



A Message from Paul Lucas

President & CEO,
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With a strong presence in Canada and around the world,

GSK thinks and acts globally and helps meet the 'local' needs of Canadians. For instance, we are working to improve the health of those who live in less developed countries and people who suffer with preventable diseases.

As attention turns to global and longer term health issues, GSK's contributions to combating diseases takes on new relevance. As highlighted in the accompanying story, The GlaxoSmithKline Foundation is supporting two of AMREF (African Medical and Research Foundation) Canada's programs in Uganda—initiatives that are improving conditions, fighting infection and saving lives.

As the other story highlights, GSK has a long history and a promising future in producing vaccines that protect against infectious diseases through each stage of life. As one of the primary suppliers of vaccines to major international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), we have an important role to play in helping prevent disease.

Through research and community initiatives such as these, we at GSK are working with our partners to truly make a difference in the lives of people around the world.

GSK Foundation supports AIDS Orphans and Education Projects in Africa

The GlaxoSmithKline Foundation has entered into partnerships with AMREF Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency to help children and families in Uganda through two initiatives. The first involves assisting extended families of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS and war in Uganda's Luwero/Nakasongola district, while the second emphasizes the importance of handwashing and other hygiene practices through PHASE—Personal Hygiene & Sanitation Education.

The AMREF AIDS Orphans Project assists orphans with primary education fee payments, helps guardians by providing training and loans for income generating activities, and offers social services to help sustain a nurturing environment for the growth of children.

The PHASE Project aims to reduce diarrhea-related disease—one of the world's biggest and most easily preventable killers—associated with poor hygiene, and improve children's overall health and well-being.

AMREF is a non-governmental organization committed to improving the health of the people of Africa through Africa-led initiatives.



Beneficiaries of the AMREF Canada project: An orphan attends a Vocational Institute where she acquires employable skills.

"AMREF believes there is a role for everyone to play in helping people cope and eventually live healthy and productive lives," says Alanna Rondi, Executive Director, AMREF Canada. "I'm very pleased that The GSK Foundation has recognized it has a moral responsibility to learn about these problems ... and is doing something about them."

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GSK fights against vaccine-preventable diseases

In today's world of medical research, some of the most important advances in healthcare are taking place in the field of vaccines. GlaxoSmithKline is committed to reducing death and disability associated with many diseases through vaccination.



An African child receives a vaccine to help ward-off a preventable disease.

"GlaxoSmithKline operates the industry's largest program seeking vaccines for diseases that affect the developing world and is the only company researching vaccines for all three of the diseases that are the focus of the World Health Organization—HIV, TB and malaria," says Dr. John Dillon, Vice President, Canadian Medical Division and Chief Medical Officer, GSK in Canada. "Through the efforts of hundreds of researchers, great progress is being made."

In Africa, GSK and PATH—an international, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that improves the health of people around the world—conducted the largest malaria vaccine efficacy trial ever through the Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI). This vaccine was found to protect a significant percentage of children against both mild and severe forms of malaria for at least six months.

"GSK's research has the potential to bring vaccines to people that will prevent disease and save lives," says Dr. Dominique Tessier, MD, CCFP Medical Director, Medisys Travel Health Clinics. "It's good to see the company putting a strong research focus on countries where the medical need is extremely high, which in the end can mean a positive impact on health globally."

GSK recently introduced a promising vaccine in Mexico that could be a safe and effective means to prevent rotavirus globally. Rotavirus infections account for approximately 138 million cases of infantile gastroenteritis each year and are responsible for approximately 440,000 deaths per year globally—one child every minute.

The company is also focusing on a vaccine to prevent human papilloma virus which is responsible for causing a significant proportion of cervical cancer. Clinical trials suggest that this vaccine may prevent 70 per cent of cervical cancer cases world-wide.

Many devastating illnesses are now dealt with through vaccines, easing pain and suffering and the need for ongoing treatment. GlaxoSmithKline is at the forefront of this research and is helping ensure that life-saving vaccines are available to those who need them.

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In the aftermath of a war that ended in 1986, government efforts to establish the necessary infrastructure to support the orphans failed as did the extended family's capacity to cope with those now under their care. Regrettably, many primary income earners perished, poverty levels increased and nutritional levels dropped.

The GSK Foundation will continue to support international efforts to:

- Meet the needs of 1,890 orphans by funding children's school fees, school supplies and uniforms, and better equip 17 schools
- Pay for school and home support by AMREF-trained social workers
- Train 950 leaders and pupils in the rights of children, gender issues, and land tenure and succession laws
- Provide HIV/AIDS prevention and reproductive health counseling to 90 per cent of the targeted communities

"I'm proud that The Foundation's support for these initiatives will build on AMREF's accomplishments and help children and their families live longer and healthier lives," adds Paul Lucas. "It shows our commitment to helping address the needs of the developing world in ways that extend beyond the provision of medicines."

For more information, please visit www.amrefcanada.org

GlaxoSmithKline in Canada

GlaxoSmithKline is committed to bringing the power of science to the needs of people to help them do more, feel better and live longer. GSK is a leader in four major therapeutic areas—respiratory ailments, gastrointestinal/metabolic disorders such as diabetes, central nervous system disorders and infectious diseases—as well as vaccines.

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