



Bristol Myers Squibb Expands Health Equity Grant Initiatives to Improve Health Outcomes

Company Awards \$1.8M in Grants to Eight Organizations in Brazil, India, Thailand and the United Kingdom

(PRINCETON, N.J., March 26, 2024) - [Bristol Myers Squibb](#) (NYSE: BMY) today unveiled a \$1.8 million initiative to advance health equity by addressing social determinants of health (SDoH) in four countries with underserved patient needs, including Brazil, India, Thailand, and the United Kingdom. The new health equity grants are an extension of the company's broader long-term commitment to [invest \\$150M in health equity by 2025](#).

Inequities in healthcare systems present a unique global challenge, with some studies suggesting that SDoH factors account for up to 50% of health outcomes within the United States.¹ The World Health Organization (WHO) defines SDoH as non-medical factors that influence health outcomes, such as: income and social status, education, physical environment, social support networks, genetics, health services and gender. As echoed by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #3 (Good Health & Well-being), SDoH are crucial to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.²

"We know that a healthier world is attainable, but access remains a significant challenge for many patients and social determinants of health present barriers to people attaining their full potential for health and well-being," said [Cari Gallman](#), Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Bristol Myers Squibb. "These new health equity grants reinforce Bristol Myers Squibb's commitment to ensuring all patients have access to high-quality health care, regardless of where they live."

These healthcare-strengthening grants will support eight organizations that are addressing the root causes of inequities in an effort to deliver long-lasting impacts at a community level. The grantees were selected in countries with underserved communities living with cancer and blood disorders. Based on the outcomes of this pilot program, the Company will consider expansion to other geographies and communities to remove systemic barriers to care and enable better access and health outcomes. The grantees include:

- The **Instituto Lado a Lado pela Vida** in Brazil, which serves the rural population and patients with cancer who live in the countryside and small, economically disadvantaged towns of the North area of Minas Gerais. This project focuses on prevention, improvement of diagnosis and patient referral for treatment.
- The **Instituto Oncoguia** in Brazil, which is focusing on training the health team at Sistema Único de Saúde Oncology Centers with the aim of ensuring that all non-

medical professionals who care for people with cancer are informed and empowered with the latest information in the world of cancer.

- The **Gabriel Project Mumbai** in India, which is creating innovative and comprehensive solutions to treat sickle cell anemia and oral cancer among underserved tribal villages.
- The **Liver Foundation, West Bengal** in India, which is training rural healthcare providers to be advocates, referral points and drop-out counselors at the grassroots level and align them with public health linkages for prevention of hepatocellular carcinoma in the rural Indian communities.
- The **Foundation for Education and Development** in Thailand, which is working to improve prevention and primary care in Burmese migrant communities living close to the southern border with Myanmar. It aims to do this by increasing linkages of migrants to Thai healthcare facilities and services to increase healthcare access for Myanmar migrants.
- The **Patients Association** in the United Kingdom, which aims to bridge the gap between social care and healthcare, ultimately reducing health disparities and improving access to quality care for underserved populations.
- **Blood Cancer UK** in the United Kingdom, which is leading a project aimed at reducing inequality in clinical trial recruitment for people from ethnic minority communities with blood cancer. Blood Cancer UK is also partnering with local communities to co-design a model, with accompanying tools, campaigns or services, to improve awareness of and enrollment in clinical trials at a local level.
- The **Less Survivable Cancer Taskforce** in the United Kingdom through Pancreatic Cancer UK, which is working to ensure governments and health services across the UK prioritize and commit to concrete actions for less survivable cancers, with the goal of doubling survival rates over the next decade.

Bristol Myers Squibb's Approach to Health Equity

At Bristol Myers Squibb, health equity is the opportunity for all people and communities across the globe to attain their full potential for health and well-being. Our work extends beyond traditional healthcare boundaries, emphasizing the importance of community voices and cross-sector partnerships in co-creating solutions that drive meaningful and equitable health outcomes worldwide.

About Bristol Myers Squibb

Bristol Myers Squibb is a global biopharmaceutical company whose mission is to discover, develop, and deliver innovative medicines that help patients prevail over serious diseases. For more information about Bristol Myers Squibb, please visit [BMS.com](https://www.bms.com) or follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

philanthropy-news

¹ Hood CM, Gennuso KP, Swain GR, et al. County Health Rankings: Relationships Between

Determinant Factors and Health Outcomes. American Journal of Preventive Medicine.
February 2016; 50(2):129-135. doi:10.1016/j.amepre.2015.08.024

² United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Sustainable Development. The
17 Goals. Available at <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>. Accessed March 2024.

Contacts

media@bms.com

Source: Bristol Myers Squibb