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# Lessons from the Field: Deploying Emerging Technologies for NCD Screening and Management







# **About PATH**

## A global nonprofit improving public health



**70+ countries** where PATH is improving health



7 million lives saved through PATH-pioneered malaria control



**900 million people** reached with fortified rice



7 billion vaccine vial monitors

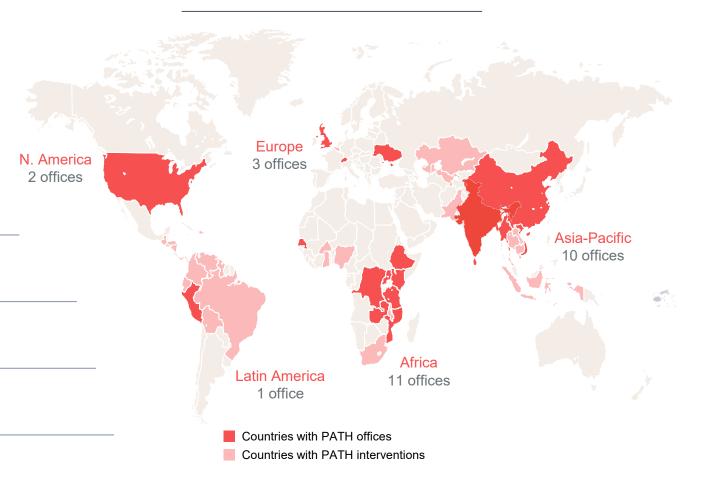


**3200 professionals** globally



World's first freeze-preventive cold box Received WHO PQ (field trials in Nepal)

### 27 offices in 24 countries



# NCDs & Technologies: The Why & How



# Burden of NCDs in Asia Pacific

NCDs are responsible for 7 of the top 10 leading causes of mortality and account for 28 premature deaths every minute globally

**43M** 

Deaths attributed to NCDs in 2021. Of these **18M** occurred in the ages of 30-70 [1]

\$47 trillion

the global cost of lost productivity from the four major NCDs\*\* plus mental health conditions, between 2011 and 2030 [2]

\*\* Cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases

### <sup>1</sup> WHO, 2024. Noncommunicable Diseases <sup>2</sup> WHO. 2022. Invisible Numbers: The True Extent of Noncommunicable Diseases and What to Do about Them. Geneva.

## **Challenges in NCD Care**



**Significant Differences in Clinical and Care Pathways** 



Inadequacy of infrastructure



High cost



**Economic Costs to Countries** 



**Insufficient Quality of Care** 



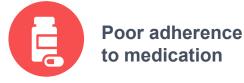
Scarcity of trained human resources



Limited access to specialist care



Limited Access to Digital Health Technologies





Lack of integration of health services



# A strengthened, technology-enabled, and comprehensive primary health care system

- Provides cost-effective quality of care in resource-limited settings
- Achieves universal health coverage (UHC) and Sustainable Development Goals
- Medical devices and innovative health technologies is critical in the fight against NCDs - Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs (2013–2020, extended until 2030)

# 

# Areas of Health Technology Interventions for better NCD Care



Screening and early detection

Rapid point-of-care tests and digital health tools often enabled by AI –

- Improves access to early detection, and
- Allows timely interventions for better health management



EHR and health information exchange platforms

Streamlines patient data storage

Improves data management

Ensures accessibility and easily transferability of patient records

Assists health-care providers in enhancing overall quality of care



Wearable devices and remote monitoring

Enable patients to track health indicators and share real-time data with their health-care providers

Instant biofeedback, especially with NCDs, through continuous monitoring



Innovative technologies for health workforce training

Technology innovations drive change in the PHC system's workforce.

Digital tools will reengineer the health systems

Huge potential for enhancing the capacity of the health workforce



Telemedicine

Malaysia's **MYSejahtera** – initially a COVID-19 contact tracing app – has integrated teleconsultation services

India's **eSanjeevani** is enabling digital health equity and achieving UHC

Social media platforms are used in many countries for appointment scheduling, teleconsultations, and e-prescriptions Scaling Technology
Innovations: PATH South
Asia Experience



# Impact Lab: 'Go-to-Platform' for Scaling-up Innovations

### Impact lab ecosystem comprises:

- Public sector
- Regulatory bodies
- Innovators/Researchers
- Incubators/Accelerators
- Industry

### Impact lab supports:

- Validation
- Usability, Feasibility, Acceptability Evaluation
- Deployment
- Evidence generation
- Market access and Scale-up of health technology innovations
- Conduct knowledge convenings, workshops and roundtables



### **Programmatic Areas:**

### **Primary Healthcare - NCDs**





Al enabled Stethoscope

**Smart Spirometer** 

### Maternal, Newborn and Child Health





Smart fetal monitoring

Non-invasive Hb testing

### Infectious Diseases

### **Immunization & Cold Chain Devices**

### **Climate X Health**







Medical grade portable refrigerators

# PATH Supported Deployments for NCD Screening and Management at Primary Health Care

By uniting global stakeholders including governments, health agencies, donors, and private sector entities, PATH provides a vital platform for advancing impactful solutions and driving positive change in public healthcare systems worldwide.



