

Access to healthcare

We want to secure a future where all people have access to affordable, sustainable and innovative healthcare, throughout the patient care pathway, from prevention, early detection and diagnosis, to the effective treatment of disease. We are working to remove barriers, deliver innovative medicines and strengthen health system infrastructure and resilience through global and local partnerships, across all our focus areas.

Achievements in 2023

- > We reached more than 66 million people (cumulatively) through access to healthcare programmes.
- > Healthy Heart Africa trained more than 11,300 healthcare workers (cumulatively) and conducted more than 47 million screenings (cumulatively) for elevated blood pressure.
- > Young Health Programme directly reached more than 15 million young people (cumulatively) and trained over 580,000 as Peer Educators since launch in 2010 in more than 40 countries.
- > We reached more than 13 million people (cumulatively) through our patient access programmes, enabling sustainable access to AstraZeneca medicines in around 25 countries, most of which were low- and middle-income countries.

Equitable access

Your health should not be determined by who you are, where you live or where you were born. We are working to remove barriers to healthcare and give everyone the chance to be as healthy as possible.

Diversity in clinical trials

We are committed to designing clinical programmes with equity at the forefront, from idea inception to patient care. Our approach is patient-centric, data-driven and science-led. We are improving the diversity of clinical trial participants with strong data foundations, tools and standards for aligning and tracking progress, and external partnerships. We work with industry groups, regulatory agencies, and local community groups to shape clinical trial diversity policies for the future, while delivering for patients today.

Rare diseases

More than 10,000 rare diseases are estimated to exist today, but fewer than 10% have approved treatment options. Rare disease community members face many unique challenges in pursuing equitable access to healthcare, such as significant delays in diagnosis, greater chances of hospitalisation from preventable conditions, scheduling and travelling to appointments, and accessing available treatments.

We believe people with rare diseases deserve the same attention and investment to find and access therapies as anyone else.

As we expand the geographies where our rare disease medicines are available, we continue to build relationships with patient communities early in our development programmes to better understand their needs. We focus on: increasing clinical trial diversity; developing improved data collection processes to enhance our understanding of how rare diseases affect specific patient populations; improving access to diagnostic tools; and supporting efforts to improve the experience of those participating in our clinical trials. We also supply medicines for rare diseases through patient support and access programmes.

Improving access to digital solutions

Through our A.Catalyst Network innovative partnerships, we are harnessing the latest technologies to improve patient outcomes, make healthcare more accessible and personalised, and drive efficiencies in health systems. As participants in EDISON Alliance's One Billion Lives Challenge, we aim to screen five million patients for lung cancer risk by 2025, using AI-based technology in collaboration with Qure.ai.

Affordability and pricing

We are committed to addressing barriers to access and affordability. Industry, policymakers and payers need to work together to identify solutions. Through collaborations, partnerships and stakeholder coalitions, we are working to ensure essential and innovative medicines become more widely available.

Health system resilience

Sustainable healthcare for all requires stronger health systems to deliver an infrastructure designed to be resilient, inclusive and responsive to the needs of the population it serves. We are investing in ground-breaking global collaborations, driving multisectoral policy and action, empowering local partnerships and fast-tracking innovation to expand access to higher quality healthcare.

Partnership for Health System Sustainability and Resilience (PHSSR)

The PHSSR is a non-profit, multisector, global collaboration with a unified goal of building more sustainable and resilient health systems, active in more than 30 countries. PHSSR has commissioned over 20 research reports to date, providing independent, evidence-based recommendations to strengthen health systems and facilitate cross-border best-practice sharing, working with national experts with first-hand experience.

In 2023, PHSSR published its second Summary Report with insights from 18 countries, and launched research on seven new Asia-Pacific countries. PHSSR also established an EU expert advisory group, to support EU policymakers in improving policies on prevention and early detection of NCDs. By fostering joint learning and action through high-level stakeholder engagement at over

40 global, regional and national platforms, the PHSSR catalysed efforts to strengthen health systems around the world.

Healthy Heart Africa programme

Our Healthy Heart Africa programme is committed to reducing hypertension and the burden of cardiovascular disease, aiming to reach 10 million people with elevated blood pressure across Africa by 2025. We work with local and global partners to raise awareness and offer training, screening and reduced cost treatment, where applicable. In 2023, the programme launched in eight of 10 planned grant countries, in addition to the existing nine countries of operation.

Young Health Programme

The multi award-winning Young Health Programme (YHP) aims to empower young people to make more informed choices about their health and catalyse a global, youth-led advocacy movement, supported by community programmes and research. It helps to develop young leaders and is focused on vulnerable and under-resourced communities in 40 countries. Through partnerships with more than 60 non-profit partners around the world including UNICEF, the YHP promotes health literacy and policy action. In 2023, the YHP won the Better Society Award for Partnership with an International Charity together with UNICEF.

Community investment

Community investment at AstraZeneca is built upon the principles of equity, transparency and partnership, working together to build healthy and resilient communities. In 2023, we contributed \$115.4 million in financial and non-financial donations, (including product donations), to more than 810 non-profit partners across 76 countries. We also donated \$4.7 billion (2022: \$3.1 billion) of medicines through patient assistance programmes around the world, the largest of which is our AZ&Me Prescription Savings Program in the US.

Product donation programmes

In 2023, we gave \$7.5 million (2022: \$12.1 million) in product donations for disaster, humanitarian relief and public health need. We are committed to working with all health system stakeholders to enable the supply of medicine to patients and to support the resilience and recovery of healthcare facilities in vulnerable communities.

 For more information, see:

Pricing and value of our medicines on page 39.

Rare Disease from page 28.

Qure.ai case study on page 19.