

**August 2022**

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**Note from Elizabeth (EJ) Ashbourne, PQMD Executive Director**

As we close out the summer months, PQMD is planning some stimulating programming for the remainder of the year. We are very excited to be holding our first in-person meeting in two years this October! Our Education Forum is being held in Seattle at Medical Teams International's headquarters. During this annual meeting of our members, we will be focusing on trends in donations and how they affect access, sustainability and resilience. We're thrilled to provide this opportunity for our members to exchange best practices, facilitate collaboration, network with colleagues and leverage expertise within our unique coalition. If you are a member and haven't registered for the forum yet, I strongly encourage you to register [here](#).



We also have an exciting line up of Pillar Talks scheduled for the rest of the year. Our September Pillar Talk webinar will focus on the role of medical product donations in each phase of the disaster cycle, so be sure to keep an eye out for registration information coming soon. In November, you won't want to miss our Pillar Talk on the GARDaccess initiative, where you can learn more about our plan to address rare diseases by developing quality guidelines for medications and a framework with the vision of improving access to medicines for patients living with rare diseases. Lastly, in December, we plan to discuss sustainable technology to reduce the environmental impact of medical product waste.

Aside from our programming, we have been working on an improved social media strategy with trainings designed for both our staff and PQMD's Executive Committee. We encourage our members to help share best practices, articles, products and PQMD's programming through social media channels, including [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

We hope that you will consider being involved with the many opportunities I mentioned. Enjoy your Labor Day weekend and the last days of summer. Please stay healthy and safe!





## **Global Health & Development Essentials Course**

***Fall Session Starts September 14th!***

***Fall: September 14 – October 26, 2022***

The Fall session includes seven weekly classes scheduled from 12:00-2:00pm (EST)

PQMD has condensed key elements of a Master's in Public Health curriculum to create a comprehensive Executive Survey Course on global health, for professionals or students working in the space but lacking relevant formal education.

The course compresses much of the MPH curriculum with an emphasis on global concerns; participants gain an improved understanding of health disparities around the world and how they're measured, health systems in low and lower-middle income countries, the global frameworks and key players providing sustained humanitarian assistance for global health development, and the dynamics and coordination of international disaster response.

**Register Now!**

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## Normas para asociaciones y prácticas de misiones médicas

COMENZAR CURSO

DETALLES ▾

### **PQMD's Medical Missions Guidelines Module is Now Available in Spanish!**

PQMD's Medical Missions Guidelines Module is now available in Spanish on our website [here](#). The PQMD HSS/Initiative has created a set of standards designed to better align sending organizations and host organizations. The 9 PQMD standards outline the general principles to help create a partnership and mutual respect. These standards also focus on improving the process and practice of medical missions and programs including training and capacity building efforts.

