:** In 2006, Johnson & Johnson collaborated with the Task Force for Global Health to establish Children Without Worms, the first program focused exclusively on reducing intestinal worms in school-aged children, and began donating our medicine. In 2012, we increased our donation commitment to 200 million doses annually to children in need and have extended this commitment through 2025.



**Advancing pediatric formulations:** In 2019, we introduced an innovative pediatric-friendly formulation of our medicine that is both chewable and dispersible, allowing for ease of dosing for children as young as 1 year of age. Our donation program fully switched to the chewable formulation in 2021.



**Strengthening health systems:** We work with organizations like BRAC and the END Fund to support the training of community health workers in underserved communities, helping to build the capacity of local health systems to treat and diagnose intestinal worms.

### Spotlight on: Innovation



**Advancing dengue research:** Early-stage research showed positive results for our dengue-specific antiviral in humans, consistent with preclinical data seen in mouse and non-human primate models. The antiviral is now being evaluated in Phase 2a clinical studies for both the prevention and treatment of dengue.



**Investing in local scientific capacity:** In June 2022, Johnson & Johnson launched the first Satellite Center for Global Health Discovery in Asia at Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore, which aims to stimulate the early-stage science, innovation and talent development needed to tackle flaviviruses, including dengue, yellow fever, Zika and other pandemic threats.



**Exploring improved leprosy treatment:** We are focused on supporting a proof-of-concept Phase 2 study that is assessing the safety, pharmacokinetics and efficacy of eight weeks of bedaquiline monotherapy in participants with multibacillary leprosy. The trial is fully enrolled with a primary completion date in 2023.

## ABOUT J&J GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Through a dedicated global public health (GPH) organization that combines R&D, global access strategies and programs, and local operations, Johnson & Johnson is putting the world's most vulnerable and underserved at the heart of everything we do—measuring our success in lives improved. As a team of innovators, we are committed to pioneering and sustainably delivering meaningful and transformation products.

Upholding the rich heritage of Johnson & Johnson, we are taking on the toughest challenges, and, ultimately, we hope to do our part to close the gap of inequity and pave the way to a healthier future for the world's most vulnerable and underserved populations.

