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2023 G20 New Delhi Summit Final Compliance Report

11 September 2023 to 10 October 2024

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3. Health: Access to Affordable Healthcare

“[We will] facilitate equitable access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in Low-and-Middle-income Countries (LMICs), LDCs [least developed countries] and SIDS [small island developing states].”

G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Türkiye			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.65 (83%)	

Background

Health has been addressed by G20 leaders since the Toronto Summit in 2010.⁵⁶⁰

At the 2010 Toronto Summit, G20 leaders affirmed the importance of “social safety nets” including public health care systems to “help strengthen [economic] resilience...and promote more stable growth.”⁵⁶¹

At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, G20 leaders encouraged compliance with the World Health Organization (WHO)’s International Health Regulations.⁵⁶² G20 leaders emphasized the importance of this to address disease outbreaks.

⁵⁶⁰ The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicue.html>

⁵⁶¹ The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicue.html>

⁵⁶² G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

At the 2014 Brisbane Summit, G20 leaders pledged to provide funding, medical personnel and medical countermeasures to address the Ebola Virus outbreak.⁵⁶³ This included financing international efforts to support countries in Western Africa such as “Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Mali and Nigeria.” G20 leaders also reiterated the importance of strengthening global health systems to respond to infectious diseases. In 2014, they started to make health commitments, producing 33 on joint partnerships and financial assistance to address the Ebola Virus outbreak.⁵⁶⁴ Efforts focused on supporting low- and middle-income countries by providing financial aid, medical personnel, equipment and medications.

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 leaders acknowledged the importance of addressing “global health risks, such as antimicrobial resistance, infectious disease threats and weak health systems.”⁵⁶⁵

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 leaders reiterated the importance of research and development to address the ongoing health threat posed by antimicrobial resistance.⁵⁶⁶ G20 leaders also committed to addressing access and affordability concerns for antimicrobials.

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, G20 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to establishing universal health coverage and strengthening health systems worldwide.⁵⁶⁷ G20 leaders also called for increased funding and cooperation between members, other countries and international organizations to improve “global health capacities,” support the “WHO’s Health Emergencies Programme” and continue research and development.

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, G20 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards establishing high quality and affordable health systems to work towards universal health coverage.⁵⁶⁸ G20 leaders also committed to supporting the “prevention, detection and response to public health emergencies,” in accordance with the WHO’s International Health Regulations.

At the 2019 Osaka Summit, G20 leaders committed to financing medical personnel and cost-effective innovations to strengthen public health systems.⁵⁶⁹ G20 leaders also reiterated their pledge to address communicable diseases such as Ebola, polio, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

At the 2020 Riyadh Summit, G20 leaders declared goals to address the COVID-19 pandemic through financial assistance for the “research, development, manufacturing and distribution of safe and effective COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines.”⁵⁷⁰ G20 leaders emphasized the importance of international coordination through the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) initiative and other efforts.

⁵⁶³ G20 Leaders' Brisbane Statement on Ebola, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>

⁵⁶⁴ G20 Leaders' Brisbane Statement on Ebola, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>

⁵⁶⁵ G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communication.html>

⁵⁶⁶ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communication.html>

⁵⁶⁷ G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-leaders-declaration.html>

⁵⁶⁸ G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

⁵⁶⁹ G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

⁵⁷⁰ Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 November 2020. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2020/2020-g20-leaders-declaration-1121.html>

At the 2021 Rome Summit, G20 leaders committed to “vaccinating at least 40 per cent of [the global population] by the end of 2021 and 70 per cent by mid-2022.”⁵⁷¹ G20 leaders also pledged to increase the access to vaccines and medical countermeasures in developing countries.

At the 2022 Bali Summit, G20 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to universal health coverage and the strengthening of health systems.⁵⁷² G20 leaders also reiterated their pledge to provide “equitable and universal access to safe, affordable, quality and effective vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics” for Covid-19.

Building on previous commitments, the 2023 New Delhi Summit focused on strengthening affordable healthcare systems, while working to improve access to medical diagnostic and treatment options as well as vaccines.⁵⁷³ This commitment falls under the theme of “One Earth, One Family, One Future” established as part of India’s G20 Presidency. At the 2023 New Delhi Summit, G20 leaders committed to implementing the One Health approach to improve global health systems.⁵⁷⁴ This holistic approach focuses on sustainable and inclusive health coverage to improve physical and mental health, address infectious diseases, engage in pandemic preparedness and conduct research and development. G20 members also committed to ensuring the safe and equitable access to high quality “vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures.” These efforts will prioritize LMICs, least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

Commitment Features

At the 2023 New Delhi summit, G20 leaders committed to “facilitate equitable access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in Low-and-Middle-income Countries (LMICs), LDCs and SIDS.”⁵⁷⁵

Definitions and Concepts

“Facilitate” is understood to mean “to make [something] easier; to help bring (something) about; [or] to help (something, such as a discussion) run more smoothly and effectively.”⁵⁷⁶

“Equitable” should be interpreted to mean “fair and just as indicated by law.”⁵⁷⁷

“Access” is understood to mean “the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.”⁵⁷⁸ The WHO characterizes access as “a broad concept that measures three dimensions of key health sector interventions.”

⁵⁷¹ G20 Rome Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 9 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2021/211031-declaration.html>

⁵⁷² The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicate.html>

⁵⁷³ G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 10 September 2023. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2023/230909-declaration.html>

⁵⁷⁴ The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicate.html>

⁵⁷⁵ G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 10 September 2023. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2023/G20-New-Delhi-Leaders-Declaration.pdf>

⁵⁷⁶ Facilitate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/facilitate>

⁵⁷⁷ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 February 2024.

https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

⁵⁷⁸ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 February 2024.

https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

“Safe” is understood to mean “free from harm or risk.”⁵⁷⁹

“Effective” refers to vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures that result in a “decided, decisive, or desired effect.”⁵⁸⁰

“Quality-assured” means that the products or services have undergone a “process that looks at activities or products on a regular basis to make sure they are being done at the required level of excellence.”⁵⁸¹

“Affordable” is understood to mean “not expensive.”⁵⁸²

A “vaccine” is “a preparation that is administered (as by injection) to stimulate the body’s immune response against a specific infectious agent or disease: such as” an “inactivated or attenuated” antigen, a “pathogenic agent (such as a bacterium or virus) or one of its components or products (such as a protein or toxin)” or “a preparation of genetic material” that results in the formation of an “antigenic substance.”⁵⁸³ A vaccine may also be “a preparation or immunotherapy that is used to stimulate the body’s immune response against noninfectious substances, agents, or diseases.”

“Therapeutics” are understood to mean “treatment[s] of disease or disorders by remedial agents or methods.”⁵⁸⁴

“Diagnostics” are understood to mean “methods or systems for discovering the cause of a problem, illness, etc.”⁵⁸⁵

“Medical countermeasures” are defined as “medicines and medical supplies that can be used to diagnose, prevent, or treat diseases related to chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) threats.”⁵⁸⁶ Medical countermeasures include “[b]iologic products [such as] vaccines, blood products and antibodies, [d]rugs [including] antimicrobial or antiviral drugs and [d]evices [including] diagnostic tests to identify threat agents and personal protective equipment.”

“LMICs” are defined as countries with a gross national income of USD13,845 or lower.⁵⁸⁷

According to the United Nations, “LDCs” are defined as “countries that have low levels of income and face severe structural impediments to sustainable development.”⁵⁸⁸

⁵⁷⁹ Safe, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/safe>

⁵⁸⁰ Effective, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/effective>

⁵⁸¹ Quality assurance, National Cancer Institute n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/quality-assurance>

⁵⁸² Affordable, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/affordable>

⁵⁸³ Vaccine, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/vaccine>

⁵⁸⁴ Therapeutic, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/therapeutic>

⁵⁸⁵ Diagnostic, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/diagnostic>

⁵⁸⁶ Medical Countermeasures, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta) 5 October 2020. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/orr/readiness/mcm2-508.html>

⁵⁸⁷ Low and middle income countries and regions, International Statistical Institute (The Hague) n.d. Access Date: 7 March 2024. <https://www.isi-web.org/low-and-middle-income-countries-and-regions>

⁵⁸⁸ Least Developed Countries Category, The United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Developing States (New York) n.d. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/about-small-island-developing-states>

According to the United Nations, “SIDS” are a “distinct group of 39 States and 18 Associate Members of United Nations regional commissions that face unique social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities.”⁵⁸⁹

General Interpretive Guidelines

This commitment can be broken down into two overarching dimensions, to be further broken down: 1) facilitating equitable access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures in LMICs, LDCs, and SIDS and 2) focusing actions on LMICs, LDCs and SIDS to facilitate equitable access to medical countermeasures. To achieve full compliance, G20 members must strongly comply with most aspects in both areas.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G20 members that take actions to facilitate the equitable access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures and focus actions on LMICs, LDCs and SIDS to facilitate equitable access to medical countermeasures. This commitment can be further broken down into several parts. Part 1 requires members to take action to facilitate access to 1) vaccines, 2) therapeutics, 3) diagnostics and 4) other medical countermeasures that are 1) safe, 2) effective, 3) quality-assured and 4) affordable. In addition to this, actions must be equitable. As such, Part 2 of the commitment requires that the aforementioned four elements must be made accessible for 1) LMICs, 2) LDCs and 3) SIDS.

In order to achieve full compliance, G20 members must take international action to satisfy the “equitable” component of the commitment that focuses on three country groupings identified above. Full compliance for this commitment requires the G20 member to take strong action across most of Part 1 and most of Part 2 of the commitment. Examples of strong actions include donating vaccines and other medical countermeasures to LDCs, streamlining the production and procurement of medical countermeasures between companies and recipients, offering financial aid to support public health services, cooperating with the pharmaceutical sector to increase the availability of medical countermeasures, developing programs to vaccinate populations against infectious diseases and signing or ratifying international treaties.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G20 members that take action in all of Part 1 or Part 2 of the commitment or take strong action in some aspects of both Part 1 and Part 2 (i.e. addressing access to vaccines and therapeutics in one small island state) or take less strong/weak action across many or most of the criteria of Part 1 and Part 2. G20 members will achieve partial compliance if they take domestic action across the four elements defined in Part 1. For example, if they facilitated access to quality-assured and affordable vaccines and therapeutics in a remote community, but not in an LMIC, LDC or SIDS, this would count as partial compliance.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned if the G20 member fails to take action towards Part 1 or Part 2 of the commitment or the G20 member has only taken weak action in a few criteria of Part 1 and Part 2 but not most/many criteria. Examples of weak actions include verbally reaffirming the commitment, releasing statements recognizing the need for equitable access to medical countermeasures or participating in bilateral meetings where the topic is discussed.

⁵⁸⁹ About Small Island Developing States, The United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Developing States (New York) n.d. Access Date: 4 February 2024. <https://www.un.org/ohrrls/content/about-small-island-developing-states>.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G20 member has not taken any action towards Part 1 or Part 2 of the commitment or has only taken weak action on one or fewer of the criteria of Part 1 or Part 2.
0	The G20 member has taken action in all of Part 1 or Part 2 of the commitment or has taken strong action in some aspects of both Part 1 and Part 2 or has taken weak action on two of the criteria of Part 1 and Part 2.
+1	The G20 member has taken strong action on three or more of Part 1 of the commitment, which requires members to take action to facilitate access to 1) vaccines, 2) therapeutics, 3) diagnostics and 4) other medical countermeasures that are a) safe, b) effective, c) quality-assured and d) affordable and also across most of Part 2 of the commitment, which requires that the aforementioned four elements must be made accessible for a) low- and middle-income countries, b) least developed countries and c) small island developing states.

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Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 11 January 2024, the Ministry of Health and the National Agri-Food Health and Quality Service (Senasa) held a meeting to strengthen the surveillance, control and prevention framework for Western Equine Encephalitis.⁵⁹⁰ Senasa and provincial ministries reached a consensus to prioritize the distribution of vaccines to the most affected areas.

On 19 January 2024, the Ministry of Health announced a series of regulations for the prescription and marketing of medicines under decree 63/2024.⁵⁹¹ Decree 63/2024 establishes conditions for the prescription and distribution of medications by health professionals as well as the marketing of over-the-counter medications in establishments other than pharmacies.⁵⁹² The measures aim to reduce the cost of medication, ensure the safety, quality and effectiveness of prepared and imported medicines in accordance with established standards and improve the application of the regulatory framework.⁵⁹³

On 20 February 2024, Chief of Staff Nicolás Posse Minister of Health Mario Russo and the Minister of Human Capital Sandra Pettovello announced the transfer of purchasing high-cost medications to

⁵⁹⁰ Salud y Senasa refuerzan el trabajo con las provincias para el control y prevención de la Encefalitis Equina del Oeste, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 11 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 March 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-y-senasa-refuerzan-el-trabajo-con-las-provincias-para-el-control-y-prevencion-de-la>

⁵⁹¹ Decreto 63/2024: DECTO-2024-63-APN-PTE – Disposiciones, Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (Buenos Aires) 19 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 March 2024. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/301967/20240122>

⁵⁹² Reglamentación para la prescripción de medicamentos y su comercialización, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 22 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 March 2024.

⁵⁹³ Decreto 63/2024: DECTO-2024-63-APN-PTE – Disposiciones, Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (Buenos Aires) 19 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 March 2024. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/301967/20240122>

the Ministry of Health.⁵⁹⁴ The initiative aims to improve organizational efficiency and transparency and support patients experiencing health and social vulnerabilities.

On 1 March 2024, the Ministry of Health presented a preventative vaccination strategy against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).⁵⁹⁵ Government officials and scientific societies supported incorporating the RSV vaccine into the National Vaccination Calendar. This initiative aims to protect newborns under six months of age against bronchiolitis.

On 7 March 2024, the Ministry of Health and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) published recommendations in response to the dengue outbreak across Argentina and other regions in the Americas.⁵⁹⁶ To prevent and control the current outbreak, PAHO suggests strengthening surveillance, eliminating mosquito breeding sites, timely patient care for rapid detection and collaborating with communities.

On 7 March 2024, Minister Russo met with representatives from different non-governmental organizations for cancer patients and rare and chronic pathologies.⁵⁹⁷ During the meeting, health authorities reaffirmed their commitment to continue providing high-cost medications to vulnerable populations.

On 11 March 2024, Minister Russo held a meeting with the minister of the province of Rio Negro, Ana Senesi, to strengthen efforts and establish a common agenda between different jurisdictions and the national health portfolio. The meeting aims to improve the management of national health care resources.

On 19 March 2024, Minister Russo and the representative of PAHO in Argentina Eva Jané Llopis officially launched the “Federal Network of References for the Care of People with Arboviral Diseases.”⁵⁹⁸ The initiative aims to strengthen coordinated actions between the Ministry of Health and 24 jurisdictions in Argentina for the detection, prevention and care of patients with these diseases.

On 25 March 2024, the Ministry of Health launched the national flu vaccination campaign to reduce infection, hospitalization, complications and death among at risk populations of the influenza virus.⁵⁹⁹ The vaccination campaign is free for the specified at-risk populations.

⁵⁹⁴ La asistencia para la compra de medicamentos a personas en situación de vulnerabilidad social y sanitaria fue transferida al Ministerio de Salud, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 20 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 March 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-asistencia-para-la-compra-de-medicamentos-personas-en-situacion-de-vulnerabilidad-social>

⁵⁹⁵ Se presentó frente a las sociedades científicas la vacuna contra el Virus Sincial Respiratorio, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 1 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 March 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-presento-frente-las-sociedades-cientificas-la-vacuna-contra-el-virus-sincial>

⁵⁹⁶ El Ministerio de Salud de la Nación y la Organización Panamericana de la Salud difunden recomendaciones ante el brote de dengue, Ministerio de Salud (Argentina) 7 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-ministerio-de-salud-de-la-nacion-y-la-organizacion-panamericana-de-la-salud-difunden>

⁵⁹⁷ Russo recibió a representantes de ONGs de pacientes oncológicos, patologías poco frecuentes y crónicas (Buenos Aires) 7 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 March 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/russo-recibo-representantes-de-ongs-de-pacientes-oncologicos-patologias-poco-frecuentes-y>

⁵⁹⁸ Salud y OPS trabajan para fortalecer la respuesta al dengue con la conformación de la Red Federal de Referentes para la Atención de Personas con Enfermedades Arbovirales, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 20 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-y-ops-trabajan-para-fortalecer-la-respuesta-al-dengue-con-la-conformacion-de-la-red>

⁵⁹⁹ Salud inició la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 25 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-inicio-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe>

On 25 March 2024, Minister Russo met with health ministers from 24 jurisdictions across the country to advance collaborative actions and address challenges in healthcare.⁶⁰⁰ The meeting provided a platform to reallocate healthcare resources based on changing epidemics and outbreaks, establish priorities for the general health agenda and align provincial policies with the healthcare priorities.

On 9 April 2024, the Ministry of Health and PAHO organized a joint National Immunization Workshop ahead of Vaccination Week of the Americas.⁶⁰¹ The meeting aimed to identify gaps in policy to improve vaccination coverage and prevent the reintroduction of diseases, recognize immunization coverage progress and further discuss the logistics for upcoming strategies.

On 16 April 2024, the Secretary of Quality in Health Leonardo Busso represented Argentina at the World Renal Policy Forum organized by the International Society of Nephrology.⁶⁰² The meeting provided a platform for key actors to discuss the impact of kidney diseases, strategies and better management practices on a local and international level. During the meeting, Secretary Busso highlighted Argentina's approach to tackling the issue by emphasizing prevention and care through its progression.

On 22 April 2024, the Ministry of Health launched the Winter Campaign of the Low Acute Respiratory Infections Program.⁶⁰³ Leaders from various jurisdictions provided key metrics and addressed common challenges and solutions to strengthen primary care. In addition, the Ministry of Health purchased medications to protect against and treat respiratory infections. The campaign aims to prevent and treat these diseases which pose a threat to vulnerable populations specifically children.

On 23 April 2024, the Ministry of Health and PAHO reinforced local health systems' approach to managing dengue cases.⁶⁰⁴ The Ministry incorporated a series of workshops for healthcare professionals and public outreach programs. The initiative aims to strengthen local health system capacities and improve the quality and effectiveness of health care by introducing coordinated efforts across jurisdictions and healthcare professions.

On 26 April 2024, the Ministry of Health signed an agreement to improve healthcare services with the National Directorate of Health Surveillance of Paraguay.⁶⁰⁵ The initiative aims to facilitate collaborative efforts on the quality control, laboratory management and research and development of medical countermeasures.

⁶⁰⁰ Russo convocó a los ministros de Salud de todo el país, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 25 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/russo-convoco-los-ministros-de-salud-de-todo-el-pais>

⁶⁰¹ En vísperas de la Semana de Vacunación en las Américas, el Ministerio de Salud y la OPS organizaron el Taller Nacional de Inmunizaciones, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 11 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-visperas-de-la-semana-de-vacunacion-en-las-americas-el-ministerio-de-salud-y-la-ops>

⁶⁰² Argentina participó del Foro Mundial de Política Renal, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-foro-mundial-de-politica-renal>

⁶⁰³ Salud lanzó la Campaña de Invierno del Programa de Infecciones Respiratorias Agudas bajas, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 22 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-lanzo-la-campana-de-invierno-del-programa-de-infecciones-respiratorias-agudas-bajas>

⁶⁰⁴ Salud refuerza las estrategias de manejo clínico de dengue en todo el país, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 23 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-refuerza-las-estrategias-de-manejo-clinico-de-dengue-en-todo-el-pais>

⁶⁰⁵ Argentina y Paraguay firman un convenio para fortalecer servicios de salud, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 26 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-paraguay-firman-un-convenio-para-fortalecer-servicios-de-salud>

On 26 April 2024, the Ministry of Health distributed 80,400 doses of the Moderna mono-variant vaccine for Covid-19 to children across the country.⁶⁰⁶ The initiative includes regular vaccination schedules and booster shots for children six months to 11 years of age.

On 26 April 2024, the Minister of Health met with President of the Bunge y Born Foundation Jorge Born and Executive Director Gerardo Della Paolera to further strengthen immunization efforts.⁶⁰⁷ The Foundation publishes annual research on public perception of vaccines and barriers to access. The meeting established a joint commitment towards continued efforts to monitor, analyze and implement new policies and strategies to boost vaccination rates.

On 6 May 2024, the Ministry of Health reinforced the national vaccination campaign against influenza and RSV by disseminating additional recommendations for prevention and reiterating the importance of vaccinations.⁶⁰⁸

On 9 May 2024, Minister Russo, Ms Llopis and president of the National Immunization Commission Angela Gentile presented the 2024-2025 Work Plan for strengthening dengue prevention and management.⁶⁰⁹ The plan includes reallocating resources to strengthen local health networks and updated recommendations for the vaccination strategy.

On 22 May 2024, Minister Russo met with representatives from the Argentine Chamber of Medicinal Specialties, the Chamber of Pharmaceutical Laboratories and the Industrial Chamber of Argentine Pharmaceutical Laboratories to discuss improving public acquisition of costly medications and medical guidelines for healthcare treatment.⁶¹⁰

On 10 June 2024, Minister Russo along with the Secretary General of the Presidency Karina Milei, the President of the Chamber of Deputies Martín Menem and the Mayor of the Buenos Aires Town of San Nicolás Santiago Passaglia visited the first public-private health center of Argentina.⁶¹¹ This San Nicolás Sanatorium center will implement Municipal Medical Insurance, a health system aimed at providing health coverage to nearly 50,000 town residents who do not have social security or prepaid medicines. Operated through a digital credential, each user obtains their unique member number to prevent fraud while providing quality healthcare.

⁶⁰⁶ Salud distribuyó a todo el país vacunas monovariante contra COVID-19 para población pediátrica, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 26 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-distribuyo-todo-el-pais-vacunas-monovariante-contra-covid-19-para-poblacion>

⁶⁰⁷ Russo mantuvo un encuentro con el presidente de la Fundación Bunge y Born, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 26 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/russo-mantuvo-un-encuentro-con-el-presidente-de-la-fundacion-bunge-y-born>

⁶⁰⁸ Avanza en el país la vacunación contra la gripe y el Virus Sincial Respiratorio para prevenir enfermedades respiratorias graves, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 6 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-en-el-pais-la-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-y-el-virus-sincial-respiratorio-para>

⁶⁰⁹ Salud presentó el plan de trabajo para el abordaje integral del dengue 2024-2025, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 9 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-presento-el-plan-de-trabajo-para-el-abordaje-integral-del-dengue-2024-2025>

⁶¹⁰ Reunión con representantes de las cámaras farmacéuticas, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 22 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/reunion-con-representantes-de-las-camaras-farmacenticas>

⁶¹¹ Comienza a implementarse en Argentina el sistema de voucher de salud, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 10 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 June 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comienza-implementarse-en-argentina-el-sistema-de-voucher-de-salud>

On 24 June 2024, Minister Russo presented the plan for implementing electric prescriptions nationally to ministers and provincial authorities.⁶¹² The initiative aims to improve the safety and efficiency of prescription dispensary, traceability and delivery.

On 8 July 2024, the Ministry of Health held a workshop with representatives from 24 jurisdictions and PAHO to address challenges and establish management and preventative strategies for diabetes, hypertension and kidney disease at the primary care level.⁶¹³

On 17 July 2024, the representatives from the National Institute of Infectious Diseases of the National Administration of Laboratories and Institutes of Health completed laboratory skills and bioinformatic analysis training at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia in the United States.⁶¹⁴ The initiative aims to strengthen local capacity for the detection, surveillance, diagnosis and research of local and regional epidemiological risks.

On 31 July 2024, the Ministry of Health participated in a training program as a part of Argentina's three-month strategy to improve field epidemiology and public health skills of healthcare workers in Tucumán and La Rioja.⁶¹⁵ The field course aims to provide epidemiological surveillance and first response task forces with the tools to detect, notify, respond to and implement public health measures.

On 13 September 2024, the Central National Institute for the Coordination of Ablation and Implantation (INCUCAI) and regional hospitals in Misiones, Chaco, Corrientes and Formosa signed agreements to open clinics for the diagnosis and treatment of advanced chronic kidney disease.⁶¹⁶ INCUCAI will provide training and funding for these clinics while supporting their development.

On 19 September 2024, the Ministry of Health began distributing vaccines for dengue as part of the Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of Dengue 2024-2025.⁶¹⁷ Vaccines will be distributed to priority populations in northeast, northwest and central Argentina for individuals aged 15 to 39.

