**Using drones to deliver blood products in Rwanda**

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* Efficiency and Responsiveness of Drone Deliveries: The study found that drone deliveries significantly outperformed road-based transportation in terms of responsiveness and hospital blood management. The median drone delivery time was 41 minutes (excluding preparation and packaging), compared to 139 minutes for road-based delivery (based on Google Maps estimates).
* Impact on Blood Product Wastage: There was a notable reduction in blood product expirations at hospitals receiving drone deliveries. At 12 months, a 67% reduction in blood product expirations was observed, underscoring the efficiency of drone delivery in managing the limited shelf-life of blood supplies.
* Cost and Future Implications: While the study highlighted the program's success, it did not address the costs of adopting drone-based transportation. This information is crucial for future adoptees of this technology. The author suggests that while initial costs might be high, they are expected to decrease over time, and future research should focus on the cost-effectiveness of drone deliveries as the technology matures.

The article in "The Lancet Global Health" discusses the implementation and impact of using drones for the delivery of blood products in Rwanda. Initiated in 2016, the Rwandan government's partnership with Zipline to use drones for blood delivery was met with a mix of admiration and skepticism. The study by Marie Nisingizwe and colleagues analyzed the program's effectiveness over a period of 32 months, focusing on delivery times and the management of blood components in hospitals.