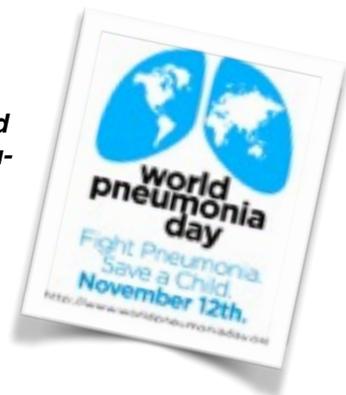


Color-changing Band-Aids, Urine Dip Sticks and Peanut Butter-based Antibiotics could be the Future of Preventing Child Deaths from Pneumonia...

WORLD'S FIRST PNEUMONIA INNOVATIONS SUMMIT UNVEILS NEXT GENERATION PREVENTION, DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT INNOVATIONS



November 12th, New York, 2015 – On **World Pneumonia Day**, more than 50 innovators and 150 global health leaders assembled at the inaugural Pneumonia Innovations Summit to discuss the next wave of innovations with the potential to transform the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of childhood pneumonia.

The leading infectious disease killer of children, pneumonia kills more than 950,000 children under five every year, the vast majority in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Many children die because of delays in appropriate care seeking, diagnosis and treatment as outlined in the recent report, *Pushing the Pace: Progress and Challenges in Fighting Childhood Pneumonia*.

As a result, reductions in childhood pneumonia deaths have not kept pace with declines in malaria, diarrhea, measles and AIDS deaths, leading to calls for new technologies and service delivery models to drive down pneumonia deaths to the levels required to achieve the new Sustainable Development Goals and the *Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health*.

Innovations highlighted at the Summit include respiratory rate timers, pulse oximeters, oxygen therapy, and child-friendly antibiotics, as well as technologies to reduce household air pollution and increase access to breast milk, especially for the most vulnerable babies. Experts from universities, business, UN agencies, government and non-government organizations agreed that a big push to get new and improved technologies to the populations where child pneumonia deaths are concentrated is now critical for the achievement of health goals.

Ten innovators were selected to present their most promising innovations including **Udantha Abeyratne, Mohammod Jobayer Chisti, Micaela Collins, Faye Evans, Barry Finette, Michael Hawkes, Bernard Olayo, Kristi Otto, Henrik Pranov, and Tim Prestero**. A panel of experts from UNICEF, PATH, Malaria Consortium, IBM Watson Health and Grand Challenges Canada offered advice on how to accelerate development and uptake of these innovations, especially in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa where pneumonia kills more than 750,000 children every year.

Other innovations highlighted at the Summit include antibiotics mixed with peanut butter that could simultaneously fight bacteria and malnutrition, a urine dipstick that can distinguish viral from bacterial pneumonia, a diagnostic device shaped like an infant pacifier that measures vital signs, and a skin patch that dispenses antibiotics and changes color when the patch needs to be replaced.

The Summit announced more than \$US30 million in new funding for several initiatives including:

- the Acute Respiratory Infection Diagnostic Aid (ARIDA) project - a \$US5.5 million partnership between **"la Caixa" Foundation** and **UNICEF** to introduce a new generation of improved pneumonia diagnostic devices in several countries struggling with high burdens of childhood pneumonia;
- the winners of **Grand Challenges Explorations** Round 15, with novel concepts to reduce childhood pneumonia deaths through the delivery of timely and effective treatment and each awarded \$US100,000 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation;
- a new \$US25 million program to increase access to better diagnosis and treatment for pneumonia and diarrhea among children in Ethiopia and Nigeria, implemented by the **Clinton Health Access Initiative**, Inc. (CHAI) and **Results for Development** (R4D), with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The program focuses

on increasing availability and usage of the recommended antibiotic amoxicillin dispersible tablets and oxygen for pneumonia treatment;

- “Every Breath Counts”, a \$US700,000 campaign by **Speak Up Africa** and **UNICEF** to galvanize donor interest in pneumonia, to raise popular awareness of pneumonia, and to increase appropriate care seeking by families, supported by the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children (\$US200,000) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (\$US500,000); and
- scale up production of **One Breath Ventilators'** proven, rugged, and affordable mechanical ventilator with a \$US760,000 investment by **Grand Challenges Canada**, funded by the Government of Canada, which will enable over 17,000 patients to access early mechanical ventilation which is a lifesaving treatment for pneumonia and other conditions.

