



Partners for Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment in Africa



Partners project rolls out plans in three more countries

Below are highlights of the past month's achievements. If you have any questions, please contact Dan A. Milner, Jr., MD, MSc(Epi), ASCP Chief Medical Officer, dan.milner@ascp.org.



Country Updates

- Kenya—The Kenyan National Public Health Laboratories (NPHL) is in the process of installing a national anatomic pathology reference laboratory in Nairobi, which will serve all patients in Kenya through referral networks and hubs. ASCP pathologists have been asked to support the diagnostic laboratory for secondary consults through telepathology with the NPHL team. One of the laboratories in Nairobi is in need of updated equipment, and ASCP is seeking donations of specific equipment to meet their needs.
- Tanzania—The Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC), in Moshi, Tanzania, is planning implementation for telepathology with ASCP in Moshi to serve the 15 million-plus catchment area of patients for diagnostics for cancer. KCMC has a robust cancer treatment program and sits next to the Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute, which is collaborating with KCMC to provide advanced diagnostics for cancer and research. The goal is for an August 2017 deployment of telepathology to Moshi.
- Congo—The Dikembe Mutombo Foundation is planning implementation for histology services and telepathology with ASCP in Kinshasa, Congo, at the Biamba Marie Mutombo Hospital. The hospital is already a center for cervical cancer screening and will add breast cancer screening to its

program with the addition of histology services. ASCP is working with the team to acquire equipment and set up telepathology.



Public Relations

- An article, Humanitarian Endeavor Brings Rapid Cancer Diagnostics to Sub-Saharan Africa and Haiti, written by Dr. Milner, will appear in the June 2017 issue of *Medical Laboratory Observer*.
- ASCP social media channels continue to promote the project to members.



Volunteers

- The Partners Initiative is looking for foreign language speakers in Spanish and Bermese initially, as well as members with experience in lab design and implementation to serve on the advisory committee for C/Can 2025: City Cancer Challenge.
- Opportunities are also emerging for ASCP members to lead country teams and assist with critical functions such as case assignment and team communications. If this is of interest, please contact ASCP Chief Medical Officer Dan A. Milner, Jr., MD, MSc(Epi), FASCP, at dan.milner@ascp.org.



Partners

- The Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), a collaborating organization for which ASCP is the main lead for pathology work for the C/Can 2025 City Challenge, won the **International & European Association Award for the “Best Membership Engagement.”**
- Bending the Arc, a movie about the founding, expansion, and current efforts of Partners in Health, is being screened around the country. In the film, former Minister of Health of Rwanda, Dr. Agnes Binagwaho, who has been a close collaborator of ASCP on the deployments to Butaro and Kigali, says, “We need pathologists” – a powerful message for cancer care in Africa.

- Several new organizations (representing new countries) have reached out to ASCP to work together on their cancer care programs, which will be highlighted in upcoming newsletters as the synergy is realized.



Meetings

- Haiti sans Cervical Cancer (HsCC), an NGO dedicated to elimination of cervical cancer in Haiti, held a two-day meeting in Port-au-Prince in late April, which included representatives from the Ministry of Health, other government agencies, several local Haitian cancer care organizations, and several U.S. NGOs. The discussion was lively and the resulting action items will lead directly to progress on the cancer care plan for all of Haiti, as well as specific plans for cervical cancer. Partners at the meeting included Partners in Health, Innovating Health International, and ASCP (the only pathology organization represented, with Dr. Von Samedi and Dr. Dan Milner present).



Rachel Masch, of Haiti sans Cervical Cancer, Dr. Von Samedi and Dr. Dan Milner, who represented ASCP at the Haiti sans Cervical Cancer meeting.

- At the annual ASCP Leadership Forum, the progress of the Center for Global Health at ASCP, including the Partners project, was discussed individually with several commissions as well as directly with the Board.

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