⁶¹² Comienza el Plan de implementación de recetas electrónicas en todo el país, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 24 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 August 2024.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comienza-el-plan-de-implementacion-de-recetas-electronicas-en-todo-el-pais>

⁶¹³ Salud organizó un encuentro con equipos provinciales para el abordaje integral de la diabetes, la hipertensión y la enfermedad renal, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 8 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-un-encuentro-con-equipos-provinciales-para-el-abordaje-integral-de-la>

⁶¹⁴ ANLIS Malbrán fortalece capacidades con entrenamiento en el Centro para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de Estados Unidos, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 17 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/anlis-malbran-fortalece-capacidades-con-entrenamiento-en-el-centro-para-el-control-y-la>

⁶¹⁵ Comenzó el Programa de Entrenamiento en Epidemiología de Campo y Acciones de Salud Pública en Tucumán y La Rioja, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 31 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-el-programa-de-entrenamiento-en-epidemiologia-de-campo-y-acciones-de-salud-publica>

⁶¹⁶ Firma de convenios para la prevención de la enfermedad renal en la Región NEA, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/firma-de-convenios-para-la-prevencion-de-la-enfermedad-renal-en-la-region-nea>

⁶¹⁷ Estrategia focalizada: Salud comienza la distribución de vacunas contra el dengue, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 19 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/estrategia-focalizada-salud-comienza-la-distribucion-de-vacunas-contra-el-dengue>

On 20 September 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that approximately 300 individuals were vaccinated against Argentine Hemorrhagic Fever at the 85th Pergamino Rural Exhibition.⁶¹⁸ This initiative was spearheaded by the National Institute of Viral Diseases.

On 20 September 2024, INCUCAI and regional hospitals in Jujuy, Salta, Catamarca and Santiago del Estero signed agreements to promote kidney health and support organ and tissue donation.⁶¹⁹ These agreements fall under the “Program for the Comprehensive Approach to Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease” which allows hospitals to open clinics for advanced chronic kidney disease and the “Program for the implementation of Hospital Organ and Tissue Procurement Units.” INCUCAI will provide training and funding for these clinics and units while supporting their development.

On 7 October 2024, the Ministry of Health and National Institute of Social Services for Retirees and Pensioners announced their cooperation to procure and distribute expensive medications or medications for oncological treatment.⁶²⁰ This is expected to reduce the cost of purchasing medications by 50 per cent.

On 9 October 2024, Minister of Health Mario Lugones announced the formation of a joint provincial and national working group to develop financing mechanisms for expensive medications.⁶²¹

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Argentina has facilitated access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable medical care through streamlining the distribution of vaccines, establishing regulations for dispensing medications and meeting with various representatives to strengthen collaborative public health efforts. However, while Argentina has engaged LMICs such as Paraguay, it has not taken steps to engage with LDCs or SIDS.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

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Australia has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

⁶¹⁸ Operativo de vacunación contra la Fiebre Hemorrágica Argentina en la 85° Exposición Rural de Pergamino, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/operativo-de-vacunacion-contra-la-fiebre-hemorragica-argentina-en-la-85deg-exposicion-rural>

⁶¹⁹ Convenios en la Región NOA para fortalecer la donación de órganos y tejidos y prevenir la enfermedad renal, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/convenios-en-la-region-noa-para-fortalecer-la-donacion-de-organos-y-tejidos-y-prevenir-la>

⁶²⁰ El Ministerio de Salud y PAMI se unen para bajar costos en la compra de medicamentos oncológicos y de tratamientos especiales, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 7 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-ministerio-de-salud-y-pami-se-unen-para-bajar-costos-en-la-compra-de-medicamentos>

⁶²¹ Salud conformó una mesa de trabajo con obras sociales nacionales y provinciales, Ministerio de Salud (Buenos Aires) 9 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-conformo-una-mesa-de-trabajo-con-obras-sociales-nacionales-y-provinciales>

On 22 December 2023, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced that the National Immunization Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy Program would begin on 1 January 2024.⁶²² The government will provide financial remuneration to involved pharmacies for delivering eligible immunizations to individuals over five years of age. The goal of this initiative is to increase the accessibility and affordability of vaccines.

On 2 January 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced the expansion of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to provide cheaper medications for advanced ovarian cancer, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, small lymphocytic lymphoma, cystic fibrosis and atypical haemolytic uraemic syndrome.⁶²³ This will increase access to affordable medications for over 1,200 Australians living with these illnesses.

On 1 February 2024, Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler announced the expansions of available medicines in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.⁶²⁴ This initiative will increase the affordability of otherwise expensive medicines for those with advanced melanoma and relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis.

On 4 February 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced up to AUD20 million for a national research program to develop treatments and carry out clinical trials for childhood brain cancers such as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma.⁶²⁵ This initiative aims to produce better data, enable priority individuals to access clinical trials and ultimately ensure that new treatments can be assessed for safety and effectiveness as quickly as possible.

On 6 February 2024, Minister Butler announced AUD35 million in funding for a manufacturing facility for bioengineered corneas, which will be made available globally.⁶²⁶ In light of the lack of cornea tissue donations, this initiative will increase access to countermeasures for blind patients.

On 19 February 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs Penny Wong and Minister for International Development and the Pacific Pat Conroy announced an initiative to address HIV, malaria, antimicrobial resistance and other health challenges in Papua New Guinea which is a SIDS.⁶²⁷ Funding will support research, training and efforts to develop medical countermeasures to prevent malaria in Papua New Guinea and elsewhere.

On 20 February 2024, Minister Butler announced AUD50 million in funding “to develop and commercialize the world’s most advanced artificial heart.”⁶²⁸ This promising technology is expected to

⁶²² Launch of the National Immunisation Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy (NIPVIP) Program, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 22 December 2023. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/launch-of-the-national-immunisation-program-vaccinations-in-pharmacy-nipvip-program?language=en>

⁶²³ Expanded PBS listings make vital treatments more affordable, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 2 January 2024. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/expanded-pbs-listings-make-vital-treatments-more-affordable?language=en>

⁶²⁴ Cheaper medicines for advanced melanoma and multiple sclerosis, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 1 February 2024. Access date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/cheaper-medicines-for-advanced-melanoma-and-multiple-sclerosis>

⁶²⁵ \$20 million to find new treatments for DIPG and other childhood brain cancers, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 5 February 2024. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/20-million-to-find-new-treatments-for-dipg-and-other-childhood-brain-cancers?language=en>

⁶²⁶ \$35 million to fight blindness with manufactured corneas, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 6 February 2024. Access date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/35-million-to-fight-blindness-with-manufactured-corneas?language=en>

⁶²⁷ Investing in our region's health, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 19 February 2024. Access Date: 20 May 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/investing-our-regions-health>

⁶²⁸ \$50 million to develop world-leading artificial heart, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 20 February 2024. Access date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/50-million-to-develop-world-leading-artificial-heart?language=en>

lower up to 50 per cent of deaths from heart failure globally and while making heart transplants more accessible to patients of various ages.

On 20 February 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced that a specialised endometriosis and pelvic pain clinic will open in Bardonia.⁶²⁹ This initiative aims to increase efficient access to information and treatment for endometriosis.

On 1 March 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced the expansion of medicines with 60-day prescriptions under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.⁶³⁰ The expansion will facilitate access to medication for patients with relatively long-term needs. The anticipated expansion will reach 300 medicines by September 2024.

On 13 March 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care opened applications for the 2024 International Clinical Trial Collaborations grant opportunity.⁶³¹ A total amount of AUD12.6 million is available. The initiative aims to provide international trials, medications or medical devices to the general public. In addition to strengthening Australia's role in collaborative international research initiatives.

On 24 March 2024, the Ministry for International Development and the Pacific provided AUD17 million funding to the Global Alliance for Tuberculosis.⁶³² The goal of this initiative is to introduce and research novel tuberculosis treatments with a focus on the Western Pacific and Southeast Asian region. By working collaboratively with countries in this region, Australia aims to improve the affordability of tuberculosis treatments in Lower Income Countries.

On 25 April 2024, Minister Wong and Minister Conroy announced up to AUD30 million in aid to combat malaria in the Pacific and Southeast Asia which includes a number of SIDS, LMICs and LDCs.⁶³³ Of this, AUD5 million will go to James Cook University to improve surveillance and control mechanisms for malaria, dengue and zika, AUD8 million will go to PATH for new diagnostic tests and AUD17 million will support new medical treatments for malaria “including medicines suitable for use in pregnancy and for children.”

On 29 April 2024, the National Immunisation Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy Program subsidized vaccinations administered in residential senior and disability homes, aiming to expand access to the free National Immunization Program.⁶³⁴

⁶²⁹ New Bardonia clinic for endometriosis and pelvic pain, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 20 February 2024. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-ged-kearney-mp/media/new-bardonia-clinic-for-endometriosis-and-pelvic-pain?language=en>

⁶³⁰ More medicines available for 60-day prescriptions, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 5 March 2024. Access date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/more-medicines-available-for-60-day-prescriptions?language=en>

⁶³¹ \$12.6 million to support international clinical trials in Australia and evidence-based health care, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 13 March 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/mrff-126-million-to-support-international-clinical-trials-in-australia-and-evidence-based-health-care?language=en>

⁶³² Investing in the next generation of Tuberculosis treatment, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 24 March 2024. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/investing-next-generation-tuberculosis-treatment>

⁶³³ Eliminating malaria in our region, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 25 April 2024. Access Date: 20 May 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/eliminating-malaria-our-region>

⁶³⁴ Expansion of the National Immunisation Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy (NIPVIP) Program, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 24 April 2024. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/expansion-of-the-national-immunisation-program-vaccinations-in-pharmacy-nipvip-program?language=en>

On 25 April 2024, the Ministry for International Development and the Pacific announced AUD30 million in funding to act against malaria in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.⁶³⁵ Of this, AUD8 million will support the development of new diagnostic measures while AUD17 million will go towards new treatments for malaria.

On 1 May 2024, the PBS included two new medications for cardiomyopathies.⁶³⁶ This change increases the range of potentially life-saving treatment and affordability of medications for those with transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

On 1 May 2024, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) will begin including two new medicines for endometrial cancer and itching related to chronic kidney disease.⁶³⁷ This provides access to additional pharmaceutical options.

On 2 May 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced AUD1.89 billion in funding focused on health research including clinical trials.⁶³⁸ This funding supports research on female health, high morbidity cancers and equitable healthcare access.

On 16 May 2024, the Australian government approved the National Lung Cancer Screening Program proposed by the Department of Health and Aged Care.⁶³⁹ The government is investing AUD60 million to support the program's creation.

On 21 May 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced AUD43.9 million in funding to address the spread of HIV.⁶⁴⁰ A major portion of the funding will help finance pre-exposure prophylaxis medicine for Australians without Medicare. This initiative will also increase access to care and decrease stigma.

On 27 May 2024, the Ministry for International Development and the Pacific announced AUD10 million in humanitarian aid to Syria.⁶⁴¹ This aid will include nutrition support for children and reproductive healthcare.

⁶³⁵ Eliminating malaria in our region, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 25 April 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/eliminating-malaria-our-region>

⁶³⁶ Government adds two new heart disease treatments on the PBS, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 9 May 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/government-adds-two-new-heart-disease-treatments-on-the-pbs?language=en>

⁶³⁷ Australians benefit from new lifechanging medicines added to the PBS, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 13 May 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/australians-benefit-from-new-lifechanging-medicines-added-to-the-pbs?language=en>

⁶³⁸ Transforming health and medical research in Australia, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 2 May 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/transforming-health-and-medical-research-in-australia?language=en>

⁶³⁹ Progress towards the National Lung Cancer Screening Program, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 11 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/progress-towards-the-national-lung-cancer-screening-program?language=en>

⁶⁴⁰ \$43.9 million to boost fight against HIV, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 21 May 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/439-million-to-boost-fight-against-hiv?language=en>

⁶⁴¹ Additional humanitarian assistance to the Syria crisis, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 27 May 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/additional-humanitarian-assistance-syria-crisis>

On 11 June 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care reported AUD5 million in funding for rheumatic heart disease prevention in the Pacific.⁶⁴² This initiative will involve collaboration throughout the Pacific and a Knowledge Hub in Fiji.

On 11 June 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care reported developments in the implementation of the National Lung Cancer Screening Program, which is set to begin in July 2025.⁶⁴³ The program, aimed at those at risk for lung cancer, includes regular screening.

On 13 June 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced additional medications for lung cancer and chronic skin diseases will be added to the PBS list.⁶⁴⁴ The drugs, Osimertinib and Secukinumab, will thereby be made more financially accessible to Australians.

On 13 June 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced AUD34 million in research funding focused on treatment for chronic pain and long Covid.⁶⁴⁵ A portion of the funding will go towards researching primary care in rural and isolated areas.

On 20 June 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles and the Ministry for Development and the Pacific announced financial aid for Papua New Guinea following a landslide.⁶⁴⁶ Of this, AUD220,000 will go towards equipment and services for maternal health.

On 21 June 2024, the Ministry for International Development and the Pacific announced initiatives to tackle potential infectious outbreaks in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.⁶⁴⁷ The government will invest in training veterinary epidemiologists, tracking infections and creating therapies.

On 21 June 2024, the Ministry for International Development and the Pacific and the Minister for Industry and Science Ed Music announced AUD24.2 million in funding for a program combating future health crises.⁶⁴⁸ This program enables collaboration between the national science agency and governments in the Pacific and Southeast Asia. It will also support the increased development of vaccines, biopharmaceuticals and drug products through a new biomanufacturing partnership.

⁶⁴² Addressing rheumatic heart disease in the Pacific, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 11 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/addressing-rheumatic-heart-disease-in-the-pacific?language=en>

⁶⁴³ Progress towards the National Lung Cancer Screening Program, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 11 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/progress-towards-the-national-lung-cancer-screening-program?language=en>

⁶⁴⁴ Expanded PBS listings for lung cancer and a chronic skin disease, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 13 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/expanded-pbs-listings-for-lung-cancer-and-a-chronic-skin-disease?language=en>

⁶⁴⁵ \$34 million for research to improve primary care and chronic pain treatment and to better understand long COVID, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 13 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/34-million-for-research-to-improve-primary-care-and-chronic-pain-treatment-and-to-better-understand-long-covid-mrff?language=en>

⁶⁴⁶ Additional support for Papua New Guinea landslide recovery, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 20 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/additional-support-papua-new-guinea-landslide-recovery>

⁶⁴⁷ Enhancing health security across our region, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/enhancing-health-security-across-our-region>

⁶⁴⁸ Strengthening preparedness across our region, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 June 2024. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/strengthening-preparedness-across-our-region>

On 24 June 2024, the Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler announced AUD16 million in funding to improve healthcare services in underpopulated areas.⁶⁴⁹ This investment will include 11 projects focusing on ensuring equitable healthcare access.

On 26 June 2024, Minister Butler announced a AUD27 million investment for eight genomic research projects to improve cancer and genetic disease detection and treatment at the early stages of the disease.⁶⁵⁰

On 1 July 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced MenQuadfi vaccine will be available at no cost under the NIP for individuals aged 14 to 19 years.⁶⁵¹ This initiative aims to prevent meningococcal disease and subsequent complications.

On 3 July 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care announced AUD20 million in funding to implement digital health technology.⁶⁵² This funding will support access to innovative countermeasures such as imaging technology.

On 5 July 2024, Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Malarndirri McCarthy announced a AUD100 million investment for 33 projects to improve health infrastructure across Indigenous communities in the country.⁶⁵³ The investment will support the renovation and construction of care clinics and staff accommodation.

On 10 July 2024, Minister Butler announced the free provision of difluoromethylornithine, a drug used to treat high-risk neuroblastoma.⁶⁵⁴ This action will benefit children and young adults suffering from neuroblastoma.

On 19 July 2024, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care and for Indigenous Health Ged Kearney announced AUD386,000 in funding to support research to improve treatments and survival rates for ovarian cancer.⁶⁵⁵

On 23 July 2024, Assistant Minister McCarthy announced the establishment of six remote Medicare Urgent Care Clinics in the Northern Territories.⁶⁵⁶ The initiative increases healthcare equipment,

⁶⁴⁹ \$16 million to support innovative healthcare delivery in rural and remote Australia, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 24 June 2024. Access date: 31 July 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/16-million-to-support-innovative-healthcare-delivery-in-rural-and-remote-australia?language=en>

⁶⁵⁰ Genomic research forwarding the fight against genetic disease and cancer, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 26 June 2024. Access date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/genomic-research-forwarding-the-fight-against-genetic-disease-and-cancer?language=en>

⁶⁵¹ National Immunisation Program (NIP) Meningococcal ACWY changes from 1 July 2024, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 1 July 2024. Access date: 31 July 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/national-immunisation-program-nip-meningococcal-acwy-changes-from-1-july-2024?language=en>

⁶⁵² \$20 million to move digital health research from the lab into health care, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 3 July 2024. Access date: 1 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/mrff-20-million-to-move-digital-health-research-from-the-lab-into-health-care?language=en>

⁶⁵³ \$100 million to improve health infrastructure in First Nations communities, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 5 July 2024. Access date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-malarndirri-mccarthy/media/100-million-to-improve-health-infrastructure-in-first-nations-communities?language=en>

⁶⁵⁴ Hope for children with neuroblastoma as Government provides free access to DFMO, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 10 July 2024. Access date: 1 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/hope-for-children-with-neuroblastoma-as-government-provides-free-access-to-dfmo?language=en>

⁶⁵⁵ Research to improve treatment and survival for women with ovarian cancer, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 19 July 2024. Access date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-ged-kearney-mp/media/research-to-improve-treatment-and-survival-for-women-with-ovarian-cancer?language=en>

⁶⁵⁶ Six Medicare Urgent Care Clinics for remote Northern Territory, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 23 July 2024. Access date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-malarndirri-mccarthy/media/six-medicare-urgent-care-clinics-for-remote-northern-territory?language=en>

infrastructure and workers to improve the capacity, efficiency and cultural appropriateness of primary and urgent care in the region.

On 24 July 2024, the Australian Government announced AUD333.7 million in funding to employ pharmacists to work in community pharmacies and residential long-term care homes.⁶⁵⁷ The initiative aims to improve the efficiency, quality and safety of dispensing medications and vaccines.

On 26 July 2024, the Australian Government awarded over AUD19 million to six research projects developing mRNA vaccines to prevent cancer and urinary tract infections.⁶⁵⁸

On 29 July 2024, the Minister Butler announced the expansion of cystic fibrosis patients eligible to obtain Trikafta drugs through the PBS.⁶⁵⁹ Going forward, patients aged two to five years with a specific mutation will have access to this treatment.

On 10 September 2024, the Australian Government announced AUD55.24 in funding for new treatments.⁶⁶⁰ Of this, AUD34.5 million will support research for stem cell therapies and treatment for conditions like osteoarthritis, AUD9.2 will support research for treatments and cures of various conditions including cervical cancer and infertility and AUD11.54 million will be directed towards the University of Queensland to develop a treatment for the remission of rheumatoid arthritis. Funding will be provided through the Medical Research Future Fund.

On 13 September 2024, the Australian Government announced AUD71 million for research and clinical trials.⁶⁶¹ Of this, AUD8 million will be directed towards primary care while AUD63 million will support treatments for rare cancers and diseases as well as other health interventions. Funding will be provided through the Medical Research Future Fund.

On 19 September 2024, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for International Development and the Pacific announced an AUD15.9 million initiative to tackle high priority health issues in the Solomon Islands and across the Pacific and Southeast Asia.⁶⁶² The initiative includes AUD9 million to provide technical support to improve immunisation across the region.

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Australia has taken strides to increase accessibility safe, effective and affordable vaccines, medications and other therapeutics for its citizens through the National Immunization Program Vaccinations in Pharmacy Program, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and

⁶⁵⁷ Funding for on-site pharmacists in aged care homes, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 24 July 2024. Access date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-anika-wells-mp/media/funding-for-on-site-pharmacists-in-aged-care-homes?language=en>

⁶⁵⁸ Using mRNA technology to prevent cancer and treat disease, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 26 July 2024. Access date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/using-mrna-technology-to-prevent-cancer-and-treat-disease?language=en>

⁶⁵⁹ Life changing medicine for children with cystic fibrosis, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 29 July 2024. Access date: 1 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-mark-butler-mp/media/life-changing-medicine-for-children-with-cystic-fibrosis?language=en>

⁶⁶⁰ \$55 million for stem cell therapies, data infrastructure and research into rheumatoid arthritis, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 10 September 2024. Access date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/mrff-55-million-for-stem-cell-therapies-data-infrastructure-and-research-into-rheumatoid-arthritis?language=en>

⁶⁶¹ \$71 million for clinical trials and research into the best multidisciplinary models of primary care, Department of Health and Aged Care (Canberra) 13 September 2024. Access date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/mrff-71-million-for-clinical-trials-and-research-into-the-best-multidisciplinary-models-of-primary-care?language=en>

⁶⁶² Expanded support to address priority health needs in the region, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 19 September 2024. Access date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/expanded-support-address-priority-health-needs-region>

other measures. Australia has also invested in innovative countermeasures such as the development of an artificial heart and bioengineered corneas for improved health globally.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tara Behtashi

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 20 December 2023, the Ministry of Health announced that the Unified Health System (which guarantees universal and free access to a range of medical services) will be distributing 12,000 units of benznidazole 12.5 mg to address pediatric cases of Chagas disease.⁶⁶³ As the medication was not available through the Unified Health System for the past eight years, this represents an important shift to increase access to an effective treatment for Chagas disease in children.

On 9 January 2024, the Ministry of Health announced the conclusion of its distribution of 5.6 million units of the dolutegravir 50mg and lamivudine 300mg nationally.⁶⁶⁴ In combination, these drugs provide effective antiretroviral therapy for individuals with HIV or AIDS.

On 18 January 2024, the Government of Brazil announced BRL393 million in funding for Hemobrás to complete the development of an immunoglobulin factory which expects to “process up to 500 thousand liters of plasma annually.”⁶⁶⁵ This will ensure that Brazilians have access to blood products like plasma which are necessary to treat a range of health issues including inflammation and a lack of antibodies.

On 23 January 2024, the Ministry of Health announced BRL55 million in funding to prevent and treat leprosy nationally in 2024.⁶⁶⁶ Funding will support improved diagnostic attempts and research for medications and treatments for leprosy.

On 9 February 2024, the Ministry of Health and Cuban counterparts met in Havana for the first Brazil-Cuba Binational Steering Committee meeting.⁶⁶⁷ They committed to increased cooperation to develop vaccines and diagnose and treat “neglected diseases and populations” like sickle cell anemia, Chagas

⁶⁶³ SUS retoma a distribuição de medicamento pediátrico contra a doença de Chagas, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 20 December 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2023/dezembro/sus-retoma-a-distribuicao-de-medicamento-pediatrico-contra-a-doenca-de-chagas>

⁶⁶⁴ Saúde distribui 5,6 milhões de unidades de novo medicamento para tratamento do HIV, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 9 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/janeiro/saude-distribui-5-6-milhoes-de-unidades-de-novo-medicamento-para-tratamento-do-hiv>

⁶⁶⁵ Hemobrás recebe aporte de R\$ 393 milhões para conclusão da fábrica de imunoglobulina, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/janeiro/hemobras-recebe-aporte-de-r-393-milhoes-para-conclusao-da-fabrica-de-imunoglobulina>

⁶⁶⁶ Ministério da Saúde anuncia R\$ 55 milhões em ações de prevenção e tratamento da hanseníase, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 23 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/janeiro/ministerio-da-saude-anuncia-r-55-milhoes-em-acoes-de-prevencao-e-tratamento-da-hanseniose>

⁶⁶⁷ Brasil e Cuba ampliam cooperação com assinatura de protocolo na área de ciência, tecnologia, inovação e complexo da saúde, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 9 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/fevereiro/brasil-e-cuba-ampliam-cooperacao-com-assinatura-de-protocolo-na-area-de-ciencia-tecnologia-inovacao-e-complexo-da-saude>

disease, dengue and neurodegenerative diseases. This partnership aims to combine the biotechnological capacity of Cuba, a LMIC and Brazil’s “industrial capacity for large-scale production” and access to markets to improve health outcomes through the development of effective vaccines and medications.

On 17 February 2024, President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva spoke at the opening of the 37th African Union Summit, reaffirming Brazil’s commitment to collaborating with African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention to combat infectious diseases and pledged to expand access to vaccines to ensure equal access and prevent a repeat of “vaccine apartheid” seen in COVID-19.⁶⁶⁸ This demonstrates Brazil’s recognition of the necessity of equitable access to vaccines internationally.