**SAVE THE DATES!**

 | **PQMD**  
Partnership for Quality  
Medical Donations

**2023 Global Health  
Policy Forum**

**April 24-27, 2023**  
**Paris, France**

*Learn about our Forums at [pqmd.org](https://pqmd.org)*



# COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

## **PQMD Pillar Talk: Long-term Strategies to Support Disaster Recovery: Multi-Sector Perspectives**

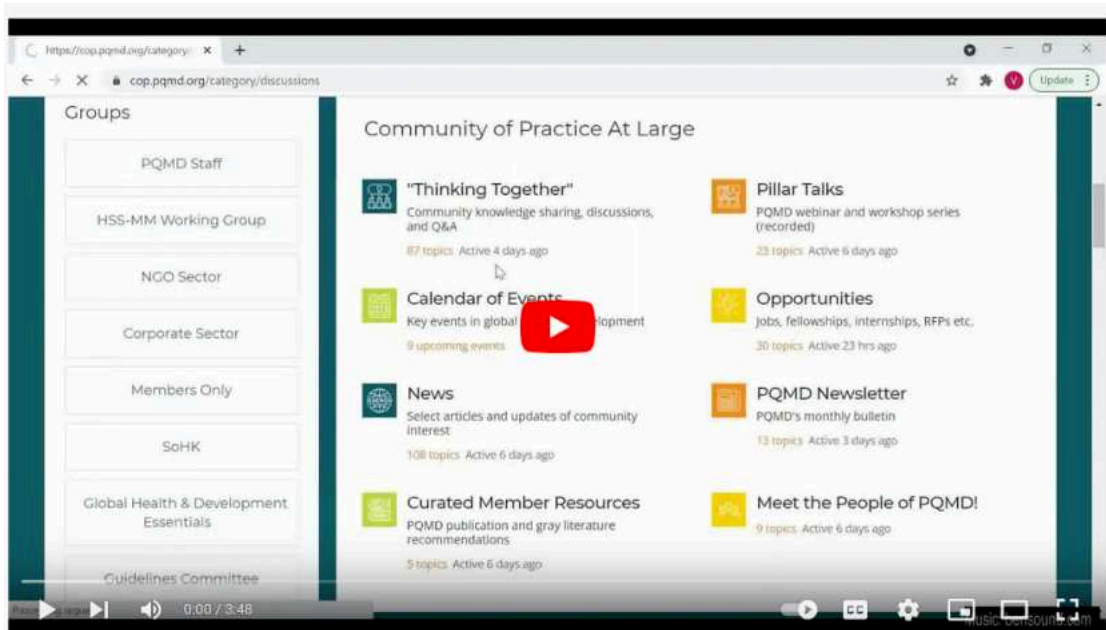
**September 27, 2022; 11am EST**

In recognition of PQMD's theme of disaster response, preparedness and resilience, PQMD, with support from our Disaster and Humanitarian Response Committee, will be holding a Pillar Talk on September 27th at 11am EST. Our panelists will be discussing long term strategies to support disaster recovery and provide perspectives from different sectors addressing the situation.

More information will be coming soon! Click the button below to pre-register and save the date!

**Pre-Register Now!**





## Still uncertain how to navigate PQMD's online Community of Practice?

PQMD has created a mini tutorial video to help you navigate the online Community of Practice (CoP). In less than 4-minutes you can learn how to: access PQMD's suite of tools (Measuring for Success, Guidelines, Guidelines at a Glance, Medical Mission Guidelines, COVID Rapid Response Tool etc.); see what major events in global health are taking place in the coming weeks; direct message other CoP members; and share posts, articles, questions, and best practices with PQMD's Network of Global Health Experts and Practitioners. The user-friendly video is just one click [away!](#)





## **Direct Relief Works with Ukrainian Ministry of Health and Global Drug Makers to Deliver 890 Tons of Medical Aid to Ukraine**

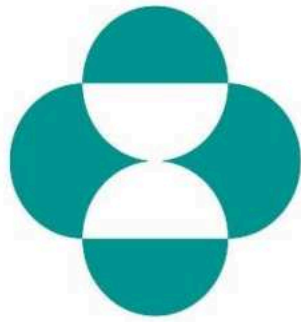
Since Russia's war on Ukraine began six months ago this week, Direct Relief has secured and delivered more than 890 tons of medicine and medical supplies (2,487 pallets) to help the people of Ukraine. Direct Relief has brought this aid to Ukraine through partnerships with Ukraine's Ministry of Health and many of the world's leading healthcare companies to address the short-term lack of medical product access given supply interruptions caused by the conflict.

Under a collaboration agreement, Ukraine's Ministry of Health is working with Direct Relief to secure medicine donations from pharmaceutical manufacturers, enabling the use of Direct Relief's existing contractual and working relationships, smoothing the processes of securing the drugs and then ensuring their timely delivery. Direct Relief has secured and delivered critical medical aid (with over 10% of the pallets requiring cold-chain handling and logistics) specifically requested or approved by the Ministry of Health since the war began. Direct Relief began its collaboration with Ukraine's Ministry of Health in the year before the invasion working together to provide monoclonal antibody therapies to help address the large Covid-19 outbreaks in the country.

The list of pharmaceutical and medical technology manufacturers that partnered with Direct Relief include many PQMD corporate partners (AbbVie, Abbott, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Baxter, BD, Boehringer Ingelheim, GSK, J&J, Merck, Lilly, Pfizer, and Takeda). They all made large product donations to benefit the Ukrainian people.

To read the press release, including the full list of pharmaceutical and medical technology manufacturers that partnered with Direct Relief, read Direct Relief's press release [here](#).

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# MERCK

## Merck Reports Strong Progress in ESG Focus Areas

Merck issued its [2021/2022 Environmental, Social and Governance \(ESG\) Progress Report](#). The report highlights the company's performance and progress in its four ESG focus areas: Access to Health, Employees, Environmental Sustainability and Ethics & Values.

"For more than 130 years, our global team has pursued ESG excellence. Today, our ESG approach helps propel and enable our business strategy in ways that make us a better company — and a better corporate citizen. To that end, ESG underpins our Corporate Strategic Framework and every decision we make," said Robert M. Davis, chief executive officer and president, Merck. "We recognize that ESG is not a destination, but instead a journey. We're excited and energized about the road ahead as we continue to operate on behalf of society, shareholders and all our stakeholders to enable a safe, sustainable and healthy future for people and communities everywhere."

The report reflects that Merck's longstanding ESG commitment is fully integrated in the company's Corporate Strategic Framework, which is anchored in the company's purpose of using the power of leading-edge science to save and improve lives around the world. The report also reflects such milestones as the company's December 2021 launch of its Sustainability Financing Framework to raise and direct funds to critical ESG projects and support our overall ESG strategy. The company's first offering was an inaugural \$1 billion sustainability bond intended to support projects and partnerships in our four ESG priority areas.

