Novel LINAC/Radiation Therapy Program: a key step to addressing challenges ODAs and more

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Accelerating the Future: Designing a Robust and Affordable Radiation Therapy
Treatment System for Challenging Environments

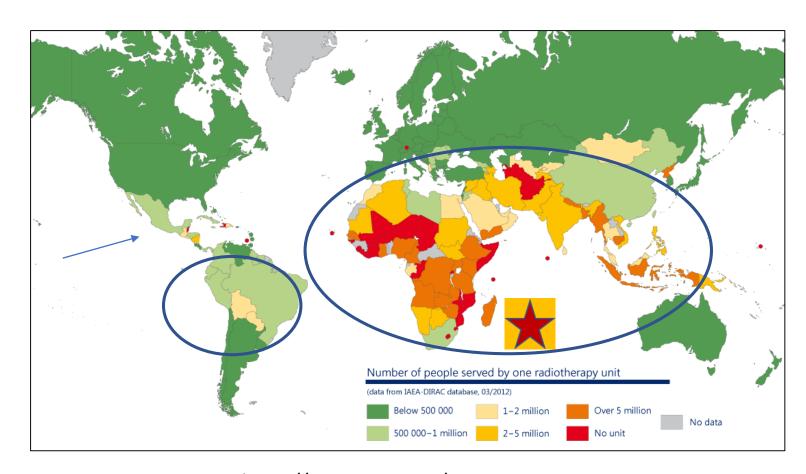
Gabarone Botswana March 20-22, 2019

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No conflict of interest.

Global shortage of RT per IAEA – NCD shortfall



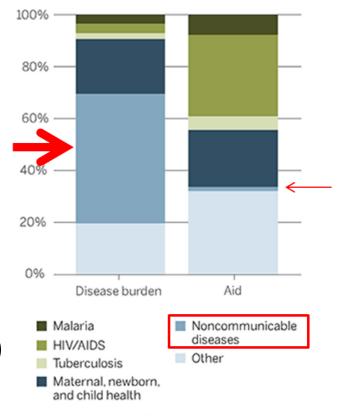


https://cancer.iaea.org/agart.asp

Shortfall of over 5000 linear accelerators (essential for total cancer care) in developing world and many thousands of needed experts

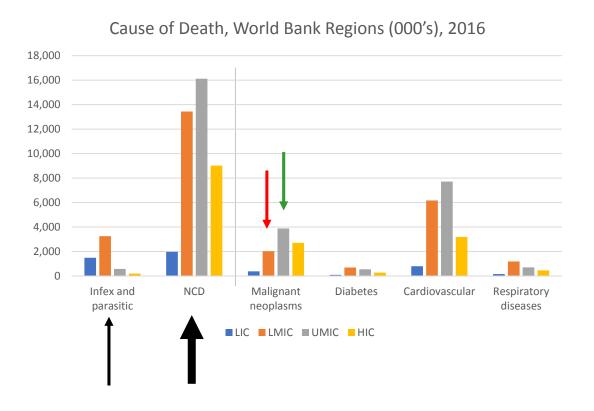
Skewed funding

The diseases that cause the highest burden—expressed in disability-adjusted life years, or DALYs—don't get most of the international largesse. In 2010, HIV/AIDS received the biggest chunk; little aid went to noncommunicable diseases like diabetes, whose burden is large and growing.



Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation

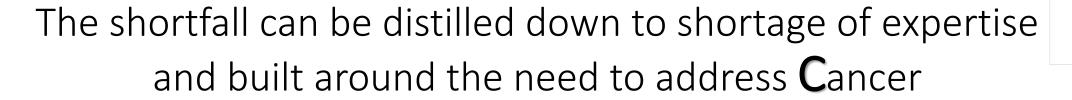
Addressing issue- why cancer:



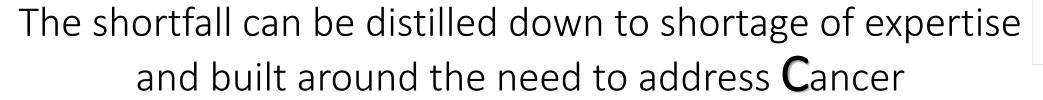


"There are other diseases we need to take care of before cancer."

- Correct, but NCDs outnumber infectious and parasitic diseases (ID) (not that they are in competition).
- Cancer is in second place for LMICs. Cancer is even worse for UMICs (which is aspirational goal of LMIC, so we now start with the LMIC)
- Stable healthcare infrastructure necessary.
 Addressing cancer also addresses infectious diseases (vaccination for HPV, hepatitis and treatment for others as basis for ID as routine and essential part of healthcare system).
- Cancer prevention and survivorship address other
 NCDs (cardiovascular, respiratory, metabolic,...)

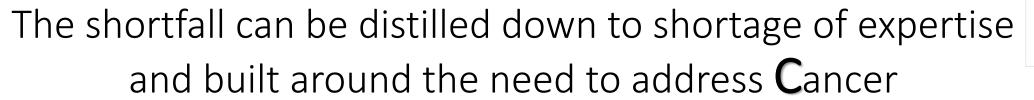






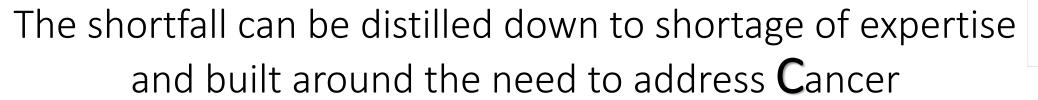


Capacity building	The stated goal of global agencies
Capability	Recruit and mentor- the breadth of skills needed



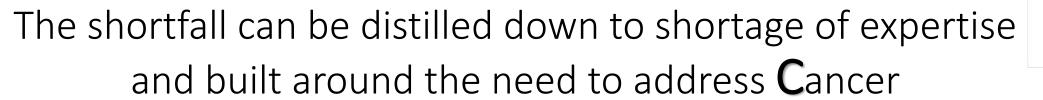


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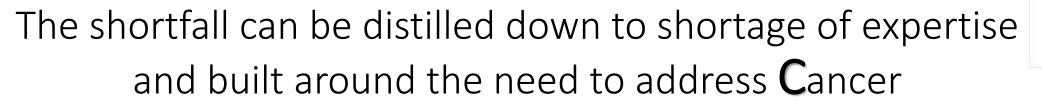


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Camaraderie	Personal connections, career-long mentor-mentee relationships

The shortfall can be distilled down to shortage of expertise and built around the need to address ${f C}$ ancer



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Crazies "too hard is not an answer!"



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Visionary Investors

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- Brilliant social business model
- Economists and political leaders who understand the value of healthy people



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Camaraderie

Personal connections, career-

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Inspiration doesn't get old: Being part of the serious effort for a solution puts one in good company





"It always seems impossible until it's done."

Nelson Mandela (1918 - 2013)



"Never doubt that a small, group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

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