On 21 February 2024, the Government of Brazil began its free vaccination campaign against dengue in public schools across the country.⁶⁶⁹ Following the World Health Organization’s regulations, children aged 10 to 14 will receive the vaccine alongside their scheduled immunizations, regardless of their socioeconomic status, increasing the affordability of dengue vaccines.

On 22 February 2024, the Ministry of Health led the first meeting of the G20 Health Working Group with 170 delegates from 21 members and 30 international organizations.⁶⁷⁰ At the meeting, Brazil proposed the creation of an Alliance for Regional Production and Innovation which aims to develop vaccines, medications, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures for a number of illnesses including dengue, malaria and tuberculosis. This proposal comes as part of Brazil’s G20 Presidency.

On 6 March 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that they have begun to distribute flu vaccines nationally alongside the Butantan Institute and the National Institute for Health Quality Control.⁶⁷¹ This initiative aims to vaccinate 75 million vulnerable individuals including pregnant and breastfeeding women, children and the elderly through the Unified Health System thus increasing access to safe vaccines.

On 7 March 2024, President Lula da Silva announced that BRL11.6 billion would be invested to support the Ministry of Health under the project of New PAC Selections.⁶⁷² The investments will go towards constructing new polyclinics, maternity hospitals and increasing the number of basic health units and ambulances. This will ensure more people have adequate access to healthcare thereby addressing areas of vulnerability and inequality.

On 13 March 2024, the Ministry of Health announced BRL30 million to support the diagnosis and quality-assured treatment of rare diseases.⁶⁷³ This aims to increase access to timely and effective care for these illnesses under the Unified Health System.

⁶⁶⁸ Speech by President Lula at the opening of the 37th African Union Summit, Government of Brazil (Brasília) 17 February 2024. Access Date: 9 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/planalto/en/follow-the-government/speeches/president-lulas-speech-at-the-opening-of-the-37th-african-union-summit>

⁶⁶⁹ Governo Federal inicia mobilização contra a dengue nas escolas, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 21 February 2024. Translation provided by DeepL. Access Date: 9 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/fevereiro/governo-federal-inicia-mobilizacao-contra-a-dengue-nas-escolas>

⁶⁷⁰ Com foco na redução das desigualdades, GT Saúde realiza primeira reunião no G20, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 23 February 2024. Translation provided by DeepL. Access Date: 9 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/fevereiro/com-foco-na-reducao-das-desigualdades-gt-saude-realiza-primeira-reuniao-no-g20>

⁶⁷¹ Ministério da Saúde começa distribuição das vacinas contra a gripe, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/ministerio-da-saude-comeca-distribuicao-das-vacinas-contra-a-gripe>

⁶⁷² Novo PAC Seleções investe R\$ 23 bilhões em saúde, educação, esporte e cultura, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 7 March 2024. Translation provided by DeepL. Access Date: 8 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/novo-pac-selecoes-investe-r-23-bilhoes-em-saude-educacao-esporte-e-cultura>

⁶⁷³ Saúde anuncia R\$ 30 milhões para ampliar assistência a doenças raras, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/saude-anuncia-r-30-milhoes-para-ampliar-assistencia-a-doencas-raras>

On 15 March 2024, the Ministry of Health delivered 4,000 treatment regimens of tafenoquine 150mg (a medication used to cure malaria) to the Yanomami Special Indigenous Health District in Yanomami territory in Roraima.⁶⁷⁴ This was the first region in Brazil to receive tafenoquine.

On 15 March 2024, the Minister of Health Nísia Trindade, announced BRL629 million in investments from the Growth Acceleration Program for medical equipment.⁶⁷⁵ This includes funding for a public health laboratory and radiotherapy equipment in areas that previously did not have access to it. As such, this initiative focuses on expanding health care services and constructing infrastructure to support the provision of medical countermeasures, patient care and diagnostic assessment.

On 18 March 2024, the National Audit Department of the Unified Health System and the Department of the National Immunization Program prepared a protocol to improve the National Immunization Program.⁶⁷⁶ The initiative aims to evaluate the logistical process for immunization, which includes ensuring immunobiologicals are stored, handled and transported in a manner that aligns with established regulations. The audit ultimately supports the safety and quality of vaccines delivered to the Brazilian population.

On 18 March 2024, the Ministry of Health announced a BRL208 million investment to expand mobile oral health care units to reach 800,000 people in over 395 municipalities.⁶⁷⁷ Under the new Growth Acceleration Program, the initiative aims to reach socially vulnerable populations.

On 22 March 2024, the Ministry of Health pledged that BRL100 million would be invested in initiatives combating tuberculosis with funds directed towards regions with vulnerable or at-risk populations.⁶⁷⁸

On 22 March 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that it would allocate BRL312 million for the Basic Component of Pharmaceutical Assistance, promoting and facilitating access to medicines, treatments and medical countermeasures.⁶⁷⁹

⁶⁷⁴ Território Yanomami é a primeira região do Brasil a receber medicamento para cura da malária, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 15 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/territorio-yanomami-e-a-primeira-regiao-do-brasil-a-receber-medicamento-para-cura-da-malaria>

⁶⁷⁵ Ministra anuncia 182 equipamentos de saúde para o Rio Grande do Sul, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 15 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/ministra-anuncia-182-equipamentos-de-saude-para-o-rio-grande-do-sul>

⁶⁷⁶ Auditoria do SUS e departamento de imunização se unem para aprimorar logística de vacinação, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/auditoria-do-sus-e-departamento-de-imunizacao-se-unem-para-aprimorar-logistica-de-vacinacao>

⁶⁷⁷ Novo PAC Saúde quadruplica atendimento odontológico móvel nos municípios, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/novo-pac-saude-quadruplica-atendimento-odontologico-movel-nos-municipios>

⁶⁷⁸ Ministério da Saúde anuncia incentivo de R\$ 100 milhões para ações pelo fim da tuberculose, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 22 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/ministerio-da-saude-anuncia-incentivo-de-r-100-milhoes-para-acoes-pelo-fim-da-tuberculose>

⁶⁷⁹ Incremento de R\$ 312 milhões para a assistência farmacêutica reforça combate à dengue, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 22 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/incremento-de-r-312-milhoes-para-a-assistencia-farmacutica-reforca-combate-a-dengue>

On 27 March 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that an additional 165 municipalities will receive dengue vaccines, thus expanding the country's vaccination campaign to increasingly address areas of high transmission and vulnerability.⁶⁸⁰

On 27 March 2024, the Ministry of Health reported an investment of BRL1.65 billion to build 55 polyclinics to increase citizens' access to diagnostic support, specialized clinical services, medical exams and medical procedures.⁶⁸¹ These polyclinics will be built across 24 states in the country and aim to provide medical aid including diagnostics and therapeutics to over 19.2 million individuals.

On 13 April 2024, the Ministry of Health announced its plan to vaccinate 130,000 Indigenous people in Brazil, administering approximately 240,000 doses.⁶⁸² This represents the federal government's initiative to increase comprehensive vaccinations coverage in Indigenous territories particularly in regions with challenging geographical accessibility.

On 16 April 2024, the Ministry of Health stated that BRL150 million would be committed to supporting vaccination programs across Brazil, with the goal of increasing immunization against infectious diseases for children under 15.⁶⁸³

On 18 April 2024, President Lula da Silva and Colombian President Gustavo Petro signed a joint statement reaffirming the importance of their health cooperation, increasing local vaccine production capabilities and the promotion of Indigenous health.⁶⁸⁴

On 19 April 2024, the Ministry of Health signed a contract for the purchase of 12.5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines.⁶⁸⁵ This will increase access to medical countermeasures for infectious diseases.

On 25 April 2024, the Ministry of Health announced it would expand dengue vaccination to over 625 new municipalities and 6 Brazilian states, increasing access to vaccines.⁶⁸⁶

⁶⁸⁰ Mais 165 municípios serão contemplados com doses de vacinas contra a dengue, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 27 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/mais-165-municipios-serao-contemplados-com-doses-de-vacinas-contra-a-dengue>

⁶⁸¹ Em ação inédita, governo federal vai construir 55 policlínicas distribuídas em todas as regiões, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 27 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/marco/em-acao-inedita-governo-federal-vai-construir-55-policlinicas-distribuidas-em-todas-as-regioes>

⁶⁸² Ministério da Saúde inicia plano para vacinar 130 mil indígenas, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 13 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/ministerio-da-saude-inicia-plano-para-vacinar-130-mil-indigenas>

⁶⁸³ Saúde destina R\$ 150 milhões para apoiar estratégias de vacinação em todo o Brasil, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 16 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/saude-destina-r-150-milhoes-para-apoiar-estrategias-de-vacinacao-em-todo-o-brasil>

⁶⁸⁴ Brasil e Colômbia reafirmam estratégias conjuntas para a cooperação em saúde, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/brasil-e-colombia-reafirmam-estrategias-conjuntas-para-a-cooperacao-em-saude>

⁶⁸⁵ Ministério da Saúde assina contrato para compra de 12,5 milhões de doses da vacina contra a Covid-19, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 20 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/ministerio-da-saude-assina-contrato-para-compra-de-12-5-milhoes-de-doses-da-vacina-contra-a-covid-19>

⁶⁸⁶ Ministério da Saúde amplia vacinação da dengue para mais 6 estados, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 25 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/ministerio-da-saude-amplia-vacinacao-da-dengue-para-mais-6-estados>

On 26 April 2024, the Ministry of Health announced it would be providing a new Malaria drug called Artesunate + Mefloquine to be used for children in Brazil's Yanomami indigenous population.⁶⁸⁷ The drug is easier to consume and has fewer side effects which is critical for controlling Malaria.

On 26 April 2024, President da Silva participated in the inauguration of the Biommm insulin production plant.⁶⁸⁸ The government's investment of BRL800 million has enabled the plant to fulfill Brazil's demand for insulin thereby enhancing access to medicine for patients with diabetes.

On 1 May 2024, the Ministry of Health expanded the flu vaccination campaign to include individuals over six months old.⁶⁸⁹

On 6 May 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that it will invest BRL708.8 million for the construction of 293 Basic Health Units, benefitting 256 municipalities.⁶⁹⁰

On 9 May 2024, the Ministry of Health began delivering about 360,000 vaccines against Covid-19 to the states of Goiás, Maranhão, Paraná and Mato Grosso.⁶⁹¹

On 12 May 2024, the Ministry of Health concluded its delivery of approximately 700,000 Covid-19 vaccinations to 11 Brazilian states.⁶⁹²

On 13 May 2024, the Ministry of Health announced it will deliver 600 doses of immunoglobulin—proteins which are essential for protection against viruses and bacteria—to Rio Grande do Sul, a state heavily impacted by recent flooding.⁶⁹³

⁶⁸⁷ Saúde disponibilizará novo tratamento contra a malária para crianças, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 26 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/saude-disponibilizara-novo-tratamento-contra-a-malaria-para-criancas>

⁶⁸⁸ Presidente acompanha retomada da produção de insulina no Brasil em Nova Lima (MG), Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 26 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/abril/presidente-acompanha-retomada-da-producao-de-insulina-no-brasil-em-nova-lima-mg>

⁶⁸⁹ Ministério da Saúde amplia vacinação contra a gripe, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 1 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-amplia-vacinacao-contra-a-gripe>

⁶⁹⁰ Ministério da Saúde destina R\$ 708 milhões via Novo PAC para construção de Unidades Básicas de Saúde, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-destina-r-708-milhoes-via-novo-pac-para-construcao-de-unidades-basicas-de-saude>

⁶⁹¹ Ministério da Saúde entrega primeiras doses da nova vacina contra Covid-19, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 9 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-entrega-primeiras-doses-da-nova-vacina-contra-covid-19>

⁶⁹² Covid-19: Ministério da Saúde envia cerca de 700 mil doses da nova vacina para mais 11 estados, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 12 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/covid-19-ministerio-da-saude-envia-cerca-de-700-mil-doses-da-nova-vacina-para-mais-11-estados>

⁶⁹³ Ministério da Saúde destina 600 doses de imunoglobulina ao estado. Confirma outras ações da pasta, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 13 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-destina-600-doses-de-imunoglobulina-ao-estado-confirma-outras-acoes-da-pasta>

On 16 May 2024, the Ministry of Health collaborated with Doctors Without Borders and UNICEF to deliver medicines and other basic necessities to Indigenous communities impacted by heavy flooding in Rio Grande do Sul.⁶⁹⁴

On 18 May 2024, the Ministry of Health opened another field hospital in Rio Grande do Sul, allowing for an additional 150-200 treatments daily while operating 24 hours a day.⁶⁹⁵

On 21 May 2024, President Lula da Silva pledged BRL4.3 billion for funding professionals working with oral health, an investment that will reach all 5,570 municipalities in Brazil.⁶⁹⁶

On 23 May 2024, Minister Trindade introduced the National Palliative Care Policy which aims to bring multidisciplinary teams to medical facilities addressing palliative care and making medical supplies increasingly accessible for those under such care.⁶⁹⁷

On 24 May 2024, the Ministry of Health delivered 83,000 ampoules of critical medication for patients with respiratory issues in Rio Grande do Sul.⁶⁹⁸

On 24 May 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that it will invest BRL5.5 million for the creation and maintenance of operational pharmacies, providing greater access to herbal and traditional medicines.⁶⁹⁹

On 27 May 2024, the Ministry of Health piloted the National Polio Vaccination Campaign which intends to reduce polio's risk of being reintroduced in Brazil.⁷⁰⁰

On 29 May 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that it would distribute nearly one million dengue vaccines, increasing coverage to an additional 405 municipalities.⁷⁰¹

On 5 June 2024, Brazil, participating in a side event of the Health Working Group, proposed that countries collaborate in learning about long Covid and its potential treatments and response

⁶⁹⁴ Ministério da Saúde, Médico Sem Fronteiras e Unicef realizam ações de socorro em aldeias atingidas pelas enchentes, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 16 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-medico-sem-fronteiras-e-unicef-realizam-acoes-de-socorro-em-aldeias-atingidas-pelas-enchentes>

⁶⁹⁵ Ministério da Saúde abre terceiro hospital de campanha no Rio Grande do Sul, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-abre-terceiro-hospital-de-campanha-no-rio-grande-do-sul>

⁶⁹⁶ Presidente Lula anuncia incremento de R\$ 4,3 bilhões à saúde bucal, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 21 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/presidente-lula-anuncia-incremento-de-r-4-3-bilhoes-a-saude-bucal>

⁶⁹⁷ Ministério da Saúde lança política inédita no SUS para cuidados paliativos, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 23 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-lanca-politica-inedita-no-sus-para-cuidados-paliativos>

⁶⁹⁸ Saúde destina mais de 83 mil ampolas de medicamentos hospitalares ao estado, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 24 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/saude-destina-mais-de-83-mil-ampolas-de-medicamentos-hospitalares-ao-estado>

⁶⁹⁹ Ministério da Saúde vai destinar R\$5,5 milhões em projetos de implantação ou estruturação de Farmácias Vivas, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 24 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-vai-destinar-r-5-5-milhoes-em-projetos-de-implantacao-ou-estruturaacao-de-farmacias-vivas>

⁷⁰⁰ Ministério da Saúde lança Campanha Nacional de Vacinação contra Poliomielite, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 27 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-lanca-campanha-nacional-de-vacinacao-contr-poliomielite>

⁷⁰¹ Ministério da Saúde entrega nova remessa de vacinas da dengue, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 30 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 May 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/maio/ministerio-da-saude-entrega-nova-remessa-de-vacinas-da-dengue>

procedures.⁷⁰² The government also acknowledged socioeconomic inequalities in the prevalence of long Covid cases.

On 6 June 2024, President Lula da Silva and Minister Trindade announced BRL269.3 million in funding for public health in Rio Grande do Sul.⁷⁰³ This includes BRL64.4 million to open 799 clinical and pediatric beds across 56 municipalities, BRL75.7 million for “high complexity [medical] facilities” and BRL111.3 million for hemodialysis services in four hospitals.

On 6 June 2024, the Ministry of Health stated that it had begun delivering 500 purifiers and four water treatment plants to Indigenous communities impacted by recent heavy rains.⁷⁰⁴

On 6 June 2024, the Secretary of Science, Technology and Innovation and of the Brazilian Health Economic-Industrial Complex Carlos Gadelha presented the Global Alliance for Local and Regional Production and Innovation to the Health Working Group.⁷⁰⁵ The proposal entailed transfers of medical technology, stresses collaboration and aims to reduce health inequalities.

On 7 June 2024, the Ministry of Health reported that it had conducted joint visits with the Red Cross to Rio Grande do Sul to deliver medical care, materials and treatment to those impacted by flooding.⁷⁰⁶ These visits culminated in an agreement by the ministry and organization to install water filters in Indigenous communities in the region to promote proper sanitation.

On 10 June 2024, Minister Trindade announced that BRL32.4 million would be invested in Franco da Rocha for the construction of a new polyclinic and Basic Health Unit.⁷⁰⁷

On 13 June 2024, the Ministry of Health finished delivering 100 emergency medical backpacks containing medications and equipment to Rio Grande do Sul, a state recently impacted by heavy flooding.⁷⁰⁸

⁷⁰² Brasil propõe cooperação internacional para estudos de sintomas pós-covid, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/brasil-propoe-cooperacao-internacional-para-estudos-de-sintomas-pos-covid>

⁷⁰³ Ministério da Saúde anuncia mais 799 leitos e 30 ambulâncias para municípios gaúchos, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-anuncia-mais-799-leitos-e-30-ambulancias-para-municipios-gauchos>

⁷⁰⁴ Ministério da Saúde distribui purificadores de água para comunidades indígenas do RS, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-distribui-purificadores-de-agua-para-comunidades-indigenas-do-rs>

⁷⁰⁵ No G20, Brasil apresenta proposta de Aliança Global para produção local de insumos e inovação, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/no-g20-brasil-apresenta-proposta-de-alianca-global-para-producao-local-de-insumos-e-inovacao>

⁷⁰⁶ Ministério da Saúde e Forças Armadas distribuem alimentos e remédios para aldeias no estado, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 8 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-e-forcas-armadas-distribuem-alimentos-e-remedios-para-aldeias-no-estado>

⁷⁰⁷ Ministério da Saúde anuncia mais de R\$ 32 milhões para novas obras em Franco da Rocha (SP), Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 10 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-anuncia-mais-de-r-32-milhoes-para-novas-obras-em-franco-da-rocha-sp>

⁷⁰⁸ Ministério da Saúde destina ao estado 100 mochilas de emergência médica, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 14 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-destina-ao-estado-100-mochilas-de-emergencia-medica>

On 17 June 2024, Minister Trindade announced that a new maternity ward would be constructed in Águas Lindas, further expanding access to medical services and countermeasures.⁷⁰⁹

On 18 June 2024, the Ministry of Health reported that a telehealth channel has been made available for medical professionals with malaria patients, allowing them to connect with specialists who can assist in diagnosing and treating the disease, reducing wait-time and treatment costs.⁷¹⁰

On 21 June 2024, the Ministry of Health conducted the National Meeting of Health Observatories in Peripheral Territories with stakeholders from various regions to discuss and strengthen health policies in peripheral territories.⁷¹¹

On 22 June 2024, the Ministry of Health wrote that the National Force of the Unified Health System alongside the Brazilian Navy successfully delivered vaccinations, medicines, prescriptions and personal protective equipment to remote populations on Ilha dos Marinheiros affected by recent flooding.⁷¹²

On 25 June 2024, the Ministry of Health reported that it began training medical professionals operating in the Yanomami territory to respond to obstetric, neonatal and primary care emergencies alongside educating them on preventing, diagnosing and treating malaria.⁷¹³ This aims to reduce maternal mortality and improve malaria treatment responses among Indigenous populations in the region.

On 26 June 2024, the Ministry of Health invested BRL93 million into building birth centers through the New Growth Acceleration Program.⁷¹⁴ The centers include pre-labour, delivery, and post-labour units and medical equipment. The initiative aims to alleviate the burden on hospitals and provide specialized care.

On 27 June 2024, Minister Trindade, Minister of Culture Margareth Menezes and Minister of Cities Jader Filho announced a delivery of ten new pediatric hospital beds to Juventina Paula de Jesus Maternal and Child Center and additional primary health care teams.⁷¹⁵ The government also announced 22 new family health teams, two new Basic Health Units and one Psychosocial Care Center which will be built by 2026.

⁷⁰⁹ Novo hospital de Águas Lindas de Goiás vai beneficiar mais de um milhão de pessoas, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 17 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/novo-hospital-de-aguas-lindas-de-goias-vai-beneficiar-mais-de-um-milhao-de-pessoas>

⁷¹⁰ Novo canal para profissionais que atendem pacientes com malária é disponibilizado pela Saúde, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/novo-canal-para-profissionais-que-atendem-pacientes-com-malaria-e-disponibilizado-pela-saude>

⁷¹¹ Ministério da Saúde fortalece diálogo com organizações para ações de saúde nas periferias, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 21 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-fortalece-dialogo-com-organizacoes-para-acoes-de-saude-nas-periferias>

⁷¹² Força Nacional do SUS realiza atendimento em áreas remotas do Rio Grande do Sul, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 22 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/forca-nacional-do-sus-realiza-atendimento-em-areas-remotas-do-rio-grande-do-sul>

⁷¹³ Ministério da Saúde treina profissionais que atuam no território Yanomami, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 25 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/ministerio-da-saude-treina-profissionais-que-atuam-no-territorio-yanomami>

⁷¹⁴ Trinta Centros de Parto Normal serão construídos com recursos do Novo PAC, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 26 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/trinta-centros-de-parto-normal-serao-construidos-com-recursos-do-novo-pac>

⁷¹⁵ Em Contagem (MG), ministra da Saúde anuncia dez novos leitos pediátricos, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 27 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/junho/em-contagem-mg-ministra-da-saude-anuncia-dez-novos-leitos-pediatricos>

On 2 July 2024, the Ministry of Health announced the construction of two new maternity hospitals in the state of Pernambuco, increasing the region's capacity to respond to the needs of three million women as well as newborns by providing medium and high-level obstetric and gynecological services.⁷¹⁶

On 3 July 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis users would be included in the population of individuals receiving human papillomavirus vaccines, thereby bolstering the prevention of sexually transmitted infections and cancers brought on by the disease.⁷¹⁷

On 4 July 2024, the Ministry of Health delivered 280 new ambulances to municipalities throughout Brazil, replacing old fleets and ensuring another 6.6 million citizens have coverage to emergency healthcare services.⁷¹⁸

On 9 July 2024, the National Force of the Unified Health System administered 548 influenza vaccine doses to indigenous communities in Assis Brasil, responding to existing cases of flu and diarrhea and preventing further cases from emerging.⁷¹⁹

On 10 July 2024, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL425 million to bolster the health of workers who collect recyclable and reusable materials.⁷²⁰ These funds will go towards mobile health units providing first aid, vaccinations and mental health support.

On 15 July 2024, the Ministry of Health announced an allocation of BRL87 million towards family health care in the state of Tocantins to reduce infant mortality and hospitalizations, alleviating the pressure on specialized care facilities.⁷²¹

On 16 July 2024, the Ministry of Health increased funding to home care facilities by 30 per cent, aiming to enhance the quality and efficiency of home care services.⁷²²

On 18 July 2024, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL143.7 million to 217 private, non-profit hospitals to restore and expand healthcare in Rio Grande do Sul after heavy flooding and destruction.⁷²³ Funds

⁷¹⁶ Duas novas maternidades em Pernambuco vão beneficiar 3 milhões de brasileiras, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 2 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/duas-novas-maternidades-em-pernambuco-va-beneficiar-3-milhoes-de-brasileiras>

⁷¹⁷ Ministério da Saúde anuncia a ampliação da vacina contra o HPV para usuários da PrEP, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 3 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/ministerio-da-saude-anuncia-a-ampliao-da-vacina-contra-o-hpv-para-usuarios-da-prep>

⁷¹⁸ Governo federal entrega 280 novas ambulâncias para a frota do SAMU 192, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 4 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/governo-federal-entrega-280-novas-ambulancias-para-a-frota-do-samu-192>

⁷¹⁹ Força Nacional do SUS vacina comunidades indígenas do Acre, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 9 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/forca-nacional-do-sus-vacina-comunidades-indigenas-do-acre>

⁷²⁰ Catadores de materiais recicláveis terão assistência em saúde por meio de unidades móveis, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 10 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/catadores-de-materiais-reciclavéis-terao-assistencia-em-saude-por-meio-de-unidades-moveis>

⁷²¹ Saúde anuncia expansão de recursos para atenção primária em Tocantins, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 15 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/saude-anuncia-expansao-de-recursos-para-atencao-primaria-em-tocantins>

⁷²² Ministério da Saúde aumenta em 30% o valor do repasse à atenção domiciliar, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/ministerio-da-saude-aumenta-em-30-o-valor-do-repasse-a-atencao-domiciliar>

⁷²³ Ministério da Saúde destina mais R\$ 143,7 milhões para os hospitais filantrópicos do RS, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 18 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/ministerio-da-saude-destina-mais-r-143-7-milhoes-para-os-hospitais-filantropicos-do-rs>

will be used for hospital supplies, specialized care, the maintenance of medical technologies and education campaigns.

