

Targeting Global Health Inequity

Health inequity takes many forms, but the results are universal: unequal access to care leaving many behind and causing shorter lifespans. These equity challenges can only be addressed once acknowledged, and require innovative, technology-driven, and evidence-based solutions to help tomorrow's healthcare workforce deliver the best care, everywhere.



Six Ways Health Inequity Costs Us:

UNITED STATES

1.2%

Growth of Black and Hispanic medical faculty over 2+ decades

While the combined Black and Hispanic US population grew to 28.9% from 1990-2016, academic medical school faculty representation of these groups actually declined.

Source: PLOS One, US Census

BRAZIL

75%

Citizens rely on an understaffed national health system

While 25% of middle- and higher-income Brazilians purchase private health insurance, the rest of the country depends on a bottlenecked system with delays in specialist referrals and treatment.

Source: The Commonwealth Fund

EUROPEAN UNION

€980B

Projected annual costs tied to inequalities in healthcare

An estimated 9.4% of European GDP is lost each year to health inequality-related causes, including reduced labor productivity and increased welfare costs.

Source: Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health

SOUTH AFRICA

<1%

Public hospitals hit drug availability targets

Although 80% of citizens rely on public health, lifesaving drugs are disproportionately routed to the private health system.

Source: Expatica, Office of Health Standards Compliance, Frontiers in Pharmacology

INDIA

152%

Increase in licensed doctors between 2010 and 2020

The number of well-trained medical professionals jumped to 1.27 million in 2021. Still, rural areas only have 1.8 physicians per 10,000 people.

Source: India Brand Equity Foundation, British Medical Journal

JAPAN

24%

Increase in life expectancy disparity between prefectures

While Japan's overall life expectancy increased by 4.2 years, the gap between the prefectures with the longest and shortest life expectancies grew from 2.5 years in 1990 to 3.1 years in 2015.

Source: The Lancet



Health equity is the absence of unfair, avoidable, and remediable differences in health status among groups of people. Health equity is achieved when everyone can attain their full potential for health and well-being.

– World Health Organization