

Protecting newborns against HIV

A PATH innovation helps deliver lifesaving medicine

Every day, women around the world come face to face with a terrible reality: they are pregnant, they are infected with HIV, and there is one chance in four that they'll pass the deadly infection to their babies. It's hard to comprehend the helplessness these women feel.

At Vihiga District Hospital in Kenya, we met a nurse named Emily who is helping women every day who are HIV positive and pregnant. Over the noise and bustle of the hospital, Emily talks to them about risk ... and about hope.

It only takes a few drops

Hope lies in a drug called nevirapine. Just one dose for both the mother and the baby can reduce the risk of HIV transmission by more than half. Even women who give birth at home can use the drug—if they have it at hand. It's Emily's job to make sure they do, even if their last—and sometimes, only—visit with a health worker is weeks before delivery.

Emily sends home a few drops of nevirapine in a ready-to-use oral dispenser. But in the time before the baby is born, a lot can happen. The



Wendy Stone

Emily, a nurse in Kenya, uses a special pouch developed by PATH to safeguard antiretroviral medication that will help an HIV-positive mother protect her baby against infection.

drug can be spoiled, or accidentally released and wasted. Previously, health workers like Emily relied on makeshift methods to package the drug, wrapping it in aluminum foil, paper towels, and tape. They used the few resources they had at hand, but it wasn't always enough.

Protection for medication—and babies

Now, PATH is making it simple for Emily to send nevirapine home with mothers-to-be, with a new kind of packaging: a sealable foil pouch that holds an oral dispenser with the baby's dose. The mother is given her dose in tablet form. The pouch is clearly labeled with an expiration date and includes written and illustrated instructions. The medication stays clean and protected.

Even better, the pouch was recently adopted as part of a major donation program from nevirapine's developer, Boehringer Ingelheim. Boehringer donates enough nevirapine to Emily's clinic—and many others across Africa and around the world—to save dozens of newborns each month from being infected. And now, Boehringer will

Continued inside

Double the impact of your gift to PATH

Thanks to generous donors and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, your new or increased gift can be matched dollar for dollar until December 31. Read more about this opportunity on page 4.

DEAR FRIENDS,

As the end of the year approaches, PATH's work takes on a special resonance. I am grateful for the good health that allows me to spend this time with my family.

Every time PATH improves health for a single person, we're improving the lives of those who care about them. An early diagnosis of cervical cancer gives children their mother for many extra years. Protection against HIV keeps couples safe, for each other and their families. A bednet saves a child's life from malaria—and saves parents from an overwhelming loss.

We hope that you also will think of families far away, who have the same need for good health in their homes. Please consider making a gift to PATH in honor of your own family and to offer the hope of good health to others.

We value your confidence and strive for the highest impact and most transparent use of funds. For the past three years, PATH has been recognized with a four-star rating by Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of nonprofits. Fewer than 12 percent of the rated charities have received four stars in consecutive years.

Thank you for your help in bringing better health to people around the world—and please consider offering your hand as the year comes to a close.



Christopher J. Elias, MD, MPH
President



Continued from front page

donate pouches as well, so that the nevirapine is readily available when it's needed.

Good news travels fast

In 2006, Emily used the nevirapine pouch for the first time, as part of a pilot project to find out how well it would work once off the drawing board and into nurses' hands. The response was so strong that Kenya's National AIDS Control Program will use the pouch nationwide, and other organizations committed to slowing the spread of HIV among Africa's children are following suit.

Donor support has helped PATH bring innovations like this one to life. Today, Emily has new hope for the mothers and children in the communities she serves—and for the future of her country. ●



PATH/Patrick McKern



PATH/Patrick McKern

Health workers are replacing makeshift packaging (top)—an old medication box, plastic bags, aluminum foil, and a syringe capped with tape—with a new pouch from PATH (bottom), donated by Boehringer Ingelheim, and dispensers from Baxa Corporation.