On 23 July 2024, the Ministry of Health announced it would invest over BRL1.5 million in a study by Fiocruz Minas investigating citizens with post-COVID conditions to characterize their immunological, hematological and tissue states while also providing them with ongoing treatment and monitoring.⁷²⁴

On 24 July 2024, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development approved BRL386 million for a new medical production plant at the Butantan Institute, enabling Brazil to be self-sufficient for the manufacturing of vaccines and drugs for various diseases.⁷²⁵

On 26 July 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that two new medications for the treatment of sickle cell disease would become available through the Unified Health System thereby promoting access to modern medical countermeasures.⁷²⁶

On 26 July 2024, the Ministry of Health released guidelines for authorized pharmacies to administer rapid tests for HIV, viral hepatitis, syphilis and other sexually transmitted infections.⁷²⁷ This initiative aims to expand diagnostic services, making testing more accessible to individuals who may not have access to routine healthcare services.

On 26 July 2024, the Ministry of Health announced it would invest BRL25 million in municipalities hoping to structure their pharmaceutical services, enabling them to purchase devices and equipment to enhance the dispensation of medicine and facilitating safe access to quality drugs.⁷²⁸

On 29 July 2024, the Ministry of Health introduced a new pilot project aimed at optimizing the testing, diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis D in the Northern region, where the majority of cases are concentrated.⁷²⁹

On 29 July 2024, Minister Trindade opened the Global Pandemic Preparedness Summit and participated in bilateral meetings on emergency preparedness.⁷³⁰ These discussions included conversations with the Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization Mike Ryan and

⁷²⁴ Saúde vai investir cerca de R\$ 1,6 milhão em pesquisa sobre sequelas da covid-19 em MG, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 23 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/saude-vai-investir-cerca-de-r-1-6-milhao-em-pesquisa-sobre-sequelas-da-covid-19-em-mg>

⁷²⁵ Instituto Butantan terá aporte de R\$ 386 milhões para instalação de nova planta em São Paulo, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 24 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/instituto-butantan-tera-aporte-de-r-386-milhoes-para-instalacao-de-nova-planta-em-sao-paulo>

⁷²⁶ SUS vai disponibilizar dois novos medicamentos para a doença falciforme, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 26 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/sus-vai-disponibilizar-dois-novos-medicamentos-para-a-doenca-falciforme>

⁷²⁷ Saúde orienta farmácias autorizadas a realizar testes rápidos de HIV, hepatites virais, sífilis e ISTs, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 26 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/saude-orienta-farmacias-autorizadas-a-realizar-testes-rapidos-de-hiv-hepatites-virais-sifilis-e-ists>

⁷²⁸ Saúde vai investir mais de R\$ 25 milhões para estruturação da Assistência Farmacêutica, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 26 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/saude-vai-investir-mais-de-r-25-milhoes-para-estruturacao-da-assistencia-farmacutica>

⁷²⁹ Ministério da Saúde vai realizar testagem inédita da hepatite D na região Norte, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 29 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/ministerio-da-saude-vai-realizar-testagem-inedita-da-hepatite-d-na-regiao-norte>

⁷³⁰ Ministra Nísia Trindade participa da abertura da Cúpula Global de Preparação para Pandemias, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 29 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/julho/ministra-nisia-trindade-participa-da-abertura-da-cupula-global-de-preparacao-para-pandemias>

culminated in the signing between Fiocruz and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations. This partnership will enable Fiocruz to expand its vaccine manufacturing capacity in anticipation of future pandemic threats.

On 30 July 2024, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL100 million for the improvement of testing, diagnosis and preventative treatment of tuberculosis as part of a larger campaign to combat infectious diseases.⁷³¹

On 2 August 2024, the Institutional Development Support Program for the Unified Health System allocated BRL11.4 million to provide emergency support and repairs to seven hospitals in Rio Grande do Sul impacted by heavy flooding, ensuring an uninterrupted flow of medical services to the local population.⁷³²

On 12 September 2024, the Government of Brazil launched the Alyne Network to reduce maternal mortality by 25 per cent by 2027 and provide care to pregnant and postpartum women and babies.⁷³³ The program will guarantee hospital admission for pregnant or postpartum women and newborns with serious or potentially serious conditions, add a specialized obstetrics team to the Unified Health System Regulatory System, triple the funding to states and municipalities for prenatal exams, provide 30 per cent more funding to Normal Birth Centers, build 60 maternity hospitals with Normal Birth Centers and provide an investment of BRL41.9 million to human milk banks per year.

On 20 September 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that the two booster vaccines of bivalent oral polio will be replaced by one dose of inactivated polio vaccine on 4 November.⁷³⁴ This change is expected to increase the safety and efficiency of the vaccine.

On 27 September 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that municipalities with lower human development index ratings will receive 20 per cent more in funding this year compared to 2023 amounting to a BRL253 million increase.⁷³⁵ This will enable increased access to medications and basic health supplies as well as strengthen services provided by public pharmacies.

On 30 September 2024, the Ministry of Health announced BRL49 million in funding to open 15 Specialized Rehabilitation Centers and increase the capacity of 8 centers by 20 per cent.⁷³⁶ Specialized

⁷³¹ Em iniciativa inédita, Ministério da Saúde repassa R\$ 100 milhões para vigilância da tuberculose, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 2 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/agosto/em-iniciativa-inedita-ministerio-da-saude-repassa-100-milhoes-para-vigilancia-da-tuberculose>

⁷³² Proadi-SUS vai destinar cerca de R\$11,4 milhões para a reestruturação de 7 hospitais gaúchos, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 2 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/agosto/proadi-sus-vai-destinar-cerca-de-r-11-4-milhoes-para-a-reestruturacao-de-7-hospitais-gauchos>

⁷³³ Conheça cinco novas medidas anunciadas pelo governo para o enfrentamento da mortalidade materna, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 24 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/setembro/conheca-cinco-novas-medidas-anunciadas-pelo-governo-para-o-enfrentamento-da-mortalidade-materna>

⁷³⁴ Vacina oral da poliomielite será substituída por dose ainda mais segura e eficiente, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/setembro/vacina-oral-da-poliomielite-sera-substituida-por-dose-ainda-mais-segura-e-eficiente>

⁷³⁵ Repasse para aquisição de medicamentos retirados na atenção primária recebe incremento de R\$ 253 milhões a mais do que em 2023, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/setembro/repasse-para-aquisicao-de-medicamentos-retirados-na-atencao-primaria-recebe-incremento-de-r-253-milhoes-a-mais-do-que-em-2023>

⁷³⁶ Ministério da Saúde vai abrir 15 centros para cuidado da pessoa com deficiência, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/setembro/ministerio-da-saude-vai-abrir-15-centros-para-cuidado-da-pessoa-com-deficiencia>

Rehabilitation Centers provide auditory, visual, intellectual and physical rehabilitation and support individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

On 30 September 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that ferripolimaltose, a medication for anemia, will now be available under the Unified Health System.⁷³⁷ This medication will be particularly useful for iron deficiency anemia patients who are intolerant to ferrous sulfate.

On 30 September 2024, Ministry of Health announced BRL30 million in funding to increase access to safe, effective and quality-assured medicinal plants and phytotherapeutics.⁷³⁸ This initiative is part of Brazil's Unified Health System.

On 1 October 2024, the Government of Brazil announced that Law 14.977/24 which will come into effect in 2025 will require pharmaceutical laboratories to produce medications for socially determined diseases.⁷³⁹ Alongside this, the government will pursue national and international partnerships for knowledge-sharing regarding the production of pharmaceuticals.

On 4 October 2024, the Ministry of Health sent 54 emergency kits containing medication and other supplies to support 81,000 individuals impacted by drought in the Amazonas state.⁷⁴⁰

On 6 October 2024, the Government of Brazil donated 20,000 syringes with needles and 4,000 additional needles to Lebanon amidst the current conflict in the Middle East.⁷⁴¹

On 8 October 2024, the Government of Brazil sent medical supplies including 491 kilograms of medicines, rehydration envelopes and disposable syringes to Lebanon.⁷⁴²

On 10 October 2024, the Ministry of Health announced BRL383 million in funding from the federal government to support Psychosocial Care Centers and Therapeutic Residences which provide mental health services.⁷⁴³ The Ministry will also support 137 new mental health services with BRL71 million in funding for 2024.

⁷³⁷ SUS oferece novo medicamento para pacientes com anemia por deficiência de ferro, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/setembro/sus-oferece-novo-medicamento-para-pacientes-com-anemia-por-deficiencia-de-ferro>

⁷³⁸ Saúde investe R\$ 30 milhões para expandir acesso a plantas medicinais e fitoterápicos como opção terapêutica no SUS, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/setembro/saude-investe-r-30-milhoes-para-expandir-acesso-a-plantas-medicinais-e-fitoterapicos-como-opcao-terapeutica-no-sus>

⁷³⁹ Governo sanciona lei que amplia produção de medicamentos para doenças que afetam populações de baixa renda, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 1 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/outubro/governo-sanciona-lei-que-amplia-producao-de-medicamentos-para-doencas-que-afetam-populacoes-de-baixa-renda>

⁷⁴⁰ Ministério da Saúde envia kits com medicamentos e insumos para apoiar o enfrentamento à seca no Amazonas, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 4 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/outubro/ministerio-da-saude-envia-kits-com-medicamentos-e-insumos-para-apoiar-o-enfrentamento-a-seca-no-amazonas>

⁷⁴¹ Governo brasileiro doa 24 mil insumos de saúde ao Líbano, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 6 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/outubro/governo-brasileiro-doa-24-mil-insumos-de-saude-ao-libano>

⁷⁴² Governo Federal envia segunda carga de insumos de saúde para o Líbano, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/outubro/governo-federal-envia-segunda-carga-de-insumos-de-saude-para-o-libano>

⁷⁴³ Dia Mundial da Saúde Mental: Governo Federal aumenta custeio anual da Rede de Atenção Psicossocial em R\$ 383 milhões, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2024/outubro/dia-mundial-da-saude-mental-governo-federal-aumenta-custeio-anual-da-rede-de-atencao-psicossocial-em-r-383-milhoes>

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Brazil has taken strong action to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable medical countermeasures through vaccination campaigns and funding for medications and treatments to address a number of illnesses including HIV/AIDS and rare diseases. Brazil has also taken equitable action on an international scale by committing to collaborate with the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and establishing a health partnership with Cuba which is a LMIC.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zainab Ibrabeem

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 18 December 2023, Minister of Health Mark Holland announced the creation of the Canadian Drug Agency (CDA) which aims to address the safety and effectiveness of medications, improve the use of medications and increase the collection and access to drug and treatment data.⁷⁴⁴ The CDA will replace and expand upon the objectives of the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH). As such, the CDA will benefit from CAD34.2 million in annual funding which was previously provided to the CADTH alongside an additional CAD89.5 million over a five-year period.

On 19 December 2023, the Government of Canada announced CAD94 million to improve Prince Edward Island's healthcare system.⁷⁴⁵ Over the next three years, funding will be used to improve access to diagnostics, increase the number of healthcare professionals and build Patient Medical Homes and Mobile Mental Health Units. The Governments of Canada and Prince Edward Island will also coordinate with Indigenous communities "to support improved access to quality and culturally appropriate health care services."

On 21 December 2023, Minister Holland and Alberta's Minister of Health Adriana LaGrange announced CAD1.06 billion in federal funding over the next three years to improve healthcare in Alberta.⁷⁴⁶ In part, funding will be used to increase access to diagnostic services like MRIs and CT scans, develop new and improved treatment centres for mental health and substance use and increase access to quality assured and culturally appropriate care for Indigenous communities.

⁷⁴⁴ The Government of Canada announces the creation of the Canadian Drug Agency, Health Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2023/12/the-government-of-canada-announces-the-creation-of-the-canadian-drug-agency---helping-make-canadas-drug-system-more-sustainable-and-better-prepared.html>

⁷⁴⁵ Canada signs \$94 million bilateral agreement with Prince Edward Island to improve health care over three years, Health Canada (Cornwall) 19 December 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2023/12/canada-signs-94-million-bilateral-agreement-with-prince-edward-island-to-improve-health-care-over-three-years.html>

⁷⁴⁶ Canada signs more than \$1 billion bilateral agreement with Alberta to improve health care over three years, Health Canada (Calgary) 21 December 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2023/12/canada-signs-more-than-1-billion-bilateral-agreement-with-alberta-to-improve-health-care-over-three-years.html>

On 8 February 2024, the Government of Canada announced the services to be included in the Canadian Dental Care Plan launched last December.⁷⁴⁷ The new services will be run under SunLife, allowing for a reduction in the cost of dental care, both by insurance and out-of-pocket visits.

On 27 February 2024, Minister Holland committed to CAD12.6 million in funding to provide more care and services to those, mainly indigenous and LGBTQ2S+, who are suffering or at risk of HIV, hepatitis C and other sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBI) in British Columbia.⁷⁴⁸ The rates of STBBI have doubled since 2012 leading to the launch of the 2024-2030 STBBI action plan which sets to bring in CAD2.45 million to set up educational material and help our community-based organizations.⁷⁴⁹

On 28 February 2024, Minister Holland announced CAD20 million in funding over the next five years to address pediatric rare diseases.⁷⁵⁰ Funding will be provided to Dr. Thierry Lacaze-Masmonteil and the Maternal Infant Child and Youth Research Network to develop a clinical trial and treatment network to support children and adolescents living with rare diseases. In doing so, the government hopes to support the improved prevention, diagnosis and treatment of rare diseases affecting children and teens.

On 29 February 2024, Minister Holland announced Bill C-64 which acts as phase one of a universal pharmacare plan for Canada.⁷⁵¹ The bill focuses on the federal government's plan to coordinate with the provinces and territories to ensure universal coverage for contraceptives and diabetes medication thus improving access to affordable treatment.

On 12 March 2024, the Government of Canada approved an investment of CAD86 million to improve health care services in Yukon.⁷⁵² These service improvements include greater accessibility to walk-in clinics and other family health services, expansion of mental health and addiction services, expansion of rural community home care and increased healthcare staff.

On 18 March 2024, Minister Holland, Saskatchewan's Minister of Health Everett Hindley and Saskatchewan's Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health Tim McLeod announced the signing of two bilateral agreements to invest CAD560 million to support

⁷⁴⁷ Government of Canada announces the services covered under the Canadian dental care plan, Health Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2024. Access Date: 18 March 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/02/government-of-canada-announces-the-services-covered-under-the-canadian-dental-care-plan.html>

⁷⁴⁸ Government of Canada supports community-based projects addressing HIV, Hepatitis C and other sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections, Public Health Agency of Canada (Surrey) 27 February 2024. Access Date: 18 March 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2024/02/government-of-canada-supports-community-based-projects-addressing-hiv-hepatitis-c-and-other-sexually-transmitted-and-blood-borne-infections0.html>

⁷⁴⁹ Government of Canada releases 2024-2030 Action Plan on Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2024. Access Date: 18 March 2024 <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2024/02/government-of-canada-releases-2024-2030-action-plan-on-sexually-transmitted-and-blood-borne-infections.html>

⁷⁵⁰ Government of Canada invests \$20 million to improve health outcomes of children living with rare diseases, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 28 February 2024. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2024/02/government-of-canada-invests-20-million-to-improve-health-outcomes-of-children-living-with-rare-diseases.html>

⁷⁵¹ Government of Canada Introduces Legislation for First Phase of National Universal Pharmacare, Health Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2024. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/02/government-of-canada-introduces-legislation-for-first-phase-of-national-universal-pharmacar.html>

⁷⁵² Government of Canada signs agreements with Yukon delivering nearly 86 million to improve health care, Health Canada (Whitehorse) 12 March 2024. Access Date: 18 March 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/03/government-of-canada-signs-agreements-with-yukon-delivering-nearly-86-million-to-improve-health-care.html>

healthcare initiatives in Saskatchewan.⁷⁵³ The initiative aims to improve family healthcare services, deliver culturally sensitive trauma-informed care and support palliative care programs.

On 12 April 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced CAD132.2 million in funding for Sudan, the Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia and South Sudan.⁷⁵⁴ Of this, CAD100.7 million will go towards humanitarian assistance including emergency health services, food and water and shelter. CAD31.5 million will go towards development assistance of which CAD10.5 million will fund the United Nations Population Fund's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Services in Sudan project to "improve access to life-saving sexual and reproductive health interventions."

On 17 April 2024, the Government of Canada announced additional support to ensure all oral health providers can deliver care to patients under the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP).⁷⁵⁵ CDCP allows all providers to directly bill Sun Life for services performed. This initiative aims to streamline services and procedures and improve the affordability and accessibility of dental care for CDCP clients.

On 29 April 2024, Member of Parliament for Ottawa South David McGuinty announced CAD1 million for Roger Neilson Children's Hospice.⁷⁵⁶ Funding will be used to increase access to locally available pediatric palliative care.

On 29 April 2024, Ottawa South MP McGuinty announced a CAD1 million investment towards improving pediatric palliative care programs.⁷⁵⁷ The funding aims to improve access and build the capacity of palliative care for children and their families.

On 6 May 2024, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay-Rainy River Marcus Powlowski announced a CAD2.38 million investment to support Lakehead University's project to improve palliative care treatment for vulnerable and underserved populations.⁷⁵⁸ The initiative aims to tailor healthcare resources and improve accessibility.

⁷⁵³ Government of Canada signs two bilateral agreements with Saskatchewan to support initiatives to improve health care, Health Canada (Regina) 18 March 2024. Access Date: 30 March 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/03/government-of-canada-signs-two-bilateral-agreements-with-saskatchewan-to-support-initiatives-to-improve-health-care.html>

⁷⁵⁴ Canada provides funding to Sudan and neighbouring countries to respond to humanitarian needs, Global Affairs Canada (Toronto) 12 April 2024. Access Date: 20 May 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/04/canada-provides-funding-to-sudan-and-neighbouring-countries-to-respond-to-humanitarian-needs.html>

⁷⁵⁵ Supporting Oral Health Providers' Participation in the Canadian Dental Care Plan, Health Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/04/supporting-oral-health-providers-participation-in-the-canadian-dental-care-plan.html>

⁷⁵⁶ Government of Canada Supports Roger Neilson Children's Hospice's Project: Enhancing Access to Pediatric Palliative Care, Health Canada (Ottawa) 29 April 2024. Access Date: 20 May 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/04/government-of-canada-supports-roger-neilson-childrens-hospices-project-enhancing-access-to-pediatric-palliative-care.html>

⁷⁵⁷ Government of Canada Supports Roger Neilson Children's Hospice's Project: Enhancing Access to Pediatric Palliative Care, Health Canada (Ottawa) 29 April 2024. Access Date: 6 July 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/04/government-of-canada-supports-roger-neilson-childrens-hospices-project-enhancing-access-to-pediatric-palliative-care.html>

⁷⁵⁸ Government of Canada Supports Lakehead University's project to assist underserved populations in receiving palliative care services, Health Canada (Thunder Bay) 6 May 2024. Access Date: 6 July 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/05/government-of-canada-supports-lakehead-universitys-project-to-assist-underserved-populations-in-receiving-palliative-care-services.html>

On 16 May 2024, Minister Hussen announced CAD194.9 million in funding for Ethiopia and Tanzania.⁷⁵⁹ Of this, CAD65 million will go towards the UN Population Fund to support family planning services and address sexual and gender-based violence in Ethiopia and CAD15 million will go to UNICEF to enable access to sexual and reproductive health and rights in Tanzania.

On 23 May 2024, the Government of Canada signed a bilateral agreement to invest CAD627 million over a five-year period to help Albertans age with dignity and safety.⁷⁶⁰ The initiative aims to modernize medical equipment and tools, reduce backlogs and expand access to services in underserved and remote locations.

On 20 June 2024, Minister Hussen announced CAD85 million in funding for the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA) which is a new initiative that will incentivize African manufacturers to increase the production of vaccines.⁷⁶¹ By 2030, AVMA hopes to support the production of 800 million vaccines. By supporting this initiative, Canada is addressing its commitment to supporting equitable vaccine access in LMICs.

On 23 July 2024, the governments of Canada and British Columbia agreed to invest CAD194 million over three years improve accessibility to new drugs for rare diseases as part of the National Strategy for Drugs for Rare Diseases.⁷⁶² This allocates additional funding program to help Canadians with early diagnosis and treatment for rare diseases.

On 11 September 2024, Minister Holland and European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides launched the EU-Canada Health Policy Dialogue under the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement.⁷⁶³ The Health Policy Dialogue will focus on collaboration to address antimicrobial resistance, address health security including pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, enhance prevention, diagnosis and treatment for cancer and support mental health services.

On 13 September 2024, Minister Hussen and Minister Holland announced that Canada will provide 200,000 doses of the Imvamune vaccine to address the mpox outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo.⁷⁶⁴

On 7 October 2024, Health Canada announced CAD12.29 million in funding over five years and CAD220,000 ongoing to prevent and treat cancer in firefighters.⁷⁶⁵ This investment will support the

⁷⁵⁹ Minister Hussen announces \$194-million funding to support education, sexual and reproductive rights, climate action, and peace and security in Ethiopia and Tanzania, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 16 May 2024. Access Date: 19 July 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/05/minister-hussen-announces-194-million-funding-to-support-education-sexual-and-reproductive-rights-climate-action-and-peace-and-security-in-ethiopia.html>

⁷⁶⁰ Canada signs \$627 million bilateral agreement with Alberta to help Albertans age with dignity, Health Canada (Edmonton) 23 May 2024. Access Date: 6 July 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/05/canada-signs-627-million-bilateral-agreement-with-alberta-to-help-albertans-age-with-dignity.html>

⁷⁶¹ Canada announces support for vaccine manufacturing in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 19 July 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-announces-support-for-vaccine-manufacturing-in-africa.html>

⁷⁶² Drugs for Rare Diseases – British Columbia Agreement, Health Canada (Ottawa) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 30 July 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/07/backgrounder-drugs-for-rare-diseases--british-columbia-agreement.html>

⁷⁶³ EU and Canada launch Health Policy Dialogue to advance Health Priorities, Health Canada (Ottawa) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/09/canada-and-eu-launch-health-policy-dialogue-to-advance-health-priorities.html>

⁷⁶⁴ Canada announces vaccines in support of the mpox outbreak in Africa, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-announces-vaccines-in-support-of-the-mpox-outbreak-in-africa.html>

⁷⁶⁵ Health Canada invests \$12.29 million in prevention and treatment of cancer for firefighters, Health Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/10/health-canada-invests-1229-million-in-prevention-and-treatment-of-cancer-for-firefighters.html>

tracking of health outcomes for firefighters, research on cancers linked to firefighters and “the development of guidance for diagnostic testing.”

On 10 October 2024, the Government of Canada announced that the Pharmacare Act came into effect.⁷⁶⁶ This Act will provide universal access to contraception and diabetes medication to individuals in provinces and territories that reach agreements with the federal government in this regard.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. It has taken strong action to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable medical countermeasures nationally through bilateral agreements with provinces, the creation of the Canadian Drug Agency and funding for the diagnosis and treatment of rare diseases. Canada has also taken action to engage with LDCs through its funding for Sudan and its neighbouring countries and LMICs through funding for Ethiopia, Tanzania and the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kevin Li

China: 0

China has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 1 December 2023, the National Medical Products Administration announced a “national coordination network to combat thalassemia.”⁷⁶⁷ The network will involve 101 Chinese hospitals which will coordinate with relevant medical institutions to improve the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and research for thalassemia.

On 3 December 2023, health officials from China, Korea and Japan signed a memorandum of cooperation at the 16th Tripartite Health Ministers’ Meeting.⁷⁶⁸ The agreement prioritizes strategic cooperation for universal health coverage, emergency preparedness in response to infectious diseases and strengthening primary healthcare systems.