Learn more about Merck's approach to ESG, the company's commitment to creating value for society and all its stakeholders and its progress on key goals in [Merck's 2021/2022 ESG Progress Report](#). To read the full press release, click [here](#).

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**americares**

### **Americares Achieves World Health Organization Emergency Medical Team Certification**

Americares has been certified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as an Emergency Medical Team Type 1 – Mobile provider. The certification indicates Americares has met the highest standards for health care providers responding to emergencies and recognizes the organization’s commitment to a coordinated response and safe, equitable, ethical, accountable and appropriate care.

Americares is only the [third organization in North America](#) to achieve this recognition, which requires a rigorous certification process including a two-day, in-person evaluation by WHO and Pan American Health Organization officials.

“Americares is extremely proud to achieve Emergency Medical Team certification from the World Health Organization, recognizing our commitment and demonstrated ability to provide quality medical care in times of crisis,” said Americares President and CEO Christine Squires. “We have been responding to emergencies for over 40 years, and this certification speaks to both the caliber of our team and its expanded capabilities, including our capacity to respond rapidly.”

To read more, visit Americares' website [here](#).



### **How do we get back on track for SDG3?**

*Dr. Dennis Cherian, Associate Vice President for Global Health & Nutrition, Corus & IMA World Health discusses how to get back on track for SDG3.*

The COVID-19 pandemic plagued the world for over two years, disrupting lives, jobs, supply chains, health systems and more. According to the U.N., development gains in some low- and middle-income countries regressed tremendously, pushing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) back by a decade. While medical professionals raced to keep up with the novel virus and save lives across the globe, SDG3, or ensuring good health and well-being for all, had to take a temporary backseat. Now that critical advancements in COVID-19 prevention and treatment have been made, how do we get back on track to achieve SDG3?

In this article, Mr. Cherian discussed the following in order to get back on track:

- Focus on primary health care
- Maximizing faith-based health networks for primary care

IMA World Health has worked to strengthen the capacity of local faith-based health networks, like SANRU Rural Health Program in the DRC or the Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP), for 20 years. SANRU and ACHAP have both grown considerably and are now game changers in their national and regional public health contexts.

To get back on track to progress towards SDG3, international donors and governments should invest more in health FBOs, like SANRU and ACHAP, to strengthen locally led health systems and leverage collective assets to further accelerate equitable health care service delivery.

Read the full article on IMA World Health's [website](#).





# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEB

**[Exclusive: Closure of World's Only Manufacturing Plant for Monkeypox Vaccine Raises Questions About World's Ability to Meet Rising Demand](#)**

Health Policy Watch

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**[What Do Global Health Practitioners Think about Decolonizing Global Health](#)**

Annals of Global Health

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**[EU, US envoys urge Ethiopia to restore services in Tigray](#)**

Al Jazeera

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**[Ukrainian minister says Russia blocking access to medicines](#)**

AP News

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**[Deep dive: The humanitarian crises overshadowed in 2022](#)**

Devex

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**[Millions more children to benefit from malaria vaccine as UNICEF secures supply](#)**

UNICEF

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**[Study connects climate hazards to 58% of infectious diseases](#)**

AP News

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**[HIV medicines: India patients say hit by drug shortage](#)**

BBC News

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**[Hospitals at risk of suspending heart surgeries due to medication shortage](#)**

VN Express International

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**[Countries face shortages of drugs, some for life-threatening conditions](#)**

CIDRAP

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**[Fighting the 'Million- Murdering' Mosquito: Lessons from the Pandemic](#)**

Global Health Now

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## Upcoming Events

[CDP- The Silent  
Emergency- The Food  
Crisis Unfolding Across  
the Globe](#)

September 7, 2022;  
11am EST

[Concordia Annual  
Summit](#)

September 19-21. 2022;  
New York & Digital

[PQMD Pillar Talk: Long-  
term Strategies to  
Support Disaster  
Recovery: Multi-sector  
Perspectives](#)

September 27. 2022;  
11am EST

[International Medical  
Corps' Annual Awards  
Celebration](#)

September 29. 2022;  
10:00 pm EDT

[COR-NTD Meeting](#)

October 4-5, 2022;  
Virtual

**PQMD Educational  
Forum (Members  
Only)**

October 17-19, 2022;  
Seattle, Washington

[Development2030-  
Beyond Aid](#)

November 16-17, 2022;  
Brussels, Belgium

*Does your organization have news to share?  
Contact [Beth Haynes](#) for placement in future newsletters.  
Next Month's Theme: Disaster Response, Preparedness and Resilience*



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