Mythri Lite (Niramai Health Analytix) -Non-invasive Breast cancer screening



Alveoair (Alveofit)\*-Al based Spirometer



**qXR (Qure.ai) -** Al based CAD for Chest X-ray



AiSteth (Ai
Health Highway)
- Al based
Stethoscope



SAVE (Briota
Technologies)\* - PFT
in a Box – Spirometer
with Teleconsultation



Smartscope (Periwinkle Technologies) -Cervical screening



AH-MX (Acare Technology) – Handheld Pulse Oximeter



EzeCheck (EzeRx Health Tech)\* - Noninvasive point-of-care Hb testing



Swoop (Hyperfine, Inc)\* Portable ultra-low field MRI for brain imaging

# Case Study: Cervical health screening by SMART Scope (Periwinkle)

Al-supported comprehensive single visit solution for cervical health screening

Naked eye, VIA-based cervical cancer screening faces challenges such as skill-dependent accuracy, low confidence, lack of remote review options, and logistical issues with acetic acid preparation

### **SMART Scope**



Provides consistent images with uniform illumination without the need for electricity, space, other infrastructure.



Telehealth software that facilitates secure digital records with review and consultation remoted.



An AI to analyze the images to provide a risk stratification.

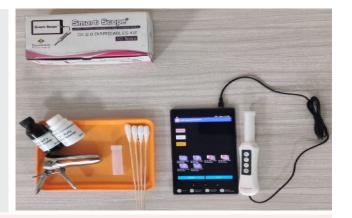


- Sensitivity: ~90%
- Specificity: ~80%



## ADVANTAGES

- Easy screening of cervical abnormalities
- Advance technology for point-of-care technology
- Better quality of care
- Instant visual report for patient counselling
- Single visit test



- The device is deployed across 12 healthcare facilities in Satara, Maharashtra, India 1 District Hospital, 1 Regional Hospital, 11 PHCs.
- It is also used for routine cervical health screening at facility level & at women health camps.



# ADB & PATH: Technology for NCDs and Mental Health

TA by PATH intends to bridge the gaps in primary health care access with technologies to enhance screening, diagnosis, self-care, and management of NCDs and mental health conditions for communities in primary healthcare settings.

Landscaping of technology-based solutions for screening, diagnosis, and management of NCDs relevant the Asia Pacific region. Published as ADB's knowledge brief.



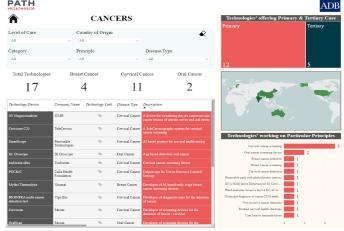
Developed a searchable directory of relevant applicable technologies based on the landscaping exercise.



Innovation Challenge to identify two innovative, scalable technologies that enhance person-centered, high-quality care for NCDs and mental health

















# 'Technologies Beyond Borders' Innovation Challenge to Scout New Technologies



### SAVE<sup>TM</sup> from Briota

Point of care solution for Chronic Respiratory Diseases such as COPD, Post TB Asthma and ILD at primary health care.

# **FINALISTS**

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

- NeoDocs
- Qure.ai

Population NCD AiHealth

Scanbo

Neopenda

Alveofit

- AiSteth
- BrainCapture

# Feasibility Assessment

To evaluate the usability, acceptability, and feasibility of SAVE™ platform from an enduser and programmatic perspective.

The evaluation consisted of two broad activities:

- Simulated use and interviews with health care workers in the different levels of healthcare facilities and in the different administrative zones of Bangladesh - to obtain feedback on the use experience and potential acceptability.
- 2. Stakeholder interviews with technical and programmatic stakeholders to explore the potential feasibility and fit in the public health program in Bangladesh

# Lessons from the Field



# Product Readiness to Deployment Readiness

Healthcare Worker **Assessment for Technology Operation** 



**End User & Patient Experience** 



**Data Storage &** Sharing



**Self-Testing Capability** 



**Software Licensing** Costs and Parameters



**Data Reporting for** Public Health Action



Minimum Digital **Literacy Level** 



**App Updates** (Frequency and Cost)



Repairs/Replacement **Including Batteries** 



**Trainings &** Refreshers



**Biosafety & Biowaste Management** 



**Service** Network



Consumables and Reagents (Sole/Open Source)



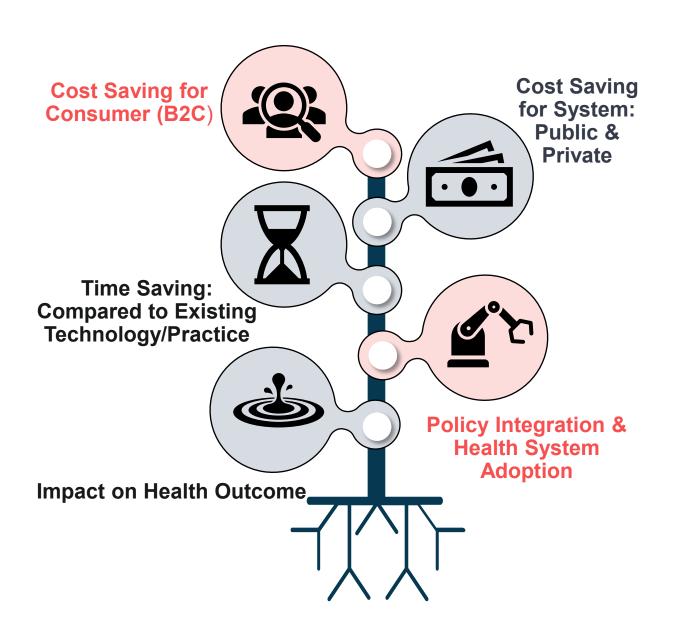
**Programmatic Fitment** 



Risk **M**anagement



# Deployment Readiness to Health Systems Adoption



# Additionally, Innovative Technologies for NCDs should:



Justify Efficiency & Efficacy v/s Competing Priorities



**Allow Provisions for Preventive Programs** 



Manage Referrals & Treatment



Fill Governance and Accountability Gaps

# Thank You

Visit @



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