On 8 December 2023, Deputy Director of the National Health Commission’s International Cooperation Department He Zhaohua committed to continue sending medical aid abroad and strengthen collaboration efforts between domestic and foreign hospitals.⁷⁶⁹ This emphasizes China’s promotion of equitable access to health in its engagement abroad.

On 13 December 2023, the National Healthcare Security Administration announced the expansion of China’s medical insurance list to include 126 new medications including anti-cancer, antiviral and

⁷⁶⁶ Government of Canada Passes Legislation for a First Phase of National Universal Pharmacare, Health Canada (Ottawa) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-passes-legislation-for-a-first-phase-of-national-universal-pharmacare.html>

⁷⁶⁷ China establishes national coordination network to combat thalassemia, National Medical Products Administration (Beijing) 1 December 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2024.

⁷⁶⁸ China, ROK and Japan sign health memorandum, China Daily (Beijing) 4 December 2023. Access Date: 9 March 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202312/04/WS656d2cf6a31090682a5f13e5.html>

⁷⁶⁹ China to continue sending medical aid abroad, China Daily (Beijing) 8 December 2023. Access Date: 9 March 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202312/08/WS65730e38a31040ac301a6e84.html>

COVID-19 medicines, medication for diabetes, mental disorders, chronic illnesses and rare diseases.⁷⁷⁰ The addition of these medicines in the medical insurance list will help ensure access to affordable therapeutics with patients expected to save CNY40 billion over the next two years.

On 19 January 2024, the National Health Commission of China and the Health Commission of Anhui Province collaborated to donate medicines and medical equipment to Juba Teaching Hospital, the primary referral hospital in South Sudan.⁷⁷¹ This donation has significantly bolstered the hospital's capacity to deliver medical treatments and services to its extensive patient population.

On 21 February 2024, the National Health Commission and six other departments released a report stating they have further strengthened the accessibility of nationwide tertiary public hospitals.⁷⁷² The initiative aims to improve the capacity of these hospitals in handling various complex medical conditions.

On 2 March 2024, the National Healthcare Security Administration detailed a new campaign to increase newborns' health insurance coverage.⁷⁷³ The administration outlined the need to make insurance processes more efficient and accessible by mobilizing nursery and healthcare facilities to raise awareness about insurance policies. In addition, the administration called for the monitoring of insurance rates and further research on reasons for the lack of enrollment. Increasing coverage will help ensure more citizens have access to medical countermeasures.

On 21 March 2024, Vice-Minister of the National Health Commission Cao Xuetao held a meeting with the Regional Director for Western Pacific of the World Health Organization (WHO) Saia Ma'u Piukala.⁷⁷⁴ During the meeting, China reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing cooperation in various sectors including universal health coverage, disease prevention and management and global health broadly, in-line with the China-WHO Country Cooperation Strategy.

On 22 March 2024, an official from the National Health Commission Li Dachuan announced plans to establish two national and five regional children's medical centers.⁷⁷⁵ Additionally, China will support 67 clinical specialities related to pediatric health to improve access and quality of pediatric medical services.

On 25 March 2024, Minister Ma Xiaowei of the National Health Commission, participated in the seventh meeting of health ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).⁷⁷⁶ During the meeting, topics such as health emergencies, telemedicine, the prevention and control of infectious diseases and primary health care were discussed. The meeting concluded with the action plan on

⁷⁷⁰ 126 drugs added to national basic cover, China Daily (Beijing) 15 December 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202312/15/WS657bb855a31040ac301a7f0a.html>

⁷⁷¹ China donates medicines, equipment to support health services in South Sudan, Xinhua (Juba) 19 January 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://english.news.cn/africa/20240119/f782b2036186495f8d21122a332c916a/c.html>

⁷⁷² China continues to enhance public medical services, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 21 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-02/21/c_86293.htm

⁷⁷³ 医保办函〔2024〕14号, 国家医疗保障局 (Beijing) 2 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 March 2024. https://www-nhsa-gov-cn.translate.goog/art/2024/3/2/art_104_12148.html?_x_tr_sl=zh-CN&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc&_x_tr_sch=http

⁷⁷⁴ NHC vice-minister meets with WHO regional director for western Pacific, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 25 March 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-03/25/c_86299.htm

⁷⁷⁵ 医保办函〔2024〕14号, National Medical Security Administration (Beijing) 2 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 March 2024. https://www-nhsa-gov-cn.translate.goog/art/2024/3/2/art_104_12148.html?_x_tr_sl=zh-CN&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc&_x_tr_sch=http

⁷⁷⁶ NHC minister attends 7th SCO Health Ministers Meeting via video link, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 25 March 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-03/25/c_86297.htm

Developing Cooperation in Healthcare between SCO Member States for 2025-2027 and the signing of a protocol, demonstrating China's commitment to health governance.

On 28 March 2024, Ambassador to the Maldives Wang Lixin and the Maldivian Minister of Health Abdulla Khaleel signed an agreement for China to provide laboratory equipment to Maldivian health centers.⁷⁷⁷ This will help the Maldives to strengthen its healthcare capacity.

On 5 April 2024, the Chinese government provided anti-malaria drugs to Uganda in accordance with the Medical and Health Program proposed by President Xi Jinping, demonstrating China's commitment to facilitating access to medical countermeasures to LDCs.⁷⁷⁸

On 9 April 2024, Vice-Minister Cao and President of the Mériex Foundation Alain Merieux discussed the enhancement of France-China health cooperation.⁷⁷⁹ The focus was primary on areas such as infection control, tuberculosis prevention and rational antibiotic use.

On 8 May 2024, the National Health Commission released guidelines to achieve a goal of 15 intensive care hospital beds per 100,000 people by 2025 aiming to strengthen critical care services.⁷⁸⁰ This measure aims to increase treatment capacities for public health emergencies.

On 29 May 2024, Vice-Minister Cao Xuetao engaged in discussions with senior officials from the World Health Organization during the 77th World Health Assembly.⁷⁸¹ The talks were centered on China's commitment to advancing collaboration related to disease prevention and control, maternal and child health and the training of healthcare personnel. Both sides agreed to increase cooperation through mutual exchanges and projects.

On 30 May 2024, the National Disease Control and Prevention Administration and nine other departments jointly revealed China's national disease control action plan for 2024-2025.⁷⁸² The initiative emphasized timely warning and emergency response systems, accessible treatment, reduction of medical costs and effective monitoring of infectious diseases.

On 1 June 2024, China's National Medical Products Administration announced that it had approved the market entry of 21 new medicines for children.⁷⁸³

On 7 June 2024, the General Office of the State Council released a document outlining a list of China's healthcare reform tasks for the year.⁷⁸⁴ The document includes addressing overpriced drugs and

⁷⁷⁷ China, Maldives sign exchange of notes on establishing lab equipment project for Maldivian health centers, China International Development Cooperation Agency (Beijing) 30 March 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. http://en.cidca.gov.cn/2024-03/30/c_977826.htm

⁷⁷⁸ Speech on the Handover Ceremony of the China-aided Anti-Malaria Medicine to Uganda, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Uganda (Kajjansi) 5 April 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. https://ug.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/sgsw/202404/t20240410_11279442.htm

⁷⁷⁹ NHC vice-minister meets with Merieux Foundation president, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 12 April 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-04/12/c_86302.htm

⁷⁸⁰ China moves to improve critical care medical services, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 8 May 2024. Access Date: 15 May 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-05/08/c_86307.htm

⁷⁸¹ NHC vice-minister meets with WHO senior officials, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 30 May 2024. Access Date: 6 June 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-05/30/c_86314.htm

⁷⁸² China unveils national disease control action plan for 2024-25, China Daily (Beijing) 30 May 2024. Access Date: 6 June 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/30/WS66583701a31082fc043ca0cc.html>

⁷⁸³ China approves market entry of 21 medicines for children, China Daily (Beijing) 1 June 2024. Access Date: 6 June 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/01/WS665b2961a31082fc043ca66f.html>

⁷⁸⁴ China to further promote public hospital reform, development, China Daily (Beijing) 7 June 2024. Access Date: 21 June 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/07/WS6662674ba31082fc043cb60a.html>

medical services, re-evaluating drug approval mechanisms and improving health service capacity and health insurance.

On 14 June 2024, Deputy Director of the National Medical Products Administration Huang Guo announced that 20 new medicines and 21 new medical equipment received market approval in China, primarily addressing rare diseases.⁷⁸⁵ He also stated that China's drug approval standards are currently in accordance with the global standard, incentivizing foreign drugmakers to apply for market approval in China and facilitating further access to medical countermeasures.

On 19 June 2024, the National Health Commission reported that medical resources from urban centers to township-level healthcare institutions had been successfully allocated towards underserved areas.⁷⁸⁶ This initiative builds on the transfer of over 200,000 doctors to village clinics countrywide in 2023 to address disparities in medical services between urban and rural areas.

On 28 June 2024, Minister of the National Health Commission Lei Haichao met with the Peruvian Health Minister Cesar Vasquez to discuss bilateral health collaboration.⁷⁸⁷ China and Peru voiced that they were both committed to strengthening health cooperation through personnel training, technical exchanges and construction of medical facilities.

On 11 July 2024, Vice Minister Cao met with the Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organization Jérôme Salomon to discuss bilateral health cooperation.⁷⁸⁸ Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to improving global health through ongoing collaboration and by leveraging their respective expertise and resources.

On 11 July 2024, Minister Lei spoke with the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme Winnie Byanyima on HIV/AIDS about the continuation of bilateral collaboration in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.⁷⁸⁹

On 11 July 2024, the Beijing Municipal Medical Insurance Bureau announced that individuals with medical insurance could now purchase over-the-counter drugs online thereby modernizing and optimizing access to medical countermeasures.⁷⁹⁰

On 22 July 2024, the National Disease Control and Prevention Administration, Ministry of Education, National Health Commission and General Administration of Sport of China jointly released extensive guidelines to address obesity in students, focusing on prevention, early intervention and disease early warning measures.⁷⁹¹ The guidelines also emphasized timely access to science-based intervention procedures such as to qualified school nutritionists and self-assessment forms.

⁷⁸⁵ China's quantity and quality of innovate drugs joins global lead, China Daily (Beijing) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 21 June 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/14/WS666c0e93a31095c51c509026.html>

⁷⁸⁶ China channels more urban medical resources to lower-level healthcare units, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 21 June 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-06/19/c_86322.htm

⁷⁸⁷ NHC minister meets with Peruvian health minister, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 5 July 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-07/04/c_86327.htm

⁷⁸⁸ NHC vice-minister meets with WHO assistant director-general, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 13 July 2024. Access Date: 25 July 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-07/13/c_86329.htm

⁷⁸⁹ NHC minister meets with UNAIDS executive director, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 13 July 2024. Access Date: 25 July 2024. http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2024-07/13/c_86328.htm

⁷⁹⁰ Beijing provides online drug purchasing service for insured individuals, China Daily (Beijing) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202407/01/WS6682776da31095c51c50bbc0.html>

⁷⁹¹ China introduces guidelines to tackle student obesity, China Daily (Beijing) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202407/22/WS669e1514a31095c51c50f441.html>

On 29 July 2024, the National Health Commission released standardized procedures for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases such as avian influenza, measles and dengue fever.⁷⁹²

On 2 August 2024, the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine released an action plan detailing China's endeavour to establish 180 domestic and 30 international standards on traditional Chinese medicine by the end of 2026.⁷⁹³ This plan aims to expand standards on the prevention and treatment of illnesses and diseases using traditional Chinese medicine.

On 11 September 2024, the National Health Insurance Administration announced that fertility services will now be included under medical insurance coverage.⁷⁹⁴

On 12 September 2024, the National Health Commission announced that China will send 44 medical teams to provide services to primarily disadvantaged and ethnic minority populations, remote areas and areas with weak medical capacity in central and western China.⁷⁹⁵ Services will include diagnosis, treatment and health education, aiming to increase access to quality healthcare.

On 13 September 2024, the National Health Commission announced that chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) will now be included in China's basic public health service program.⁷⁹⁶ This will enable free examinations and health management services for the 120 million individuals living with COPD in the country.

China has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. It has taken strong action to improve access to medical countermeasures domestically by increasing health insurance coverage, creating a network for thalassemia and promoting equitable access. However, China has not taken any strong action to facilitate access to medical countermeasures in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Zainab Ibraheem

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 16 January 2024, France and Qatar provided medical aid to Israel and Palestine.⁷⁹⁷ The aid consisted of medical supplies including medications purchased in France and transported to Egypt where the

⁷⁹² China standardizes diagnosis, treatment of measles, dengue fever, avian influenza, China Daily (Beijing) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202407/30/WS66a84b69a31095c51c510b4c.html>

⁷⁹³ Plan aims to establish medical standards, China Daily (Beijing) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202408/02/WS66ac2cf2a3104e74fddb815d.html>

⁷⁹⁴ Medical insurance to cover assisted fertility services, China Daily (Beijing) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202409/11/WS66e0f270a3103711928a749d.html>

⁷⁹⁵ China to send 44 national medical teams to assist underdeveloped areas in 2024, China Daily (Beijing) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202409/12/WS66e2a8efa3103711928a7ac7.html>

⁷⁹⁶ Chronic respiratory disease added to health services, China Daily (Beijing) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202409/13/WS66e413caa3103711928a7ed1.html>

⁷⁹⁷ Qatar, France broker deal to get aid, medication to civilians, hostages in Gaza, Reuters (Paris) 16 January 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/qatar-france-broker-deal-get-aid-medication-civilians-hostages-gaza-2024-01-16>

International Committee of the Red Cross coordinated distribution to ensure people in the Gaza Strip received necessary support medical packages and other supplies.

On 26 January 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity announced its global health strategy for 2023 to 2027.⁷⁹⁸ This strategy aims to promote equitable health systems, enhance public health preparedness and reinforce global health governance. The actions include establishing a World Health Organization Academy, engaging in international health negotiations, supporting multilateral health initiatives and launching the PREZODE initiative to combat pandemics and infectious diseases effectively.

On 21 February 2024, Minister of Labor, Health and Solidarity Catherine Vautrin, Minister Delegate for Industry and Energy Roland Lescure and Minister Delegate for Health and Comprehensive Prevention Frédéric Valletoux announced a new roadmap for 2024-2027 aimed at combating drug shortages.⁷⁹⁹ This includes mandatory unit dispensing, regulatory flexibility and efforts to keep certain drugs on the market. This initiative aims to develop industrial sovereignty and ensuring the availability of essential medications throughout France.

On 26 February 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity announced that the French Ambassador in Egypt and the Associate Minister for International Affairs of the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population are coordinating humanitarian assistance for civilians in Gaza.⁸⁰⁰ As such, medical cargo worth EUR1 million, comprising of eight tons of medical equipment including medications, was delivered to Cairo on 25 February 2024. This initiative aims to bolster the Egyptian health system's capacity to treat injuries from Gaza.

On 28 February 2024, Minister Vautrin attended the first G7 health ministers' meeting chaired by Italy.⁸⁰¹ The session focused on advancing the International Agreement on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response, aiming for its adoption at the 77th World Health Assembly in May 2024.

On 1 March 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity and the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty released a press statement announcing the 4th National Rare Disease Plan.⁸⁰² This plan introduces 132 new rare disease reference centers and reaffirms

⁷⁹⁸ Stratégie française en santé mondiale (2023-2027), Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 26 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/la-sante-mondiale/article/strategie-francaise-en-sante-mondiale-2023-2027>

⁷⁹⁹ Pénuries de médicaments : la ministre du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités, le ministre délégué chargé de l'Industrie et de l'Énergie et le ministre délégué chargé de la Santé et de la Prévention annoncent une nouvelle stratégie pour garantir la disponibilité des médicaments et assurer à plus long terme une souveraineté industrielle, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 21 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/penuries-de-medicaments-la-ministre-du-travail-de-la-sante-et-des-solidarites>

⁸⁰⁰ Égypte: poursuite de la coopération humanitaire en soutien à la population civile de Gaza, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 26 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/egypte-poursuite-de-la-cooperation-humanitaire-en-soutien-a-la-population>

⁸⁰¹ Mieux prévenir et répondre aux pandémies: communiqué conjoint des ministres de la santé du G7, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 29 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/cooperation-sante-mondiale/article/mieux-prevenir-et-repondre-aux-pandemies-communique-conjoint-des-ministres-de>

⁸⁰² Vers un 4ème Plan National Maladies Rares (PNMR4) Catherine Vautrin, Sylvie Retailleau, Roland Lescure et Frédéric Valletoux annoncent un soutien renforcé pour les personnes malades par un maillage territorial plus étroit avec la labellisation des nouveaux centres de référence maladies rares et le renforcement de la collecte des données de santé entre la France et l'Europe, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 1 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/vers-un-4eme-plan-national-maladies-rares-pnmr4-catherine-vautrin-sylvie>

France's commitment to health data exchange with European counterparts. The plan seeks to enhance support for individuals with rare diseases through improved diagnostics, access to therapies and a bolstered territorial network.

On 4 April 2024, President Emmanuel Macron visited Brazil where he signed a declaration of intent to enhance longstanding health cooperation.⁸⁰³ This agreement focuses on improving public health systems, advancing health technology and increasing cross-border health initiatives with French Guiana. Cooperation will also support increased vaccination production and access to medicines and health technologies.

On 21 March 2024, Director General of Health Grégory Emery gathered French and international experts at the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity to discuss measles diagnostics within the National Network for the Surveillance of Measles network.⁸⁰⁴ The meeting emphasized the importance of cooperative efforts and effective vaccination strategies to eradicate measles in France.

On 24 April 2024, Minister Lescure represented France in Brussels, advocating for the relocation of pharmaceutical production within Europe under the new European Alliance for Critical Medicines.⁸⁰⁵ This effort is part of France's strategy to prevent drug shortages and strengthen medical sovereignty by improving industry competitiveness and environmental standards.

On 24 April 2024, Minister Delegate Valletoux published a new decree to improve access to quality abortion care.⁸⁰⁶ The decree outlines regulations for healthcare provider training and recognizes the role of midwives.

On 22 April 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity launched a ten-year supportive care strategy.⁸⁰⁷ This initiative allocates EUR1.1 billion to enhance palliative care, pain management and end-of-life support, creating a comprehensive French model of supportive care. The strategy includes promoting early and multidisciplinary care, supporting patients' physical, psychological and social needs and developing university training programs in palliative medicine.

On 23 April 2024, French pediatricians Christèle Gras Le Guen and Adrien Taquet presented the "Investing in Child Health: A National Emergency" report to Minister Valletoux.⁸⁰⁸ The report outlines

⁸⁰³ Relations France-Bésil en matière de santé: renforcer une coopération déjà ancienne et institutionnalisée, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 4 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/cooperation-bilaterale/article/relations-france-bresil-en-matiere-de-sante-renforcer-une-cooperation-deja>

⁸⁰⁴ Une journée du Centre national de référence (CNR) des virus de la rougeole, de la rubéole et des oreillons (ROR) placée sous le signe des échanges internationaux, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 25 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/une-journee-du-centre-national-de-referance-cnr-des-virus-de-la-rougeole-de-la>

⁸⁰⁵ Médicaments: la France appelle à une politique de relocalisation européenne, La Tribune (Paris) 24 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://www.latribune.fr/entreprises-finance/industrie/chimie-pharmacie/medicaments-la-france-appelle-a-une-politique-de-relocalisation-europeenne-996123.html>

⁸⁰⁶ Amélioration de l'accès à l'IVG : les conditions de réalisation des IVG instrumentales par les sages-femmes en établissements simplifiés, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 24 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/amelioration-de-l-acces-a-l-ivg-les-conditions-de-realisation-des-ivg>

⁸⁰⁷ Lancement de la stratégie décennale des soins d'accompagnement, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 22 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 June 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/lancement-de-la-strategie-decennale-des-soins-d-accompagnement>

⁸⁰⁸ Remise du rapport sur la santé de l'enfant, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 23 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 June 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/remise-du-rapport-sur-la-sante-de-l-enfant>

six key areas to improve child health, including ensuring seamless health pathways, enhancing care for vulnerable children, addressing mental health challenges, improving prevention, strengthening professional training and advancing research and innovative practices.

On 26 April 2024, Minister Valletoux reaffirmed France's commitment to combating meningitis, emphasizing its model of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation at an international conference on meningitis organized by the WHO at the Pasteur Institute.⁸⁰⁹ The conference aimed to accelerate global mobilization to meet the WHO's 2030 roadmap goals, focusing on expanding vaccination, developing new vaccines and improving national surveillance systems. France will be allocating EUR2 million of its WHO contribution towards the meningitis control program.

On 9 May 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs' Crisis and Support Centre sent two tonnes of medication to Lebanon to address urgent and general medical needs, particularly for children.⁸¹⁰ The French Embassy in Lebanon will distribute these medical kits to the volunteer organization, Chevaliers de l'Ordre de Malte and the Lebanese NGO, Amel. This aid reflects France's continuous support for Lebanon during its ongoing institutional, economic and security crises.

On 20 June 2024, France, the African Union and Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (Gavi) announced the Global Forum for Vaccine Sovereignty and Innovation in Paris.⁸¹¹ This event aims to launch the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator and commence Gavi's replenishment campaign for 2026-2030, underscoring commitments to global health strategies and equitable vaccine access worldwide.

On 24 July 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity attended the 25th International Conference on HIV/AIDS in Munich.⁸¹² The Delegation for European and International Affairs organized a round table on maintaining access to care during health emergencies. The session showcased French efforts and international cooperation, including programs in Ukraine to address HIV/AIDS amidst crises.

France has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. France has taken action to facilitate access to medical countermeasures through its National Rare Disease Plan and 2024-2027 roadmap to address drug shortages. It has also engaged with LMICs through the facilitation of medical countermeasures in Lebanon and Palestine. Furthermore, France has allocated funding for the WHO's meningitis control program which will support LMICs and LDCs where the disease poses a major health concern.

⁸⁰⁹ Conférence méningite: accélérer la mobilisation internationale, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 26 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 June 2024.

<https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/conference-meningite-accelerer-la-mobilisation-internationale>

⁸¹⁰ Lebanon – Medical aid sent for those being assisted by the voluntary organization Chevaliers de l'Ordre de Malte in Lebanon and the NGO Amel, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) 9 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 June 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/lebanon/news/article/lebanon-medical-aid-sent-for-those-being-assisted-by-the-voluntary-organization>

⁸¹¹ Global health – France will host the Global Forum for Vaccine Sovereignty and Innovation in Paris on June 20, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 20 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 June 2024, <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/global-health-france-will-host-the-global-forum-for-vaccine-sovereignty-and>

⁸¹² 25ème conférence internationale sur le VIH/sida : « l'Équipe France » mobilisée pour mettre fin au sida d'ici 2030, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé et des Solidarités (Paris) 24 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/25eme-conference-internationale-sur-le-vih-sida-l-equipe-france-mobilisee-pour>

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alice Quan

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 13 December 2023, the federal cabinet approved Germany's national pharmaceutical strategy.⁸¹³ The strategy aims to increase digitalization and clinical trials, improve frameworks for research and development in the EU, support and increase research and development and provide incentives to the pharmaceutical sector to increase access to pharmaceuticals.

On 16 December 2023, Germany and the World Health Organization donated 20 ambulances to Ukraine.⁸¹⁴ These ambulances were equipped with devices that provide life-saving care to patients during transportation, which facilitates access to therapeutics and other medical countermeasures in Ukraine.

On 18 December 2023, Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock spoke at the opening ceremony of a Rwandan mRNA vaccine plant focusing on German involvement to foster investments for the medical industry in the region.⁸¹⁵ Minister Baerbock cited Germany's commitment to an EU investment project worth EUR1.2 billion for the development of vaccine production in Rwanda, Senegal, Ghana, South Africa and Nigeria, of which Germany contributed half of the investment funds.

On 21 February 2024, Germany granted EUR2.5 million towards a project to improve healthcare in Libya in partnership with UNICEF and Libya's Ministry of Health.⁸¹⁶ The project aims to reach 175,000 people by training 260 staff for the Libyan health care system, stocking facilities and installing electronic vaccine tracking.

On 5 March 2024, Minister Baerbock stated that Germany would add an additional EUR20 million worth of aid for humanitarian assistance in Gaza.⁸¹⁷ This aid includes medicine, medical care and products such as dressings and syringes.