In addition, **Royal Philips**, the diversified health and well-being company, launched an innovative automated respiratory rate monitor designed especially for children under five. The Philips Children's Automated Respiration Monitor will become available for sale in Africa and South Asia in the second half of 2016.

McCann Health, in partnership with the Clinton Health Access Initiative, **Abt Associates**, UNICEF and **USAID**, unveiled the “**Every Second Counts**” campaign, a new and freely available multi-media resource kit including training videos, posters and flip charts that show frontline health care workers and families how to identify the tell-tale signs of pneumonia, how to seek proper care and how to count breaths to identify children in need of treatment.

Malaria Consortium announced the results of a multi-country field trial of several new diagnostic tools, tested in Cambodia, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda. The results will provide recommendations for Ministries of Health in all four countries who are looking to strengthen the diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia at community level.

The five winners of the **Facebook People's Choice Award for the Most Promising Childhood Pneumonia Innovations** were announced and a new video, “**Let's Push the Pace**”, was unveiled with a strong call to action to accelerate uptake of the innovations with the greatest impact on child pneumonia deaths prioritizing the populations where the needs are greatest.

The Summit issued a call to action to the global and national health stakeholders to invest in the innovations that can push the pace and win the battle against the leading infectious threat to child survival on the planet - pneumonia.

Contacts:

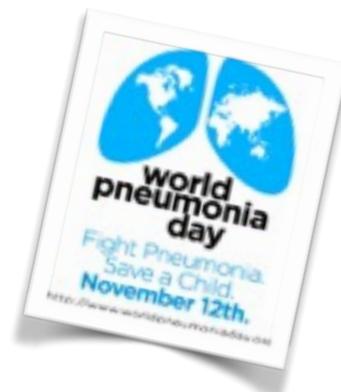
Leith Greenslade, MDG Health Alliance, LGreenslade@mdghealthenvoy.org
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**Pneumonia
Innovations
Team**

*The Summit is convened by the **Pneumonia Innovations Team**, co-chaired by the **MDG Health Alliance** and **PATH**, a global network of more than 200 organizations and individuals committed to accelerating the development of and adoption of new technologies with the greatest potential to reduce child deaths from pneumonia. The Summit is in support of the **Every Woman, Every Child** movement*

GLOBAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT LEADERS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR PNEUMONIA INNOVATIONS AS A KEY CHILD SURVIVAL STRATEGY



Kanika Bahl, Managing Director, Results for Development (R4D)

"Pneumonia is the largest infectious killer of the world's youngest children, yet global progress to curb its effects has been slow. For example in recent years countries such as Tanzania reduced pediatrics AIDS deaths by 80% while childhood pneumonia mortality decreased by just 5%. But thankfully progress is both affordable and within reach – with just \$US7M dollars we can fill a financing gap and help purchase lifesaving antibiotics to reach 14M children in the highest-burden countries."

Kevin Baker, Pneumonia Diagnostics Programme Coordinator, Malaria Consortium

"Malaria Consortium is pleased to be among the innovators at the Pneumonia Innovations Summit. We hope the results from our work in this field, which aims to provide better access to pneumonia diagnostic equipment and bring cost-efficient healthcare closer to children in remote areas, will support efforts to defeat the leading infectious killer of children under five."

Kate Campana, CEO, Speak Up Africa

"In order to address inadequate global funding allocated to pneumonia relative to its burden on children, UNICEF and Speak Up Africa today launched a global campaign, "Every Breath Counts" which calls worldwide attention to the opportunity implied by global investment in pneumonia."

