Where We Work

Since 2010, faculty, staff, and students in the GMP have worked with collaborators in more than a dozen countries.

The Global Medicines Program is part of the University of Washington (UW) Department of Global Health (DGH), which was founded in 2007, and has launched students around the world to take on the challenge of improving health and health equity. DGH is the second largest department at UW in terms of research and educational grants and contracts, and is the most interdisciplinary and geographically diverse department on campus.

Global Medicines Program

The mission of the Global Medicines Program is to improve the use, safety, quality, cost-effectiveness, and affordability of medicines in resource-poor countries.

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Photos: (cover) Arturo Sanabria, courtesy of Photoshare
(below) Akintunde Akinleye/NURHI, courtesy of Photoshare

GLOBAL MEDICINES PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- India
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nicaragua
- South Africa
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Vietnam

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON
GLOBAL MEDICINES PROGRAM
RESEARCH • TRAINING • POLICY

Promoting access to safe, cost-effective medicines and pharmacy services through research, training, and policy to improve health and health systems across the globe.
A Global Crisis

Lack of access to essential medicines and vaccines adversely affects the health of millions of people living in resource-poor settings; the World Health Organization estimates that one-third of the world’s population is without access to the medicines they need.

Challenges include:

- New medicines and vaccines for neglected diseases introduced directly into developing countries
- Product quality issues, including falsified and substandard drugs
- Emergence of drug resistant infections
- Pharmacy workforce shortages

Meeting a Global Health Need

The Global Medicines Program is working to strengthen pharmaceutical services and health systems through education, training, research, and global outreach.

Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems

In Malawi, we are working to build local capacity to improve and effectively manage the medicine supply chains, including training front-line pharmacy workers.

In Namibia, we have worked with the University of Namibia to implement a pharmacy degree program and strengthen the country’s pharmacovigilance system.

Medicine Safety Surveillance

In Mozambique, Kenya, and Burkina Faso we are conducting active surveillance studies on the safety of antimalarial drugs used during pregnancy. We provide technical assistance in implementing active surveillance with public health programs in multiple low- and middle-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia.

Global Medicines Training

We provide advanced training in global medicines research, practice, and policy both at the University of Washington and in the field.

Our students study a range of issues from the cost-effectiveness of medical treatments in Uganda to how to improve the medicine supply chains in Afghanistan.

In Namibia, South Africa, and Kenya we conduct trainings with local university faculty and health sector employees to perform pharmacoeconomic and pharmacovigilance studies and health technology assessments, enabling them to analyze and improve access to essential medicines.

Health Economics Research

Faculty in the Global Medicines Program conduct health economics studies in low- and middle-income countries to increase knowledge of the cost-effectiveness of medicines and health technologies, and to better understand the complex issues that affect access to medicines.

Photo: (above) In many countries, the pharmacy is the frontline for providing health services, such as this pharmacy in Peru. Photo Courtesy of UW Department of Global Health

Photo: (top) Arturo Sanabria, Courtesy of Photoshare

Photo: (top) Professor and Director Andy Stergachis and pharmacy graduate student Solomon Lubinga. Photo courtesy of Jeff Hodson.