⁸¹³ Nationale Pharmastrategie beschlossen, Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Berlin) 13 December 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/nationale-pharmastrategie-beschlossen-pm-13-12-23.html>

⁸¹⁴ WHO, together with the Government of Germany, donates 20 ambulances to Ukraine to ensure emergency care provision during medical transportation amid the war, World Health Organization Europe (Copenhagen) 16 December 2023. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/16-12-2023-who-together-with-the-government-of-germany--donates-20-ambulances-to-ukraine-to-ensure-emergency-care-provision-during-medical-transportation-amid-the-war>

⁸¹⁵ Speech by Foreign Minister Baerbock at the opening ceremony of the mRNA vaccine plant in Rwanda, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2636368>

⁸¹⁶ UNICEF Libya and Germany cooperate with the Libyan Ministry of Health to advance Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition in Libya [EN/AR], Relief Web (Tripoli) 21 February 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://reliefweb.int/report/libya/unicef-libya-and-germany-cooperate-libyan-ministry-health-advance-maternal-and-child-health-and-nutrition-libya-enar>

⁸¹⁷ Humanitarian disaster in Gaza – Germany has increased its humanitarian assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 5 March 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/-/2627918>

On 30 March 2024, Minister Baerbock called on the government of Israel to allow for the passage of medical supplies to the people of Gaza, for equitable access to healthcare.⁸¹⁸

On 2 February 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that Germany has agreed to increase its cooperation with Ukraine for the healthcare sector through a joint declaration.⁸¹⁹ The declaration outlines a mutual understanding that both parties will exchange information and collaborate in various health fields, including preventative health and the modernization of healthcare infrastructure. This agreement facilitates the development of more effective medical countermeasures and the proliferation of more accessible therapeutics and diagnostics.

On 16 May 2024, Minister Baerbock reaffirmed the need for access to medicine regarding the situation in Rafah, Palestine.⁸²⁰

On 23 May 2024, Germany provided financial assistance to the WHO Country Office in Ukraine which collaborated with the Ministry of Health of Ukraine to improve heating systems within healthcare facilities.⁸²¹ This assistance aims to increase the resilience and efficiency of these facilities by modernizing their infrastructure to withstand potential interruptions. This improvement will enable the safer and more effective provision of healthcare.

On 11 June 2024, Germany pledged EUR100 million for the Ukrainian health system at the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Berlin.⁸²² The financial support notably aims to enhance mental health and hospital support.

On 25 June 2024, Minister Baerbock stated that Germany would add an additional EUR20 million worth of humanitarian assistance in Gaza.⁸²³ This aid includes medicine, medical care and products such as dressings and syringes.

On 22 July 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz affirmed that Germany will continue to support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in a speech at the 25th International AIDS Conference.⁸²⁴ Chancellor Scholz reiterated Germany's commitment to supporting UN-AIDS and the World Health Organization, calling for increased support for such organizations.

⁸¹⁸ Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock in an interview with the Funke media group, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 March 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/interview-funke/2651028>

⁸¹⁹ Germany and Ukraine agree on closer cooperation in the field of health, Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 2 February 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/news-preview-detail/germany-and-ukraine-agree-on-closer-cooperation-in-the-field-of-health-pm-02-02-2024.html>

⁸²⁰ Foreign Minister Baerbock on the situation in Rafah, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 16 May 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2657368>

⁸²¹ Preparing for winter well ahead of time: WHO supports Ukrainian hospitals with crucial modular heating units, World Health Organization Germany (Bonn) 23 May 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024.

⁸²² New aid for the Ukrainian health system, Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 11 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/news-preview-detail/neue-hilfen-fuer-das-ukrainische-gesundheitswesen.html>

⁸²³ Humanitarian disaster in Gaza – Germany is providing assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/-/2627918>

⁸²⁴ Speech by Olaf Scholz, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and Member of the German Bundestag, at the opening of the 25th International AIDS Conference, Munich, 22 July 2024, The Federal Government (Berlin) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/speech-by-olaf-scholz-chancellor-of-the-federal-republic-of-germany-and-member-of-the-german-bundestag-at-the-opening-of-the-25th-international-aids-conference-munich-22-july-2024-2300544>

On 10 September 2024, Germany announced EUR50 million in humanitarian aid for Palestine.⁸²⁵ Aid will focus on medical assistance and food aid including through the deployment of medical emergency teams, mobile clinics and distribution of nutritional supplements.

On 27 September 2024, the Federal Council passed the Medical Research Act which aims to simplify clinical trials, provide radiation protection, optimize the approval of medications and services, enable good manufacturing practice for new therapies and treatments and establish research incentives.⁸²⁶ The Act aims to promote Germany for medical research and increase access to treatments for patients.

On 8 October 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that the final version of the hospital reform has been developed.⁸²⁷ The reform will focus on improving specialist care, establishing more treatment options for children and ensuring quality treatment at hospitals across the country.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. This commitment was achieved through investments in increasing the availability of medical countermeasures, as well as increasing equitable access to healthcare through the provision of humanitarian aid. Additionally, efforts from Germany demonstrate engagement with LMICS and LDCs such as Libya, Rwanda, Senegal and Ghana.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ethan Lui

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 22 December 2023, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced an update on the launch of its digital health service program.⁸²⁸ The program has enabled accessible healthcare to reach remote parts of the country allowing patients to seek healthcare services and access their digital patient records online.

⁸²⁵ Humanitäre Katastrophe in Gaza – Deutschland hilft, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 10 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/nahermittlererosten/-/2627842>

⁸²⁶ Medizinforschungsgesetz passiert Bundesrat, Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Berlin) 27 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/medizinforschungsgesetz-brat-27-09-24.html>

⁸²⁷ Lauterbach: Durchbruch bei der Krankenhausreform, Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Berlin) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministerium/meldungen/lauterbach-durchbruch-bei-der-krankenhausreform-08-10-24.html>

⁸²⁸ India is Choosing Digital Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 22 December 2023. Access Date: 12 March 2024. https://abdm.gov.in:8081/uploads/Press_Information_Bureau_website_11_1e66eae20a.pdf

On 7 January 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare opened a new CDSCO Sub-Zonal Office and the Central Drug Testing Laboratory.⁸²⁹ These new facilities will monitor and ensure medicines meet the quality requirements and hold pharmaceutical companies accountable.

On 24 January 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare inaugurated a new specialty block at the GSVM Medical College to improve the healthcare infrastructure in the city.⁸³⁰ In part, the new facility will house 270 new patient beds and 30 ICU beds along with eight operation theaters with modern technology.

On 9 February 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched new measures to tackle healthcare challenges in rural areas as part of the National Rural Health Mission.⁸³¹ These new measures provide an additional INR700 billion of funding for local government over five years to use to enhance health care services in every village and town. The healthcare system will expand by covering more services such as communicable diseases and continue to build on its digital health infrastructure.

On 21 February 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare hosted a workshop to bring accessible and affordable healthcare to the Northeastern States of India.⁸³² The current goal is to work on Essential Health Technology for essential medicine and to make health technologies more readily available, accessible and affordable.

On 29 February, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced the Cabinet approval of the new post of Director of the National Institute of One Health.⁸³³ This new position will be designated to organize efforts on disease control and pandemic preparedness. The director will manage the new National One Health Mission introduced for integrated disease control in India.

On 24 April, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced the meeting between Union Health Secretary of India and CEO of the pharmaceutical company Bilthoven Biologicals to strengthen partnerships concerning vaccine production.⁸³⁴ The meeting covered the EU pandemic readiness partnership and continued efforts to produce more vaccines. This initiative supports India's Universal Immunization Programme and increased global vaccine supply.

On 28 May 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare held a bilateral meeting with the Parliament Under Secretary of State of the United Kingdom Markham.⁸³⁵ This meeting emphasized

⁸²⁹ Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya Inaugurates CDSCO Sub Zonal Office and Central Drug Testing Laboratory in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 7 January 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1994024>

⁸³⁰ Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya Inaugurates Super Specialty Block at GSVM Medical College in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 24 January 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1999176>

⁸³¹ Measures Taken to Address Healthcare Challenges in Rural Areas. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 9 February 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2004363>

⁸³² Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya Inaugurates "Regional Consultative Workshop on Research Priority for Providing Accessible and Affordable Healthcare for the Northeastern States of India", Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 21 February 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2007650>

⁸³³ Cabinet Approves Creation of Post of Director of National Institute of One Health, Nagpur at the Level of Scientist 'H' (pay level-15) to spearhead National One Health Mission for Integrated Disease Control and Pandemic Preparedness, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 29 February 2024. Access Date: 14 March 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2010137>

⁸³⁴ Union Health Secretary visits pharmaceutical Bilthoven Biologicals, Netherlands; has engaging meeting with CEO, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 24 April 2024 Access Date: 30 April 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2018755>

⁸³⁵ Union Health Secretary holds bilateral meeting with Lord Markham, Parliament Under Secretary of State, United Kingdom on the sidelines of the World Health Assembly at Geneva, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 28 May 2024. Access Date: 20 June 2024. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=2022015>

the importance of increasing the mobility of health care in both countries, including ongoing efforts in India to fully establish digital healthcare. Furthermore, the Indian government proposed there be more bilateral cooperation between the two countries to help Indian pharmaceutical companies overcome regulatory challenges in the United Kingdom and the European Union.

On 29 May 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare held a bilateral meeting with the Global Fund which supports efforts to eliminate diseases in India.⁸³⁶ Both the Global Fund and the ministry reaffirmed their continued commitment to eliminating tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and malaria. By spreading awareness of these diseases and improving technologies for identification and treatment, the Indian government has confirmed in the meeting they will continue to improve these procedures.

On 2 June 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare participated in the 77th World Health Assembly, voting to adopt amendments to International Health Regulations.⁸³⁷ These changes aim to improve readiness in all member countries for future pandemic and public health emergencies. India played an important role in drafting these amendments, focusing on improving equity in future health emergency responses.

On 14 June 2024, the Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda chaired a meeting to outline health goals in the first 100 days of forming government.⁸³⁸ The minister emphasized the need to utilize technology for immunization and health emergency responses among a few other top health priorities.

On 26 July 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced financial assistance support to states to improve readiness for future pandemics and health emergencies.⁸³⁹ This initiative includes strengthening the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme to enhance the surveillance of diseases where grants will be given to enhance public health and laboratory research to prevent future health emergencies.

On 2 August 2024, the Government of India announced the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases.⁸⁴⁰ The initiative aims to screen, diagnose, prevent and manage diseases including hypertension, cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic kidney disease and COPD/Asthma among others.

On 23 September 2024, Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda announced the conclusion of the Health Ministry's Department of Health Research's 100 days program for healthcare innovation.⁸⁴¹ The 100 days program will be followed by the launch of a program to develop 12 indigenous medications for eight rare diseases and to decrease the cost of treatment for conditions like Muscular Dystrophy and

⁸³⁶ Union Health Secretary holds bilateral meeting with Global Fund on the sidelines of the World Health Assembly at Geneva, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 29 May 2024. Access Date: 22 June 2024. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=2022140>

⁸³⁷ 77th World Health Assembly adopts amendments to International Health Regulations 2005 based on 300 proposals by member states, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 2 June 2024. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=2022510>

⁸³⁸ Union Health Minister Shri J P Nadda chairs high level meeting on attaining targeted Health goals in the first 100 days of formation of new Government, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 31 July 2024. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=2025374>

⁸³⁹ Steps taken by the Government for preparedness against future pandemics, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 31 July 2024. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2037633>

⁸⁴⁰ Status Of The Action Plan For Cancer Screening in Rural Areas, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://mohfw.gov.in/?q=/press-info/7477>

⁸⁴¹ Accelerating Health Innovation, Union Health Minister Shri JP Nadda announces successful implementation of 100 Days Initiatives by the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2057779>

Gaucher's Disease. The government will also be launching the Centre for Evidence for Guidelines which aims to standardize medical practices across the country to improve the quality of care.

On 11 September 2024, the Union Cabinet approved health coverage for everyone over 70 years of age under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana program which provides up to INR500,000 in free health insurance per family.⁸⁴² This expansion will benefit approximately 45 million families and 60 million senior citizens.

India has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. India has taken strong action to facilitate access to affordable, quality-assured and effective healthcare in the country, with a specific focus on diseases. Moreover, it has contributed immensely in funding to create new facilities to improve the healthcare system. However, India has not engaged with LMICs, LDCs or SIDS in this regard.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kevin Li

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 5 December 2023, the Ministry of Health launched the building of Indonesia's only plasma fractionation factory in partnership with other groups.⁸⁴³ The initiative will expand the availability of plasma products, such as Albumin and Immunoglobulin, to treat a variety of medical conditions in Indonesia.

On 6 December 2023, the Ministry of Health opened Farmaplus 2.0, a website designed for Indonesians to access information about medicines available in their communities.⁸⁴⁴ In addition, citizens can contact the facility offering the medicine, see prices and consult details relevant to the use of the medicine. The primary aim of this initiative is to enhance the accessibility of medicines for the population.

On 8 January 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi announced that Indonesia has acquired 516 million vaccines for COVID-19.⁸⁴⁵ This will improve national access to vaccines.

⁸⁴² Cabinet approves health coverage to all senior citizens of the age 70 years and above irrespective of income under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), Cabinet (New Delhi) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2053881>

⁸⁴³ Menkes Resmikan Pembangunan Fasilitas Fraksionasi Plasma Pertama di Indonesia, Kemenkes Ditjen Farmalkes (South Jakarta) 22 December 2023. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://farmalkes.kemkes.go.id/2023/12/menkes-resmikan-pembangunan-fasilitas-fraksionasi-plasma-pertama-di-indonesia/>

⁸⁴⁴ Semakin Transparan, Masyarakat Bisa Langsung Cek Stok dan Harga Obat Lewat Farmaplus 2.0, Kemenkes Ditjen Farmalkes (South Jakarta) 6 December 2023. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://farmalkes.kemkes.go.id/2023/12/semakin-transparan-masyarakat-bisa-langsung-cek-stok-dan-harga-obat-lewat-farmaplus-2-0/>

⁸⁴⁵ Diplomasi Kesehatan Indonesia Berhasil Amankan Lebih Dari 500 juta Dosis Vaksin COVID-19, Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia (Bandung) 8 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.kemlu.go.id/portal/id/read/5666/berita/diplomasi-kesehatan-indonesia-berhasil-amankan-lebih-dari-500-juta-dosis-vaksin-covid-19>

On 18 January 2024, Minister of Defense Prabowo Subianto sent the Indonesian Ship Hospital Dr. Radjiman-Wedyodiningrat 992 to deliver humanitarian assistance to Palestine.⁸⁴⁶ This included 460 boxes of medication.⁸⁴⁷

On 26 January 2024, the Ministry of Health initiated the Vaccine Collaborating Center focusing on training, partnerships, regulation and data.⁸⁴⁸ It aims to improve the national accessibility of vaccines, offer more advanced vaccines and be better equipped against a future pandemic.

On 31 January 2024, the Directorate General of Pharmacy and Medical Devices of the Ministry of Health Agusdini Banun Saptaningsih performed an educational visit to Sempu village.⁸⁴⁹ The Directorate General provided guidance on the safe and effective use of medical devices and other medical supplies. Moreover, blood glucose and blood pressure measurements were taken from 600 people to promote early diagnosis of diseases.

On 2 February 2024, Indonesia spearheaded the Global Alliance to fight tuberculosis at the United Nations with 22 countries joining the alliance as of 5 February.⁸⁵⁰ The Alliance aims to promote knowledge sharing, establish frameworks to address tuberculosis, accelerate the development of a vaccine for tuberculosis and develop consistent treatment options overall.

On 15 February 2024, the Directorate General Saptaningsih officiated a partnership with two companies, Kimia Farma and Rajawali Nusindo, regarding the pilot project for the health data platform Satu Sehat Logistik.⁸⁵¹ This partnership shows progress in improving the digitalization of drug stock management, which will include the Digital Inventory National.

On 26 February 2024, the Ministry of Health implemented the Strengthening Indonesia's Healthcare Referral Network, Strengthening of Primary Healthcare in Indonesia and the Indonesia – Public Laboratory System Strengthening Components projects.⁸⁵² They total to USD4 billion and aim to fill gaps in laboratory and medical equipment in laboratory and public health facilities across Indonesia.

⁸⁴⁶ Menhan Prabowo Lepas Keberangkatan Kapal RS TNI KRI dr Radjiman-992 Kirim Bantuan untuk Palestina, Kementerian Pertahanan Republik Indonesia (Jakarta Pusat) 18 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 March 2024. <https://www.kemhan.go.id/2024/01/18/menhan-prabowo-lepas-keberangkatan-kapal-rs-tni-kri-dr-radjiman-992-kirim-bantuan-untuk-palestina.html#>

⁸⁴⁷ Naval ship returns to Indonesia after unloading aid for Palestinians, Antara News (Central Jakarta) 17 February 2024. Access Date: 15 March 2024. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/306234/naval-ship-returns-to-indonesia-after-unloading-aid-for-palestinians>

⁸⁴⁸ Kemenkes Luncurkan Inisiatif VOLARE, Percepat Pengembangan dan Penguasaan Teknologi Terbaru Vaksin, Kemenkes Ditjen Farmalkes (South Jakarta) 29 January 2024. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://farmalkes.kemkes.go.id/2024/01/kemenkes-luncurkan-inisiatif-volare-percepat-pengembangan-dan-penguasaan-teknologi-terbaru-vaksin/>

⁸⁴⁹ Ditjen Farmalkes, Lakukan KIE Pengawasan Produk Alat Kesehatan dan PKRT pada Masyarakat Desa Sempu, Kemenkes Ditjen Farmalkes (South Jakarta) 31 January 2024. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://farmalkes.kemkes.go.id/2024/01/ditjen-farmalkes-lakukan-kie-pengawasan-produk-alat-kesehatan-dan-pkrt-pada-masyarakat-desa-semput/>

⁸⁵⁰ Indonesia Pimpin Pembentukan Aliansi Global di PBB untuk Lawan Tuberkulosis, Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia (New York) 5 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.kemlu.go.id/portal/id/read/5733/berita/indonesia-pimpin-pembentukan-alianansi-global-di-pbb-untuk-lawan-tuberkulosis>

⁸⁵¹ Ditjen Farmalkes Wujudkan Transformasi Teknologi Kesehatan Melalui Pengembangan Sistem Digital Inventory National (DIN), Kemenkes Ditjen Farmalkes (South Jakarta) 15 February 2024. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://farmalkes.kemkes.go.id/2024/02/ditjen-farmalkes-wujudkan-transformasi-teknologi-kesehatan-melalui-pengembangan-sistem-digital-inventory-national-din/>

⁸⁵² 4th Vendor Conference – Indonesia Health Systems Strengthening Project, the Ministry of Health (Jakarta) 26 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.kemkes.go.id/eng/4th-vendor-conference-indonesia-health-systems-strengthening-project>

On 7 March 2024, Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi and Minister of Finance Mulyani Indrawati sent 10 million doses of the polio vaccine to Afghanistan, with the support of UNICEF.⁸⁵³ This donation would enable 3.3 million children below three to be vaccinated against polio.

On 26 March 2024, the Ministry of Health released an updated Technical Guidelines for Drug Needs Planning which the WHO helped to create.⁸⁵⁴ By bolstering drug supply planning and addressing previous shortcomings, these guidelines will enable better accessibility to medical countermeasures.⁸⁵⁵

On 3 April 2024, Indonesia sent humanitarian assistance amounting to IDR30 billion to the State of Palestine and Sudan, including medical supplies.⁸⁵⁶

On 3 May 2024, Health Minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin announced the Indonesian government replaced imported AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines with domestically produced ones.⁸⁵⁷ The initiative aims to distribute vaccines with less side effects and protect Indonesians from infection while travelling.

On 6 June 2024, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Fiji Dupito Simamora delivered FJD428 000 worth of medical equipment to Fiji.⁸⁵⁸ This donation will help Fiji properly equip its health centres in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 30 July 2024, Minister Sadikin announced the passing of Government Regulation (PP) Number 28 of 2024 to improve public health initiatives, medical equipment and facilities and pharmaceuticals.⁸⁵⁹ Among the new changes include improving the supply of pharmaceuticals and medical devices, improving stem cell therapy and surgical procedures.

On 2 August 2024, Minister Sadikin committed to distributing portable X-ray machines to facilitate screening and diagnosis of tuberculosis in areas with a high prevalence.⁸⁶⁰

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Indonesia has taken strong action to facilitate access to safe and free vaccines

⁸⁵³ Indonesia Sends 10 Million Polio Vaccine Doses to Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia (Central Jakarta) 7 March 2024. Access Date: 15 March 2024.

<https://www.kemlu.go.id/portal/en/read/5799/berita/indonesia-sends-10-million-polio-vaccine-doses-to-afghanistan>

⁸⁵⁴ Technical Guidelines for Drugs Needs Planning, Ministry of Health Directorate General of Pharmaceuticals (South Jakarta) 26 March 2024. Access date: 27 April 2024. <https://farmalkes.kemkes.go.id/en/unduh/petunjuk-teknis-perencanaan-kebutuhan-obat/>

⁸⁵⁵ WHO supports Ministry of Health to launch new technical guidelines on medicine procurement planning, World Health Organization (Jakarta) 22 April 2024. Access date: 27 April 2024.

<https://www.who.int/indonesia/news/detail/22-04-2024-who-supports-ministry-of-health-to-launch-new-technical-guidelines-on-medicine-procurement-planning>

⁸⁵⁶ Pengiriman Bantuan Kemanusiaan dari Indonesia: Dukungan untuk Palestina dan Sudan, Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia (Jakarta) 3 April 2024. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 27 April 2024.

<https://www.kemlu.go.id/portal/id/read/5849/berita/pengiriman-bantuan-kemanusiaan-dari-indonesia-dukungan-untuk-palestina-dan-sudan>

⁸⁵⁷ Indonesia replaces imported COVID vaccines with safer domestic ones, ANTARA (Central Jakarta) 3 May 2024.

Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/312534/indonesia-replaces-imported-covid-vaccines-with-safer-domestic-ones>

⁸⁵⁸ 50 Tahun Persahabatan: Indonesia dan Fiji Perkuat Kerjasama Kesehatan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia (Suva) 11 June 2024. Translation by Google Translate. Access date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.kemlu.go.id/portal/id/read/5973/berita/50-tahun-persahabatan-indonesia-dan-fiji-perkuat-kerjasama-kesehatan>

⁸⁵⁹ Indonesia strives for greater, inclusive national health architecture, ANTARA (Central Jakarta) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/320491/indonesia-strives-for-greater-inclusive-national-health-architecture>

⁸⁶⁰ Areas with high TB cases to get portable X-rays: Sadikin, ANTARA (Central Jakarta) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/321015/areas-with-high-tb-cases-to-get-portable-x-rays-sadikin>

in Afghanistan which is a LDC and medications in Palestine which is a LMIC. It has also taken international action to form an alliance to address tuberculosis. Domestically, Indonesia has acquired access to vaccines and invested in improving medical equipment.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tara Behtashi

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 5 December 2023, Minister of Health Orazio Schillaci and Councillor for Welfare of the Lombardy Region Guido Bertolaso signed a Memorandum of Understanding for healthcare cooperation.⁸⁶¹ In part, cooperation will address the access and effectiveness of healthcare and implement modernized biomedical technologies that enable improved diagnosis and treatment. The Government of Italy will contribute EUR376,867,616.74 to this initiative.

On 29 December 2023, Minister Schillaci addressed the approved 2024 budget law which includes provisions on healthcare.⁸⁶² Over the next three years, Italy will provide EUR11.2 billion to support healthcare personnel, provide territorial assistance and funding for Alzheimer's and Dementia, develop "Next-Generation Sequencing Tests" for rare diseases and support migrant populations. Italy will also now allow pharmacies affiliated with the National Health Service, but not located in hospitals, to dispense medications in order to increase access to locally available medicines.

On 29 January 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni pledged EUR 5.5 billion for the Mattei Plan, the Italian agenda for development in the African continent through non-predatory practices.⁸⁶³ One of the projects announced under the plan was the improvement of accessible and quality-assured healthcare in the Ivory Coast, including training and exchange programs for healthcare workers, telemedicine and investment in medical education.⁸⁶⁴

On 5 February 2024, the Ministry of Health hosted the "Technical working table in the sector of drug supply in Italy."⁸⁶⁵ During the meeting, the permanent working group announced that an additional 38,000 packages had been secured of Creon 10,000 IU which is a medication that treats pancreatic enzyme deficiency. This aims to increase access to the medication for those in need.