Amy Ginsburg, Director, Pneumonia, PATH and Co-Chair of the Pneumonia Innovations Team

"Innovations to address pneumonia are urgently needed to tackle the leading cause of infectious death among children less than five years of age. Through strategic partnerships, targeted investments, and our collective commitment, we can scale up existing tools and accelerate the development of promising new innovations to revolutionize pneumonia prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and save lives."

Leith Greenslade, Vice-Chair, MDG Health Alliance and Co-Chair of the Pneumonia Innovations Team

"Pneumonia is one of the biggest road blocks standing in the way of achieving Sustainable Development Goal 3.2 - ending preventable child deaths. It is only through accelerated uptake of new and improved prevention, diagnostic and treatment tools alongside the rollout of the pneumonia vaccines that we can end preventable child pneumonia deaths over the next 15 years and deliver on our collective promise to the world's children."

Maarten van Herpen, Head of Philips Africa Innovation Hub

"The recent IHME report 'Pushing the Pace' clearly outlines the need for more efforts to better diagnose and treat pneumonia, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. We are responding to this need, with the upcoming release of our Children's Automated Respiration Monitor. This is another milestone in Philips' African innovation strategy to create impactful innovations that matter to people and address the key challenges that confront society. We now have a portfolio of medical devices and services for low resource settings that can improve access to healthcare for communities in Africa, and beyond."

Keith Klugman, Director of Pneumonia, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

"Astoundingly, pneumonia continues to be the #1 infectious killer of children under the age of five worldwide – more than HIV, TB and malaria combined. We must urgently push the pace to scale-up interventions that we know can have an immediate impact on saving young lives around the globe."

Ariel Pablos-Méndez, Assistant Administrator for Global Health, Child and Maternal Survival Coordinator, USAID

"USAID is proud to work with our partners as part of the Pneumonia Innovations Team. We recognize the role better diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia – the leading infectious disease killer of children under five - plays in achieving our goal of ending of preventable child and maternal deaths."

Lois Privor-Dumm, Director of Policy, Advocacy & Communications, International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC)

"Seven years ago, the world came together to recognize the need for a global movement to accelerate pneumonia efforts. Today, as we mark World Pneumonia Day, it is time we take these efforts a step further – let's race to the finish. Exciting innovations have shown that pneumonia is a solvable problem and we need to continue to push these innovations to reduce inequities in pneumonia prevention, treatment and management."

Shamim Qazi, Pneumonia Director, World Health Organisation

"To reduce pneumonia deaths early identification and prompt treatment is essential. Standard case management of childhood pneumonia at community and health facility level is an effective strategy to reduce deaths and the burden on hospital services, and improve equity."

Andrew Schirmer, President of McCann Global Health

"McCann Health has made a commitment to helping woman and children lead healthier, happier and safer lives. We see our role in the fight against childhood pneumonia as critical to this effort. When so many lives could be saved by providing communications strategies, approaches and tools that truly change beliefs and behaviors, it is incumbent upon us to apply our skills as marketers to this end."

Kate Schroder, Senior Director, Essential Medicines Initiative, Clinton Health Access Initiative

"It's unacceptable that over 900,000 children die each year from pneumonia when we have the tools to prevent these deaths. We can do better. The Pneumonia Innovations Summit is an opportunity to bring the best minds and best ideas to fixing this problem."

Peter Singer, CEO, Grand Challenges Canada and Co-Chair, Every Woman Every Child Innovation Working Group

"Pneumonia kills. Innovation saves lives. We need innovation to reach the Sustainable Development Goals – especially to reduce childhood deaths. It's as simple as that."

Hayalnesh Tarekegn, Pneumonia Officer, UNICEF

"Almost 1 million children died this year from pneumonia, making it the most deadly infectious disease for children under the age of five. Simple interventions -- like vaccines, safe water and sanitation, clean fuels and low-cost antibiotics -- can prevent and treat this infection. Better awareness and more funding can eliminate the heavy burden of death that it causes."