New meningitis vaccine will protect millions

The type of meningitis found in Africa is virtually unknown in the United States, yet it takes a serious toll. More than 700,000 cases of the disease have been reported in the past ten years alone. At the recent Clinton Global Initiative, PATH announced the future introduction of a groundbreaking meningitis vaccine, one with unique potential to protect the developing world against the disease. Beginning in 2008, the Meningitis Vaccine Project, a partnership between PATH and the World Health Organization, plans to offer the vaccine to more than nine million people in Burkina Faso—a first step in eliminating the threat of epidemic meningitis in the countries hardest hit. ●



PATH/Dana Terry

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PATH recognized for technology benefiting humanity

PATH was one of 25 innovators honored at this year's Tech Museum Awards. PATH was selected as a Laureate for the vaccine vial monitor: a small sticker, no bigger than a dime, that adheres to a vaccine vial and changes color as the vaccine is exposed to heat. The indicator tells health workers whether the vaccine is spoiled—or can be safely used for immunization. Developed in partnership with the TEMPTIME Corporation over the course of more than ten years, this tiny indicator saves lives and money and has played an essential role in the global effort to eradicate polio.



PATH/Glen Austin

The Tech Museum of Innovation, one of the country's premier science and technology museums, encourages innovative ideas for a more promising future.

IRA rollover donation option expires soon

Making a contribution directly from your IRA is one of several ways you can support PATH. Temporary pension reform legislation allows taxpayers 70½ years old and older to give money from an IRA to a qualified nonprofit without first paying taxes—an opportunity that applies to all gifts of \$100,000 or less. Gifts must be made by December 31. Visit our website or contact us at development@path.org to learn about other contribution options, including tribute gifts for the holiday season, online donations, gifts of stock, and workplace giving campaigns (including Global Impact).

PATH named social entrepreneur—again!

Fast Company, a magazine that chronicles the latest trends and practices in the business world, selected PATH as one of the world's leading social entrepreneurs—in part because of the unique private-sector partnerships that help our cause. Highlighted in the December 2007/January 2008 issue, this year's top social entrepreneurs were evaluated on impact, entrepreneurial innovation, aspiration, and sustainability. PATH has been recognized for its leading-edge work for the past five years.

Be inspired!

Check out stories of hope and health and read about the progress we're making to improve health around the world at our website: www.path.org. This month, we're highlighting a virtual tour of our in-house diagnostics lab and product development shop. Take a few minutes for an online visit to these dynamic facilities where we develop prototypes, test materials, and prepare for mass production of successful products. Woman-initiated HIV protection, needle-free injection devices, and laboratories as small as a credit card are just a few of the technologies we've developed. Visit our website to meet the people at the forefront of our technology work. ●

PATH'S MISSION

*is to improve
the health of people
around the world by
advancing technologies,
strengthening systems,
and encouraging
healthy behaviors.*



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Double the impact of your gift—a challenge from our donors

Thinking of giving to PATH? Right now, your gift can have twice the impact! Between now and



Kerry Dahlen

Performers Etienne Cakpo and Kane Matthis entertain 2007 Breakfast for Global Health attendees.

December 31, all new and increased gifts to PATH's Catalyst Fund will be matched dollar for dollar. The Gates Partnership Challenge comes from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and people like you; commitments from our donors have brought the total matching funds available to \$200,000. Help meet this challenge with a gift to PATH's Catalyst Fund—and support our most innovative work. Please use the enclosed donation envelope or visit www.path.org to contribute.

Mark your calendars!

Plans are under way to transform our Seattle headquarters parking garage for the May 20, 2008, Breakfast for Global Health. Don't miss this celebrated annual event. You'll learn about PATH's work in India and meet those directly connected to our work in the field. The Breakfast gathers support for PATH's Catalyst Fund—our source for

the flexible funding that supports new initiatives, leverages grants, and meets critical gaps in programming. You are the catalyst, providing the seed funds needed to act on important new ideas and meet emerging challenges. Let us know if you're interested in attending or would like to serve as a table captain.

Contact us

For more information about the Gates Partnership Challenge and other giving opportunities, please contact Jan Jacobs, director of donor relations, at jajacobs@path.org or 206.788.2492. To find out how to reserve a seat, become a table captain, or other information about the Breakfast for Global Health, contact events@path.org. ●

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