⁸⁶¹ Assistenza ospedaliera, Ministero e Regione Lombardia firmano Protocollo d'Intesa, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 5 December 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=6002

⁸⁶² Bilancio 2024, Schillaci: "Importante impegno per la salute, più risorse per valorizzare operatori sanitari e migliorare i servizi," Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 December 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=6005

⁸⁶³ What we know about the Italian development plan for Africa, Reuters (Rome) 29 January 2024. Access Date: 15 March 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/what-we-know-about-italian-development-plan-africa-2024-01-29/>

⁸⁶⁴ Vertice Italia-Africa, l'introduzione del Presidente Meloni nella conferenza stampa finale, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 29 January 2024. Access Date: 15 March 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/vertice-italia-africa-lintroduzione-del-presidente-meloni-nella-conferenza-stampa-finale>

⁸⁶⁵ Riunito il Tavolo sull'approvvigionamento farmaci: annunciato lo sblocco di un lotto Creon, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 5 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=6014

On 16 February 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that citizens will be able to apply for benefits to cover the costs of psychotherapy sessions from 18 March to 31 May.⁸⁶⁶ This initiative is designed to help lower-income Italian citizens access mental health services at an affordable cost.

On 28 February 2024, Minister Schillaci along with other G7 Health Ministers discussed preventative strategies and health emergency responses.⁸⁶⁷ Health Ministers also discussed ways to leverage technological innovations to prevent chronic and non-communicable diseases. The goal of the meeting was to strengthen collaboration and reduce the risk of public health crises in the future.

On 22 March 2024, the National Health Service (NHS) approved criteria to ensure high quality and safety in therapeutic communities for individuals with pathological addictions at its State-Regions Conference.⁸⁶⁸ These criteria aim to standardize practices across regions and enhance recovery and societal integration through the use of therapeutic communities which are funded by the NHS.

On 25 March 2024, Minister Schillaci met with a delegation from Montenegro to discuss enhancing healthcare collaboration between the two countries.⁸⁶⁹ Italy pledged to support Montenegro by developing digital services in healthcare and improving the organ transplantation program as well as other medical institutions.

On 5 April 2024, the Ministry of Health announced the list of 334 biomedical research projects that would receive funding from the National Recovery and Resistance Plan.⁸⁷⁰ This funding consists of over EUR312 million and will go towards research on rare diseases, rare tumors and chronic non-communicable diseases with a high social impact.

On 14 April 2024, the Ministry of Health launched a joint initiative with the National Transplant Centre to spread awareness about the organ and tissue donation process.⁸⁷¹ This initiative will provide verified and accurate information on the subject to citizens, to help them make informed choices when offered the option of consenting to organ and tissue donation during the renewal process of identification documents. The initiative hopes to increase the amount of organ and tissue donations in the country.

On 17 April 2024, G7 foreign ministers met in Italy and commenced the publication of a communiqué that summarized the priorities for Italy's G7 presidency.⁸⁷² In the communiqué, G7 ministers expressed

⁸⁶⁶ "Bonus psicologo 2023": dal 18 marzo online la piattaforma INPS per richiedere la nuova misura di sostegno, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 16 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministro&id=6483

⁸⁶⁷ G7, Schillaci apre la prima riunione dei Ministri della Salute: "Condivise priorità e piano di lavoro", Ministero della Salute (Rome) 28 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministro&id=6495

⁸⁶⁸ Dipendenze patologiche, Intesa Stato-Regioni su criteri di sicurezza e qualità delle comunità terapeutiche, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 22 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 June 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=6024

⁸⁶⁹ Incontro bilaterale tra il Ministro Schillaci e il Vice Primo Ministro del Montenegro Pavićević, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 25 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 June 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=6026

⁸⁷⁰ PNRR, approvate le graduatorie per il finanziamento di 334 progetti di ricerca biomedica per oltre 312 milioni di euro, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 5 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministro&id=6536

⁸⁷¹ Giornata nazionale per la donazione, il Ministro Schillaci: "La donazione è una scelta di vita", Ministero della Salute (Rome) 14 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 April 2024. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministro&id=6544

⁸⁷² Foreign Ministers' Meeting Communiqué: Addressing Global Challenges, Fostering Partnerships (Capri) 19 April 2024. G7 Information Centre (Toronto) Access Date: 11 May 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240419-global-challenges.html>

their support for improving Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response and global health through providing sustainable financing to less developed countries.

On 18 April 2024, the State-Regions Conference approved a pharmacovigilance program proposed by the Ministry of Health.⁸⁷³ The program will allocate EUR58.5 million in Pharmacovigilance Funds to improve public knowledge about medicines throughout the country. This will facilitate citizens' access to effective and appropriate medical countermeasures.

On 4 June 2024, the Council of Ministers approved a legislative decree aimed at eliminating waiting lists for services provided by the NHS.⁸⁷⁴ This law will establish a system to ensure that citizens receive services within appropriate waiting periods and will remove the spending limit on hiring NHS personnel.

On 14 June 2024, the Ministry of Health collaborated with the National Blood Center and major blood donation organizations to launch the second annual "Donate life, donate blood" campaign.⁸⁷⁵ This initiative aims to promote blood donation, particularly among young people. The goal is to ensure plasma transfusions and therapies remain accessible to patients throughout Italy.

On 20 June 2024, Deputy Prime Minister Matteo Salvini and Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani announced the provision of USD150 million to support vaccine production and access in Africa.⁸⁷⁶ The funding will be provided to the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator which aims to facilitate enhanced vaccine production on the continent.

On 24 July 2024, the Government of Italy passed into law the decree aimed at eliminating waiting lists for health services.⁸⁷⁷ Minister Schillaci announced that citizens' access to medical care will be facilitated by the implementation of a new monitoring system, the abolishment of the spending limit on hiring NHS personnel and incentives for healthcare workers tax relief. The government will also provide southern regions with medical technology and staff training to improve healthcare access.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Italy has addressed access to effective medications, diagnostics and other treatments nationally through the healthcare cooperation agreement with Lombardy and funding via the 2024 budget law. Italy has committed to facilitate the equitable access of medical countermeasures in Ivory Coast, which is a LMIC, has pledged support for Montenegro which is a LDC and has announced funding for the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator which will support LMICs and LDCs.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

⁸⁷³ Italy: The Agreement for the implementation of an active pharmacovigilance program has been approved, Global Compliance News (Chicago) 20 May 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. https://www.globalcompliancenes.com/2024/05/20/https-insightplus-bakermckenzie-com-bm-healthcare-life-sciences-italy-the-agreement-for-the-implementation-of-an-active-pharmacovigilance-program-has-been-approved_05082024/

⁸⁷⁴ Liste di attesa, la conferenza stampa del Ministro Schillaci, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 4 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024.

https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6577

⁸⁷⁵ Al via l'edizione 2024 della campagna Dona vita, dona sangue, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 11 June 2024.

Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 June 2024.

https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6581

⁸⁷⁶ Tajani a Forum mondiale vaccini, da Italia 150 milioni per Africa, ANSA (Rome) 20 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 June 2024. https://www.ansa.it/sito/notizie/mondo/africa/2024/06/20/tajani-a-forum-mondiale-vaccini-da-italia-150-milioni-per-africa_c30212ce-7042-4c9b-995a-bedd22b2c934.html

⁸⁷⁷ Il decreto sulle liste di attesa è Legge. Schillaci: "Diamo risposte concrete ai cittadini," Ministero della Salute (Rome) 24 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 August 2024.

https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6622

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 15 December 2023, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Deputy Resident Representative in Ghana Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov made a statement emphasizing Japan's crucial role in expanding "access to new health technologies" in Ghana.⁸⁷⁸ This was after the visit of Japanese Ambassador Takeshi Akahori to a mobile laboratory at the Kotoka International Airport, one of several healthcare initiatives implemented with Japan's support and funding in Ghana. Japan's partnership with the UNDP has helped to promote pandemic preparedness and affordable access to medical services in the region.

On 20 December 2023, the Central Social Insurance Medical Council finalized the outlines to reforms of the national drug pricing system. It was announced that the reforms will take effect in 2024, with the goal of incentivizing "the early introduction of new drugs to Japan" and making drug prices more affordable.⁸⁷⁹

On 6 January 2024, the Government of Japan approved the provision of USD10 million to support infectious disease response and preparedness in Ukraine and neighbouring states, including Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Moldova.⁸⁸⁰ The funds were issued to provide essential medical resources including medical devices and medication to displaced people in these countries, with distribution managed by the World Health Organization (WHO). This promoted healthcare access for vulnerable displaced people in the region.

On 17 January 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement with the WHO to provide JPY1 billion to strengthen infectious disease preparedness and response in Afghanistan.⁸⁸¹ The funds were issued to provide essential medical resources including diagnostic equipment, medical instruments and medicines to Afghan hospitals along with technical support.

On 20 February 2024, JICA signed agreements to provide JPY232 billion in official development assistance (ODA) loans to India.⁸⁸² Of these loans, JPY10 billion was allocated for the establishment of a new Medical College Hospital in northeast India. This helped promote affordable and quality healthcare access in the region.

⁸⁷⁸ Leveraging the Japan-UNDP partnership to achieve universal health coverage, United Nations Development Programme (Accra) 15 December 2023. Access Date: 16 March 2024. <https://www.undp.org/ghana/news/leveraging-japan-undp-partnership-achieve-universal-health-coverage>

⁸⁷⁹ Joint Statement on FY2024 NHI Drug Pricing System Reform Framework and FY2024 Cost-Effectiveness Analysis System Reform Framework, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (Tokyo) 20 December 2023. Access Date: 16 March 2024. https://www.phrma-jp.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/20231220_joint_statement_e.pdf

⁸⁸⁰ ASEF's support for displaced people from Ukraine through WHO (Phase 2) Assistance for COVID-19 response, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 6 January 2024. Access Date: 16 March 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000435.html

⁸⁸¹ Signing of Grant Agreement for Afghanistan: Contributing to the strengthening of the infectious-disease response capacity of referral hospitals, in cooperation with the WHO, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 18 January 2024. Access Date: 16 March 2024. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2023/20240116_31.html

⁸⁸² Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with India: Contributing to the deepening of bilateral relations and mutual development between Japan and India by supporting India's achievement of the SDGs, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 20 February 2024. Access Date: 16 March 2024. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2023/20240220_31.html

On 27 February 2024, the Government of Japan approved the provision of an Emergency Grant Aid totalling USD32 million for the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. This included USD10 million allocated to the WHO to improve the healthcare situation in Gaza.⁸⁸³ This humanitarian effort demonstrates Japan's commitment to facilitating healthcare access in vulnerable regions.

On 6 March 2024, the Government of Japan signed an agreement with the United Nations Population Fund to provide JPY1.108 billion to Timor-Leste.⁸⁸⁴ This grant will be used to improve the environment for maternal childbirth and perinatal care in Timor-Leste, with a focus on supporting emergency obstetric and newborn care in the country.

On 8 March 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced USD37 million in humanitarian assistance for those in Myanmar and Thailand who are affected by the coup in Myanmar.⁸⁸⁵ In part, funding will support medical services, medicine distribution, food and water sanitation infrastructure.

On 11 March 2024, the Government of Japan signed an agreement with the WHO to provide USD8 million for the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.⁸⁸⁶ This grant will be used to support Gazans receiving medical care in Egypt by providing hospital equipment and training medical staff.

On 14 March 2024, JICA signed an ODA loan agreement with the Government of Cambodia for JPY21 million to develop regional hospitals.⁸⁸⁷ The project aims to improve access to medical care, upgrade medical facilities and equipment and improve the health and well-being of residents in rural provinces.

On 2 April 2024, the Government of Japan reinstated its funding of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, providing USD35 million for the humanitarian crisis in Palestine.⁸⁸⁸ Funding will be used to send supplies for women and infants in Gaza as well as to provide medical services for Palestinians in the West Bank, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.

On 16 April 2024, the Government of Japan approved the provision of JPY758 million to Bhutan for the construction of the Royal Center for Infectious Diseases.⁸⁸⁹ The project aims to improve Bhutan's preparations and resistance to infectious diseases.

⁸⁸³ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 27 February 2024. Access Date: 16 March 2024.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00174.html

⁸⁸⁴ Signing and Exchange of Notes concerning Grant Aid to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste "the Project for the Improvement of the Facilities for the Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care at the Community Health Centers", Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 6 March 2024. Access Date: 26 April 2024.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00191.html

⁸⁸⁵ Additional humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar affected by the coup d'état, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 8 March 2024. Access Date: 10 April 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000494.html

⁸⁸⁶ WHO and Japan sign US\$ 8 million agreement to support patients from Gaza Strip in Egypt, World Health Organization (Cairo) 11 March 2024. Access Date: 26 April 2024. <https://www.emro.who.int/media/news/who-and-japan-sign-us-8-million-agreement-to-support-patients-from-gaza-strip-in-egypt.html>

⁸⁸⁷ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Cambodia: Contributing to improved access to advanced medical care for rural residents through the development of regional hospitals, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 14 March 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2023/20240314_10.html

⁸⁸⁸ Disbursement to UNRWA from the FY2023 Supplementary Budget, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 15 April 2024. Access Date: 16 March 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00283.html

⁸⁸⁹ Signing and exchange of letters regarding grant aid to the Kingdom of Bhutan "Royal Center for Infectious Diseases Construction Project" (additional donation), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 16 April 2024. Access Date: 26 April 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_00613.html

On 19 April 2024, Finance Minister Shun'ichi Suzuki announced that Japan will establish a training centre aimed at improving affordable healthcare in developing countries.⁸⁹⁰ The training centre will utilise Japan's experience and expertise to improve healthcare infrastructure in participating countries.

On 29 April 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare relaxed the approval of requirements for the new drugs that target rare diseases.⁸⁹¹ Starting in May 2024, this initiative aims to expedite and increase the introduction of new beneficial drugs, especially those already approved internationally. The goal is to improve access to effective and quality-assured drugs within Japan.

On 7 May 2024, JICA signed an agreement to grant Kenya with JPY3.1 billion to enhance the research capacity of the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) in Nairobi.⁸⁹² The project targets enhancements in KEMRI's infectious disease research and early-response capabilities by providing facilities and equipment to bolster health crisis responsiveness in Kenya and across East Africa.

On 14 May 2024, the Government of Japan signed an agreement with the United Nations Children's Fund to grant Afghanistan JPY1.1 billion in aid.⁸⁹³ The funding aims to enhance infectious disease prevention for children in Afghanistan by facilitating the procurement and distribution of vaccines.

On 29 May 2024, JICA signed an agreement to allocate JPY1.8 billion to improve the medical equipment at the National Cancer Hospital in Hanoi, Vietnam.⁸⁹⁴ The funding aims to strengthen systems for cancer diagnosis and prevention in Vietnam.

On 25 June 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced plans to establish a task force that is dedicated to expanding the country's healthcare and nursing sectors.⁸⁹⁵ The task force will examine ways to improve the training of foreign healthcare workers and respond to overseas demand for Japanese health services. This initiative aims to improve access to medical care and training within Japan.

On 3 July 2024, the Government of Japan signed an agreement with Uzbekistan to provide JPY1 billion in medical aid.⁸⁹⁶ The funding will be used to supply four medical containers, carrying equipment such as CT scan and X-ray machines to rural areas of Uzbekistan.

On 9 July 2024, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida instructed ministers of his Cabinet to draft plans for constructing and utilising government-owned hospital ships.⁸⁹⁷ The initiative will be operational by

⁸⁹⁰ 武見大臣会見概要, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 19 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 April 2024. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/kaiken/daijin/0000194708_00689.html

⁸⁹¹ Japanese Government to Lower Hurdles for New Drug Applications; Aims to Improve Japan's 'Drug Loss' Problem, The Japan News (Tokyo) 29 April 2024. Access Date: 26 June 2024. <https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/society/general-news/20240429-183065/>

⁸⁹² Signing of Grant Agreement with Kenya: Contributing to global health by positioning Kenya as a regional hub, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 7 May 2024. Access Date: 23 June 2024. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240426_21.html

⁸⁹³ アフガニスタンに対する無償資金協力「小児感染症予防計画（UNICEF連携）」に関する書簡の交換, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 14 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press7_000262.html

⁸⁹⁴ Signing of Grant Agreement with Viet Nam: Contributing to the strengthening of core functions at the country's largest cancer hospital through improving medical equipment, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 29 May 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240523_11.html

⁸⁹⁵ Japan to set up task force to further develop healthcare, nursing industries, NHK (Tokyo) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20240625_09/

⁸⁹⁶ ウズベキスタン共和国に対する医療コンテナ4台の供与（無償資金協力「経済社会開発計画」）に関する書簡の署名・交換, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 3 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 August 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_00844.html

⁸⁹⁷ Kishida aims for hospital ship operations from fiscal year 2025, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/07/09/japan/science-health/kishida-hospital-ship-plan/>

2025. This project aims to use ships as medical headquarters during natural disasters or epidemics and will facilitate access to healthcare services in times of large-scale disaster.

On 19 July 2024, the Government of Japan signed an agreement to provide JPY3.724 billion to Senegal for the enhancement of medical facilities at the Thiès Regional Hospital.⁸⁹⁸ This project aims to improve Senegal's diagnosis and treatment systems for non-communicable diseases which are a leading cause of death in the country.

On 24 September 2024, JICA signed a loan agreement with Morocco to contribute towards Universal Health Coverage in Morocco.⁸⁹⁹ JICA will provide JPY27.76 million to Morocco at a 1.5 per cent interest rate to be repaid within 30 years. This will enable the expansion of maternal and child health services and a health insurance system in the country.

On 24 September 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Yoko Kamikawa, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Honduras Eduardo Enrique Reina García and Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Rafael Mariano Grossi signed a letter of intent for cooperation in radiotherapy.⁹⁰⁰ This trilateral agreement will support Honduras in expanding radiotherapy including through the installation of radiotherapy equipment and staff training.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Japan has done so by facilitating access to affordable and quality-assured medications, vaccines, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures in LMICs and LDCs including Palestine, Bhutan and Cambodia.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lillian Toe

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 3 December 2023, Vice-Minister of Health and Welfare Park Minsoo signed a Memorandum of Consideration to respond to the public health crisis alongside Japan and China.⁹⁰¹ This will strengthen cooperation regarding national and Asia-Pacific region healthcare particularly for public health crises like pandemics and other infectious diseases.

⁸⁹⁸ セネガル共和国に対する無償資金協力4件に関する書簡の交換, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 22 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 August 2024.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_00911.html

⁸⁹⁹ モロッコ向け円借款貸付契約の調印：財政支援によりモロッコのユニバーサル・ヘルス・カバレッジ達成に貢, 独立行政法人 国際協力機構 (Tokyo) 24 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. https://www.jica.go.jp/information/press/2024/20240924_41.html

⁹⁰⁰ Signing of a Letter of Intent on Cooperation in Medicine (Radiotherapy) with the Republic of Honduras and the International Atomic Energy Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00604.html

⁹⁰¹ Korea, Japan and China Pledge to Cooperate Closely on Healthcare, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Seoul) 3 December 2023. Access Date: 31 March 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1479249&tag=&nPage=1

On 18 December 2023, South Korea Bioscience began distribution of Novavax's updated COVID-19 vaccine, targeting the XBB.1.5 variant.⁹⁰² This will provide the Korean population with more choices for vaccinations against COVID-19.

On 21 December 2023, the National Assembly confirmed KRW122,377 billion for the Ministry of Health and Welfare's 2024 budget.⁹⁰³ The funding will be used to increase hospital bed availability for emergency patients, incorporate technology and state-of-the art medical equipment, establish a blood services centre and modernize medical facilities to strengthen existing infrastructure.

On 30 January 2024, Minister of Health and Welfare Cho Kyoo Hong attended the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Health Ministerial Meeting to discuss implementing policies for more resilient health systems.⁹⁰⁴ The ministers discussed actions to take in the event of future shocks to the healthcare system, improving digital health services and healthcare personnel and ways to bridge gaps in medical personnel and equipment shortages in different regions.

On 2 February 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced a healthcare policy reform package to strengthen essential healthcare programs and build the resilience of local communities.⁹⁰⁵ The initiative aims to increase healthcare professionals by improving training and licensing, strengthen community healthcare networks by supporting local innovation and fostering public-private partnerships, implement safety nets to prevent medical malpractice and improve compensation and coverage for compensation services.

On 4 February 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced the Second Comprehensive National Health Insurance Plan which outlines changes to ensure that individuals have access to healthcare services and medications in accordance with the financial limitations of Korea.⁹⁰⁶ In part, the plan includes provisions to increase the affordability of healthcare for vulnerable groups by alleviating financial constraints, especially for life-threatening illnesses like cancer.

On 14 March 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare hosted the Medical Korea 2024 conference.⁹⁰⁷ Global healthcare experts discussed issues plaguing the healthcare industry and ways forward by building intergovernmental networks. A series of seminars introduced healthcare projects promoting medical training in the Middle East and strategies for expanding Korean healthcare projects overseas.

On 26 March 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the delegations from Turkmenistan, Paraguay and Mongolia agreed to expand cooperation in the healthcare sector during a bilateral

⁹⁰² Novavax's updated COVID-19 vaccine to help provide wider array of choices, The Korea Times (Seoul) 25 December 2023. Access Date: 11 March 2024. https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2023/12/113_365687.html

⁹⁰³ KRW 122,377.9 Billion Confirmed for MOHW's 2024 Budget, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Seoul) 4 January 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1479649&tag=&nPage=2

⁹⁰⁴ OECD Health Ministers Put Their Heads Together for More Resilient Healthcare Systems, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong) 30 January 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1480090&tag=&nPage=2

⁹⁰⁵ A Policy Package to Bring Essential Healthcare Back from the Brink of Collapse, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong) 2 February 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1480151&tag=&nPage=2

⁹⁰⁶ Innovating NHI to ensure access to essential healthcare and consolidate our support for reform, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong) 28 February 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1480475&tag=&nPage=2

⁹⁰⁷ Medical Korea 2024, Digital Healthcare Technologies for a New Horizon beyond Barriers, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong) 14 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1480652&tag=&nPage=2

meeting.⁹⁰⁸ The parties agreed to cooperate in the areas of infectious disease prevention, the medical device industry and universal healthcare coverage.

On 9 June 2024, the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety of Seoul signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nigerian National Agency for Food and Drug Administration Control.⁹⁰⁹ This increases cooperation surrounding medical products and pharmaceuticals including vaccines, medical devices and in vitro diagnostics while reducing drug abuse and related issues in Nigeria.

On 19 June 2024, the Ministry of Science and ICT finalized and launched the “XaaS Frontier Project”.⁹¹⁰ This project refers to digital services provided, including technologies and processes to contribute to growth and expansion in robotics and medicine, climate and the environment, society and governance, transportation and logistics, facility and safety and customer services. In the medical sectors, this will create a service robot operational model ultimately easing the burden on the Korean medical system.

On 22 July 2024, the Korean Science Ministry announced four joint science research projects in partnership with top globally recognized research institutions.⁹¹¹ These projects focus on rare isotopes, hydrogen technologies, driving technologies and vaccine and treatment developments. The initiatives aim to advance the development and access to top therapeutics for Koreans while strengthening international partnerships.

On 13 September 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced that 14 regional emergency medical centers will focus on treating critically ill patients.⁹¹² This aims to increase Korea’s capacity to treat critically ill patients and reduce the burden on other emergency medical centers.

On 26 September 2024, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced that the 19th Health Insurance Policy Deliberation Committee has decided to increase support for continuous blood glucose monitoring for pregnant diabetic patients and to reduce costs for infertility treatment.⁹¹³

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Korea has engaged in international agreements, provided access to Covid-19 vaccines nationally and planned to increase the affordability of treatments for life-threatening illnesses. However, while Korea has increased cooperation with Nigeria which is an LMIC, it has not facilitated access to medical countermeasures for LDCs or SIDS.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

⁹⁰⁸ The ROK to Expand Healthcare Cooperation with Turkmenistan, Paraguay, and Mongolia, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong) 26 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a20401000000&bid=0032&act=view&list_no=1480790&tag=&nPage=2

⁹⁰⁹ NAFDAC signs MoU with South Korean to boost pharmaceutical products, Guardian Nigeria (Lagos) 9 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://guardian.ng/nafdac-signs-mou-with-south-korea-to-boost-pharmaceutical-products/>

⁹¹⁰ New project to digitalize all sectors via software development, Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism (Seoul) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/Sci-Tech/view?articleId=253618>

⁹¹¹ Science ministry picks 4 joint projects with global research institutes for gov’t support, The Korea Times (Seoul) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 4 August 2024. https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2024/07/113_379529.html

⁹¹² 거점 지역응급의료센터 14개소 지정, 보건복지부 (Seoul) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a10503010100&bid=0027&act=view&list_no=1483119&tag=&nPage=6

⁹¹³ 건강한 임신, 출산 위해 건강보험 지원 강화, 보건복지부 (Seoul) 26 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024.

https://www.mohw.go.kr/board.es?mid=a10503010100&bid=0027&act=view&list_no=1483215&tag=&nPage=3

Analyst: Emily Shin

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 12 January 2024, the Ministry of Health reinforced dengue control measures in over 300,000 homes in Acapulco, Guerrero, spatial misting covering 9,500 hectares.⁹¹⁴ The initiative aims to strengthen existing larval control mechanisms, detect the dengue virus in adult mosquitos and bolster the risk communication intervention to ensure people receive medical attention early on.

