

# Increasing access to medical devices in Indonesia



Medical devices are often neglected in health system planning, despite playing a critical role in diagnosis and treatment of numerous medical conditions. Since 2016, PATH has worked with the Indonesia Ministry of Health (MOH) and local partners to strengthen access to medical devices, including assessing availability of respiratory care equipment, establishing an oxygen working group and facilitating its participation in an international convening. In 2021, PATH focused on strengthening COVID-19 respiratory care response efforts and improving access to a broader range of maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) devices.

## Exploring access to oxygen and respiratory care equipment

PATH began respiratory care work in Indonesia with an [assessment of oxygen and pulse oximetry access](#), which outlined successes and opportunities to strengthen access to respiratory care services. Indonesia benefits from a strong network of medical gas suppliers, a robust regulatory environment, and mature digital systems for procurement (e-Katalog) and asset management (ASPAK<sup>1</sup>). And based on the assessment, the MOH formed a working group to establish key priorities in access to respiratory care.

The group also attended the [Accelerating Access to Oxygen Convening](#), where PATH brought together a coalition of country decision-makers, industry representatives, global health partners, and financiers. Stakeholders discussed barriers to reliable oxygen systems, shared opportunities to address them, and agreed on a path forward to improve oxygen delivery. Additional perspectives from other countries helped the Indonesia delegation refine their strategies and prioritize next steps, including finalizing training guidelines, improving price negotiations with suppliers, and increasing access to respiratory care in remote settings.

## Responding to oxygen needs for COVID-19

PATH's work in respiratory care access in Indonesia as part of their immediate COVID-19 response and to strengthen long-term respiratory care systems includes:

- Conducting an expanded biomedical equipment survey, building upon previous surveys carried out by the MOH and the World Health Organization and analyzing gaps in access to medical oxygen.
- Participating in stakeholder coordination efforts for the country's COVID-19 response and advocating for the prioritization of medical oxygen.
- Integrating existing data systems and developing dashboards for oxygen availability, need, and supply.

Building from this work, PATH hopes to strengthen systems and enhance the capacity of stakeholders that supply, manage, and deliver oxygen to patients in need.

## Addressing medical device barriers and strengthening digital systems

PATH completed a [global-level rapid market analysis for eight priority MNCH medical devices](#) and is now working to increase availability and use of these critical devices in Indonesia by:

- Conducting a country-specific analysis to determine barriers to use of the eight priority devices in MNCH care and identify promising interventions.
- Evaluating data quality gaps in the ASPAK system to improve its utility for medical device management.
- Developing a dashboard of indicators from the ASPAK system tailored to the decision-making needs of key MOH program leaders.

From these activities, PATH will provide insights and highlight opportunities for increasing availability and use of critical medical devices in Indonesia.

<sup>1</sup> ASPAK stands for *Aplikasi Sarana, Prasarana & Alat Kesehatan* or "Application for Medical Facilities, Infrastructure and Devices."