



BRIGHAM AND  
WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

## Global Health Delivery Case Studies

### The Need for Case Studies in Global Health

Medical residency programs teach young physicians how to practice medicine through hands-on experience and formalized mentorship. But such significant experience beyond the classroom is generally not part of the core curriculum for students in global health. These 21 case studies capture the richness and complexity of actually providing health care in developing countries by framing each case in the context of a country's general political, economic and health situation. The cases comprise the largest and most current body of work of this kind. The GHD case studies are available at no cost to global health educators, students and practitioners around the world.

### The Cases

The case method was pioneered by faculty at Harvard Business School. These teaching cases describe situations faced by private and public sector entities, putting students in the roles of decision makers to simulate a real-life experience. Readers (in the classroom and in the field) have an opportunity to analyze the principles of global health strategy, management, and treatment, and to understand the complexities surrounding implementation, expansion and sustainability. Each of the 21 case studies is a 13- to 15-page story, written in accessible prose, which describes an actual scenario—complete with the constraints, including incomplete information, found in real global health situations. Every case study includes supplemental materials and suggestions for instructors to help stimulate and guide discussions.

The Global Health Delivery Project has just released 21 global health delivery case studies and plans to publish at least 18 more. Countries addressed in the current case studies include: Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Haiti, India, Iran, Kenya, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, and Uganda. Specific issues and scenarios include the development of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDRTB) treatment protocols and programs; efforts of one community-based organization to improve voluntary counseling and testing of HIV/AIDS; and how a non-governmental organization, one of the first to become involved with HIV/AIDS in Africa, scaled up its services.

These cases have been taught at the Harvard Business School, Harvard College, the Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Medical School, and MIT's Sloan School of Management. They form the cornerstone of Harvard's Global Health Effectiveness Program, an intensive 3-week summer session for health care professionals, launched in 2009, which has been attended by nearly 100 professionals so far. New cases and supporting materials will be added to the library on a regular basis.

### Our Partners and Leadership

All 21 case studies were developed by the Global Health Delivery Project, a collaboration among Harvard Medical School, Harvard Business School, and Brigham and Women's Hospital. This effort was set in motion by three leaders in global health and business strategy: Harvard University Professors Paul Farmer and Michael Porter, and Dr. Jim Y. Kim, now President of Dartmouth College. Four years ago, they initiated the creation of these case studies to help systemize the study of global health delivery and to rapidly disseminate knowledge to practitioners.

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