

# ELEVATING CARE IN TANZANIA

**Tanzania is best known as the home of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest mountain. But we're working to make sure that another feature of Tanzania stands tall—its healthcare system.**

With few resources, deteriorating facilities and a stunning shortage of doctors (just 3 per 100,000 people), the Government of Tanzania has long faced enormous barriers as it works to provide healthcare to its people.

Many of these challenges remain – but with the support of a longstanding, novel partnership, things are changing for the better in Tanzania. Life expectancy has improved from 50 to 65 years. Today, patients visiting Muhimbili National Hospital receive quality care, in state-of-the-art settings. Hospital labs across the country provide modern testing and monitoring. And new ideas in healthcare financing are helping ensure the improvements are sustained for generations to come.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRESS

### 40% DECREASE IN MORTALITY

A modern ER provides best-in-class care for 60,000 people a year – saving thousands of lives.

### 1,000+ PEOPLE CARED FOR DAILY

At a modern outpatient center offering everything from eye tests to diabetes monitoring.

### 23 MODERNIZED HOSPITAL LABS

Provide testing across the country, with wait times for results cut from weeks to just hours – which means better treatment, faster.

### 65,000 HOURS OF SUPPORT

Provided by expert Abbott volunteers, including more than 50 diagnostics specialists mentoring local lab teams.



# HELPING TO MAKE TANZANIA A HEALTHIER PLACE

For nearly two decades, Abbott and its foundation, the Abbott Fund, have worked closely with the Government of Tanzania to strengthen the country's healthcare system.

With more than \$130 million invested to date and the contributions of specialized Abbott experts, this unique public-private partnership is finding sustainable solutions to critical healthcare challenges – elevating testing, treatment and care for people across the country. Working in close collaboration, efforts focus on three areas:

## 1 | UPGRADING TREATMENT AND CARE



### Pioneering Emergency Medicine

With little access to routine doctor visits, acute care has always been a critical need in the developing world. But in many countries, there's no modern ER – which leaves patients waiting for hours to see a specialist, without any basic, life-saving care available.

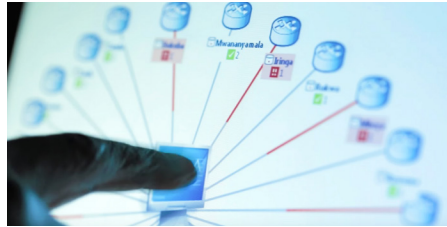
Today, Muhimbili National Hospital is home to the first true emergency room and the first emergency medicine residency training program in East Africa. Created in 2010, the emergency medical department provides critically needed care for 60,000 people each year. The number of deaths at the hospital dropped by 40 percent, saving thousands of lives every year.

### Expanding Care for Chronic Diseases

Hospitals across Africa are ill-equipped to manage the life-long treatment needs of people with HIV and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like diabetes and heart disease.

To help address this critical need, a modern three-story outpatient center at the national hospital serves more than 1,000 patients a day.

## 2 | MODERNIZING LABS AND TECHNOLOGY



### Providing High-Tech Lab Services to All

Today, one of East Africa's most sophisticated diagnostics centers processes more than 1.5 million tests per year. And modern labs at 23 regional hospitals extend the reach of modern testing and monitoring to every corner of Tanzania.

Before, it might take weeks and long travel days to get lab results. Today it takes minutes or hours, often on the same visit – which means better treatment, faster.

### Building the First Nationwide IT Network

Hospital labs are linked through a new IT network, sharing test results and management practices across the country. At the national hospital, the most sophisticated hospital IT system in East Africa tracks inventory, prescriptions and patient health history.

### Sharing Expertise

More than 70 Abbott lab scientists have provided extensive training and mentoring for lab teams across Tanzania. Together with additional specialists in engineering, IT and healthcare, Abbott experts have provided more than 65,000 hours of on-the-ground support.

## 3 | ENSURING IMPROVEMENTS ARE SUSTAINABLE



### Building Local Capacity Through Training

Every aspect of the partnership aims for lasting change, with a heavy focus on training local teams on testing, treatment and care, as well as upgrading hospital management and "back office" functions like IT and inventory control. Altogether, 20,000 trainings have been conducted for health workers and administrators.

### Reforming Healthcare Financing

Improvements in patient care are working. As the reputation of Tanzania's hospitals and its medical professionals improves, more insured patients are seeking care at public facilities rather than private hospitals.

In the past, government hospitals were not effective at collecting this potential revenue. Today, new healthcare financing models are helping the national hospital to continue providing best-in-class care for all people, while charging fair prices to insured patients. And independent business units with separate finance and auditing systems manage revenue and costs.

Today, the ER generates a profit, which is reinvested to further strengthen hospital operations – providing a new model for financial sustainability in public health.