On 27 January 2024, the Ministry of Health received 2.8 million Abdala vaccines against COVID-19 from the Ministry of Public Health of Cuba to reinforce its National Winter Vaccination Campaign 2023-2024.⁹¹⁵ The initiative aims to facilitate access to safe and effective vaccines for populations at greater risk of contracting COVID-19.

On 9 February 2024, the National Center for the Prevention and Control of HIV and AIDS through the IMSS-Wellbeing and the Health Fund for Wellbeing committed to distributing free antiretroviral treatment for HIV nationwide by 2024.⁹¹⁶ The initiative aims to reduce the risk of exposure to and prevent the infection of HIV.

On 15 February 2024, the Ministry of Health published a guideline which standardizes the assessment and issuance of the Electronic Disability Certificate for persons with disabilities.⁹¹⁷ The procedure, which is voluntary and free, incorporates a biopsychosocial model to determine the level of disability and facilitate the creation of health policies, resource allocation and national disability statistics.

On 22 February 2024, specialists from the National Hepatitis C Elimination Program in Mexico met to discuss actions to control and eliminate Hepatitis C.⁹¹⁸ Representatives reviewed current programs and initiatives for screening and treatment, highlighted existing gaps in the national approach and additional steps required to sustain efforts.

⁹¹⁴ Secretaría de Salud refuerza medidas de control del dengue en Acapulco, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 12 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/015-secretaria-de-salud-refuerza-medidas-de-control-del-dengue-en-acapulco?idiom=es>

⁹¹⁵ Llega a México primer embarque del año con 2.8 millones de vacunas Abdala contra COVID-19, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 27 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/031-llega-a-mexico-primer-embarque-del-ano-con-2-8-millones-de-vacunas-abdala-contra-covid-19?idiom=es>

⁹¹⁶ Censida e instituciones de salud garantizan tratamiento gratuito para VIH a nivel nacional, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 9 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/048-censida-e-instituciones-de-salud-garantizan-tratamiento-gratuito-para-vih-a-nivel-nacional?idiom=es>

⁹¹⁷ Secretaría de Salud da a conocer NOM-039-SSA-2023, en materia de certificación de la discapacidad, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 15 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/articulos/secretaria-de-salud-da-a-conocer-nom-039-ssa-2023-en-materia-de-certificacion-de-la-discapacidad?idiom=es>

⁹¹⁸ Tratamiento gratuito y grupos de atención prioritaria, acciones centrales contra hepatitis C, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 22 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/070-tratamiento-gratuito-y-grupos-de-atencion-prioritaria-acciones-centrales-contra-hepatitis-c?idiom=es>

On 28 February 2024, the Administration of Public Charity Assets under the Ministry of Health delivered over 4,300 pieces of equipment to the states of Nayarit, Jalisco and Campeche.⁹¹⁹ The initiative delivered medical equipment to conduct mammography studies, ambulances and cochlear sound impact processors to facilitate day-to-day operations at the hospitals and support vulnerable populations.

On 28 February 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that the “Luis Guillermo Ibarra Ibarra” National Rehabilitation Institute is expanding ophthalmological care in Mexico.⁹²⁰ In particular, cataract services and ophthalmological consultations will now be available to individuals over 60 and vulnerable individuals who may otherwise be unable to access these services due to geographical or socioeconomic barriers. Thus, this initiative increases access to affordable, quality-assured and effective ophthalmological services.

On 11 March 2024, authorities from the Ministry of Health of Mexico City, the National Institute of Cancerology and the National Autonomous University of Mexico participated in the 6th Meeting for Comprehensive Health to promote collective action for the prevention of diseases and the promotion of health.⁹²¹

On 18 March 2024, the Ministry of Health donated 3,600 square centimeters of human skin to burn victims in the Dominican Republic.⁹²² The initiative involved coordinated action between the Tissue Bank of the State of Mexico, the embassy and Ministry of Health of the Dominican Republic.

On 25 March 2024, Mexico has joined the International Medical Device Regulators Forum as an affiliate member.⁹²³ This membership aims to align Mexico’s medical device regulations with global standards, facilitating smoother international trade and enhancing regulatory practices.

On 31 March 2024, the Ministry of Health began a vaccination campaign for children and adolescents to combat measles, polio and rubella.⁹²⁴ The campaign begins on April 1 and ends on May 31, with an estimated nine million vaccines being administered. It aims to reduce vaccine-preventable diseases and another outbreak of measles, polio and rubella.

⁹¹⁹ Personas en condiciones de vulnerabilidad reciben apoyos funcionales de la Beneficencia Pública, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 28 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/078-personas-en-condiciones-de-vulnerabilidad-reciben-apoyos-funcionales-de-la-beneficencia-publica?idiom=es>

⁹²⁰ 082. Instituto Nacional de Rehabilitación amplía áreas de atención oftalmológica, Secretaría de Salud (Mexico City) 28 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 April 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/082-instituto-nacional-de-rehabilitacion-amplia-areas-de-atencion-oftalmologica?idiom=es>

⁹²¹ Instituciones de salud y UNAM fomentan acciones colectivas de prevención y promoción de la salud, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 11 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/104-instituciones-de-salud-y-unam-fomentan-acciones-colectivas-de-prevencion-y-promocion-de-la-salud?idiom=es>

⁹²² 116. México dona piel humana a República Dominicana, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 18 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/116-mexico-dona-piel-humana-a-republica-dominicana?idiom=es>

⁹²³ Mexico joins the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF), Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (Acapulco) 25 March 2024. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/mexico-joins-the-international-medical-device-regulators-forum-imdrf?idiom=enn>

⁹²⁴ Secretaría de Salud inicia campaña de recuperación de cobertura de vacunación con énfasis en poliomieltis, sarampión y rubéola, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 31 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/132-secretaria-de-salud-inicia-campana-de-recuperacion-de-cobertura-de-vacunacion-con-efasis-en-poliomieltis-sarampion-y-rubeola?idiom=es>

On 9 April 2024, health authorities from the Ministry of Health explained how Clínica es Nuestra is to be implemented across IMSS-Bienestar first-level care centers.⁹²⁵ The program will be implemented in 10,668 locations in 23 states. The initiative aims to improve access to medication and medical equipment across the IMSS-Bienestar health centers.

On 9 April 2024, the Ministry of Health issued an epidemiological notice for all three levels of medical units to respond to detected cases of measles.⁹²⁶ The notice aims to prevent an outbreak by strengthening monitoring and prevention strategies.

On 24 April 2024, Mexico's Ministry of Health urged parents and guardians nationwide to vaccinate their children during the 2024 Vaccination Coverage Recovery Campaign ending on May 31.⁹²⁷ The campaign aims to achieve 90 per cent vaccination coverage through administering doses for polio, measles, mumps and rubella and emphasizes catching up on any missed vaccines in the 32 federal entities.

On 30 May 2024, Mexico reaffirmed its commitment to controlling infectious diseases at the 77th World Health Assembly in Geneva.⁹²⁸ The delegation advocated for stricter regulations on the digital marketing of breast milk substitutes to support breastfeeding rates and endorsed the WHO's Global Action Plan for Infection Prevention and Control. Mexico also emphasized the importance of integrated approaches to chronic diseases and called for global strategies to eradicate tuberculosis, focusing on research and access to diagnostics for children and adolescents.

On 5 June 2024, Mexico's Ministry of Health extended its vaccination coverage recovery campaign for children and adolescents until 30 June 2024, with the goal of achieving 90 per cent annual vaccination coverage against diseases like measles and polio.⁹²⁹ This initiative includes health unit services, home visits and traveling modules to ensure widespread access to vaccines. After 30 June, the permanent immunization program will continue across all first-level medical units countrywide.

On 11 June 2024, the Ministry of Health implemented new radiotherapy equipment at the National Institute of Cancerology (INCan).⁹³⁰ This equipment aims to treat up to 1,800 patients per month reducing waiting times for treatment to no more than four weeks.

⁹²⁵ La Clínica es Nuestra brinda servicios de detección y prevención en el primer nivel de atención, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 9 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/141-la-clinica-es-nuestra-brinda-servicios-de-deteccion-y-prevencion-en-el-primer-nivel-de-atencion?idiom=es>

⁹²⁶ Emite Secretaría de Salud nuevo aviso epidemiológico por sarampión, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 9 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 May 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/142-emite-secretaria-de-salud-nuevo-aviso-epidemiologico-por-sarampion?idiom=es>

⁹²⁷ Sector Salud hace un llamado a madres, padres y personas cuidadoras a llevar a infantes a vacunar, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 24 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 April 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/articulos/sector-salud-hace-un-llamado-a-madres-padres-y-personas-cuidadoras-a-llevar-a-infantes-a-vacunar-362850?idiom=es>

⁹²⁸ México reitera compromiso con el control de enfermedades infecciosas en la 77 Asamblea Mundial de la Salud, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 30 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/208-mexico-reitera-compromiso-con-el-control-de-enfermedades-infecciosas-en-la-77-asamblea-mundial-de-la-salud?idiom=es>

⁹²⁹ Secretaría de Salud amplía al 30 de junio campaña de recuperación de coberturas de vacunación en población infantil y adolescente, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 5 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/216-secretaria-de-salud-amplia-al-30-de-junio-campana-de-recuperacion-de-coberturas-de-vacunacion-en-poblacion-infantil-y-adolescente?idiom=es>

⁹³⁰ INCan cuenta con nuevo equipo de radioterapia para atender mil 800 pacientes mensuales, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 11 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/225-incan-cuenta-con-nuevo-equipo-de-radioterapia-para-atender-mil-800-pacientes-mensuales?idiom=es>

On 12 June 2024, the Ministry of Health announced the signing of a collaborative agreement between INCan, IMSS and IMSS-Bienestar.⁹³¹ They committed to joint research, training and cancer case registration to enhance cancer care and prevention efforts nationwide. This initiative aims to improve epidemiological surveillance and treatment outcomes for cancer patients across Mexico.

On 17 June 2024, the Ministry of Health delivered ambulances and medical supplies in Chiapas through the Public Charity Asset Administration.⁹³² They provided 48 ground ambulances and various medical supplies including hearing aids, walkers and wheelchairs with an investment of MXN102 million. This initiative aims to benefit health centers and hospitals in 32 municipalities enhancing medical services for the most vulnerable populations.

On 19 June 2024, the National Rehabilitation Institute of Mexico and the District Institute of Science, Biotechnology and Innovation in Health of Colombia signed an agreement to collaborate on tissue and cell donation and transplantation.⁹³³ They will develop clinical research activities, train healthcare personnel and enhance scientific knowledge in these fields. This partnership aims to improve treatment options and increase the availability and quality of tissues and organs for free transplants.

On 20 June 2024, the Ministry of Health announced a training program for nursing professionals in the comprehensive control of diabetes mellitus.⁹³⁴ The course aims to enhance the skills of nurses in health promotion, prevention, early diagnosis, treatment adherence and palliative care for diabetes patients.

On 26 June 2024, the National Commission on Mental Health and Addictions presented a new fieldwork guide on addressing substance use and abuse among sexually diverse individuals.⁹³⁵ The initiative aims to inform and guide individuals working with vulnerable populations, promoting dignified medical treatment for all.

On 4 July 2024, the National Institute of Pediatrics launched new positron emission tomography and computed axial tomography equipment.⁹³⁶ The equipment, donated by the Gonzalo Río Arronte IAP Foundation, enhances diagnostic precision and reduces radiation exposure. This technology will

⁹³¹ INCan, IMSS e IMSS-Bienestar celebran convenio para atención oportuna y Registro Nacional de Cáncer, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 12 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/228-incan-imss-e-imss-bienestar-celebran-convenio-para-atencion-oportuna-y-registro-nacional-de-cancer?idiom=es>

⁹³² A través de Beneficencia Pública, Secretaría de Salud entrega ambulancias e insumos médicos en Chiapas, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 17 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/238-a-traves-de-beneficencia-publica-secretaria-de-salud-entrega-ambulancias-e-insumos-medicos-en-chiapas?idiom=es>

⁹³³ INR de México e IDCbis de Colombia inician colaboración en donación, trasplante y banco de tejidos y células, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 19 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/242-inr-de-mexico-e-idcbis-de-colombia-inician-colaboracion-en-donacion-trasplante-y-banco-de-tejidos-y-celulas>

⁹³⁴ Secretaría de Salud capacita a profesionales de enfermería en control integral de diabetes mellitus, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 20 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translation. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/243-secretaria-de-salud-capacita-a-profesionales-de-enfermeria-en-control-integral-de-diabetes-mellitus>

⁹³⁵ Nueva guía para trabajo en campo sobre abordaje de consumo de sustancias en personas de la diversidad sexual, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 26 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/248-nueva-guia-para-trabajo-en-campo-sobre-abordaje-de-consumo-de-sustancias-en-personas-de-la-diversidad-sexual?idiom=es>

⁹³⁶ Instituto Nacional de Pediatría pone en marcha equipo de vanguardia para diagnóstico y tratamiento de diversas enfermedades, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 4 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/262-instituto-nacional-de-pediatria-pone-en-marcha-equipo-de-vanguardia-para-diagnostico-y-tratamiento-de-diversas-enfermedades?idiom=es>

facilitate up to 1,700 studies annually, improving the speed and safety of diagnoses for various conditions.

On 5 July 2024, the Public Welfare Asset Administration (APBP) delivered 25 ambulances and 1,132 aids to Baja California Sur.⁹³⁷ The ambulances, including 16 basic and nine advanced units, along with hearing aids and mobility equipment, represent an investment of over MXN51 million. This support aims to enhance emergency care and improve the quality of life for 697 beneficiaries.

On 8 July 2024, APBP delivered 22 ambulances to the Hidalgo government.⁹³⁸ The fleet includes 19 for basic emergencies and three for intensive care, with one designated for mental health and addiction cases. They have also provided hearing aids and mobility devices worth MXN3.4 million to over 1,500 individuals.

On 16 July 2024, APBP delivered 1,552 functional aids to over 1,000 people with disabilities in Puebla.⁹³⁹ This includes glasses, wheelchairs, bathroom chairs and mobility aids, with a total investment of MXN4.5 million.

On 17 July 2024, APBP delivered 31 ambulances and 1,163 functional supports to Quintana Roo. The ambulances, valued at over MXN76 million, enhance the Medical Emergency Regulatory Center for better emergency response.⁹⁴⁰ The functional supports, including hearing aids and wheelchairs, will benefit 753 people with disabilities.

On 25 July 2024, the National Commission for Mental Health and Addictions inaugurated Mexico's Early Warning System for monitoring new psychoactive substances.⁹⁴¹ This system enables rapid identification of threats such as fentanyl and enhances public health response.

On 31 July 2024, the Ministry of Health assured the supply of the hexavalent vaccine which protects against diseases including polio, in response to the risk of reintroduction from other countries.⁹⁴² The ongoing campaign targets achieving 90 per cent annual vaccination coverage to prevent the resurgence of vaccine-preventable diseases.

⁹³⁷ En BCS, Beneficencia Pública entrega 25 ambulancias, apoyos auditivos y de movilidad, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 5 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/264-en-bcs-beneficencia-publica-entrega-25-ambulancias-apoyos-auditivos-y-de-movilidad?idiom=es>

⁹³⁸ Beneficencia Pública federal entrega 22 ambulancias al gobierno de Hidalgo por 43.2 mdp Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 8 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/268-beneficencia-publica-federal-entrega-22-ambulancias-al-gobierno-de-hidalgo-por-43-2-mdp?idiom=es>

⁹³⁹ En Puebla, más de mil personas con discapacidad reciben apoyos gratuitos de Beneficencia Pública federal Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/275-en-puebla-mas-de-mil-personas-con-discapacidad-reciben-apoyos-gratuitos-de-beneficencia-publica-federal?idiom=es>

⁹⁴⁰ En Quintana Roo, Beneficencia Pública federal entrega 31 ambulancias y mil 163 apoyos funcionales, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 17 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/278-en-quintana-roo-beneficencia-publica-federal-entrega-31-ambulancias-y-mil-163-apoyos-funcionales?idiom=es>

⁹⁴¹ México cuenta con Sistema de Alerta Temprana para la vigilancia de nuevas drogas, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 25 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/285-mexico-cuenta-con-sistema-de-alerta-temprana-para-la-vigilancia-de-nuevas-drogas?idiom=es>

⁹⁴² Garantizado, suministro de vacuna hexavalente que protege contra enfermedades como poliomielitis: Secretaría de Salud, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 31 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/292-garantizado-suministro-de-vacuna-hexavalente-que-protege-contra-enfermedades-como-poliomielitis-secretaria-de-salud?idiom=es>

On 1 August 2024, APBP delivered 35 ambulances to the government of Veracruz, including units for transfer, basic emergencies and intensive care.⁹⁴³ The initiative, involving an investment MXN70.4 million, aims to strengthen pre-hospital medical care across the state. Additionally, the delivery of CT and MRI equipment to regional hospitals is underway, further enhancing medical infrastructure.

On 3 August 2024, INCan launched the Robotic Surgery Program to enhance precision and reduce recovery times, offering free surgeries to patients without social security coverage.⁹⁴⁴ The initiative seeks to advance cancer treatment and surgical training, set to perform 150 surgeries by end of the year using this cutting-edge technology.

On 16 September 2024, the Ministry of Health announced that the National HPV Vaccination Program aims to distribute 1,132,634 doses between September 2 and December 18.⁹⁴⁵ This initiative aims to protect the population against cervical cancer.

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. This is demonstrated through domestic measures to enhance access to safe, effective, quality-assured COVID-19 vaccines, free antiretroviral treatment for HIV/AIDS and delivery of medical equipment used for diagnostics. While Mexico has agreed to cooperate with Colombia, which is an LMIC, on tissue and cell donation and transplantation, it has not engaged with LDCs and SIDS to facilitate access to medical countermeasures.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alice Quan

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 13 December 2024, Deputy Prime Minister Tatyana Golikova reaffirmed shared goals on healthcare, disease prevention and the development of medical technology at a meeting of the Russian-Chinese Commission on Humanitarian Cooperation.⁹⁴⁶ Topics that were highlighted included cooperation in the prevention of illness, the exchange of knowledge in medical treatments, the training of medical staff and initiatives on the usage of nuclear treatments for cancer.

⁹⁴³ Beneficencia Pública entrega 35 ambulancias al gobierno de Veracruz, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 1 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/294-beneficencia-publica-entrega-35-ambulancias-al-gobierno-de-veracruz>

⁹⁴⁴ INCan inicia Programa de Cirugía Robótica que mejora la precisión y la recuperación de pacientes, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 3 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/297-incan-inicia-programa-de-cirugia-robotica-que-mejora-la-precision-y-la-recuperacion-de-pacientes>

⁹⁴⁵ 381. Vacunación contra VPH previene cáncer cervicouterino: Secretaría de Salud, Secretaría de Salud (Acapulco) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/381-vacunacion-contra-vph-previene-cancer-cervicouterino-secretaria-de-salud?idiom=es>

⁹⁴⁶ Tatyana Golikova chairs 24th meeting of the Russian-Chinese Commission on Humanitarian Cooperation, The Russian Government (Moscow) 13 December 2023. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/50402/>

On 13 December 2024, Minister of Industry and Trade Denis Manturov and the Nicaraguan special Presidential Representative Laureno Facundo Ortega Murillo discussed the prospects of trade and industrial cooperation with emphasis on joint initiatives in medical technology and pharmaceuticals.⁹⁴⁷

On 15 December 2024, Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin affirmed interest in the modernization of and accessibility of healthcare and the prevention of vaccine shortages.⁹⁴⁸

On 22 December 2023, Minister of Health Mikhail Murashko marked health restoration and rehabilitation as an area of cooperation between Russia and Armenia at the eighth Russian-Armenian forum on Healthcare.⁹⁴⁹

On 25 January 2024, Prime Minister Mishustin discussed the additional grant of RUB2 billion for the construction of a hospital in Kamchatka.⁹⁵⁰ Mishustin discussed that the additional allocation of funds would be spent on diagnostic and treatment infrastructure within the hospital and hoped for the project to offer all essential services for patients.

On 31 January 2024, Minister Murashko signed a Memorandum of Cooperation which proposed increased collaboration between the Russian and Serbian ministries of health within issues of healthcare organization, infectious diseases and specialized healthcare.⁹⁵¹

On 3 February 2024, President Vladimir Putin and Health Minister Mikhail Murashko inaugurated new oncology centres in Tomsk, Ufa and Yakutsk.⁹⁵² These centres contain advanced medical equipment to support access to diagnostics and treatment for oncological diseases.

On 20 February 2024, at a media conference with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yvan Gil, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov stated that talks between Russia and Venezuela included movements for the advancement of cooperation in medicine and pharmaceutical development.⁹⁵³

On 6 March 2024, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov stated that talks with Nigerian Foreign Minister Yusuf Tuggar highlighted an integration of Intergovernmental Commission for Trade, Economic,

⁹⁴⁷ Russia and Nicaragua to develop trade ties and industrial cooperation, The Russian Government (Moscow) 13 December 2023. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/50405/>

⁹⁴⁸ Government meeting, The Russian Government (Moscow) 15 December 2023. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/50415/>

⁹⁴⁹ Гуманитарное сотрудничество между Россией и Арменией продолжает развиваться, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 22 December 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2023/12/22/20662-gumanitarnoe-sotrudnichestvo-mezhdu-rossiey-i-armeniy-prodolzhaet-razvivatsya>

⁹⁵⁰ Government meeting, The Russian Government (Moscow) 25 January 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/50700/>

⁹⁵¹ Глава Минздрава РФ Михаил Мурашко завершил рабочую поездку в Сербию, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 31 January 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/01/31/20811-glava-minzdrava-rf-mihail-murashko-zavershil-rabochuyu-poezdku-v-serbiyu>

⁹⁵² Владимир Путин и Михаил Мурашко открыли новые онкологические центры в регионах России, Министерства здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 3 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/02/03/20839-vladimir-putin-i-mihail-murashko-otkryli-novye-onkologicheskie-tsentry-v-regionah-rossii>

⁹⁵³ Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's remarks and answers to media questions at a joint news conference following talks with Foreign Minister of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela Yvan Gil, Caracas, February 20, 2024, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 20 February 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1933495/

Scientific and Technological Cooperation with a shared focus on the strengthening of healthcare development.⁹⁵⁴

On 18 March 2024, Prime Minister Mishustin stated that the Russian government will provide RUB4.5 billion to obtain medications and continuing research for hepatitis C.⁹⁵⁵ In addition, the government allocated RUB400 million to expand bone marrow transplantation for blood cancers.

On 26 March 2024, Minister Lavrov stated that talks with Namibian Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Peya Mushelenga noted the potential of the public health sector for cooperation.⁹⁵⁶

On 26 March 2024, Minister Murashko met with Zimbabwe's Minister of Health and Child Protection Douglas Mombeshora to discuss cooperation on the topics of medical education, medical products and emergency medical care which would allow for the increased access to healthcare.⁹⁵⁷

On 28 March 2024, Minister Murashko participated in the 10th meeting of the Intergovernmental Russian-Namibian Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation where discussions were held concerning the potential for international cooperation in healthcare for medicines and medical devices.⁹⁵⁸

On 5 April 2024, Prime Minister Mishustin announced the allocation of RUB1.5 billion for the procurement of medical equipment for patient rehabilitation.⁹⁵⁹ This includes increasing the efficiency of drug accessibility for patients, improving primary healthcare systems and renovating medical institutions such as hospital and clinics.

On 10 April 2024, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Evgeny Zagaynov and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Cambodia Heng Sarith co-chaired the 22nd Meeting of the ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee discussing further collaborative efforts in combating infectious diseases.⁹⁶⁰

On 11 April 2024, Prime Minister Mishustin announced that the government of Russia has adopted a plan to execute the Pharmaceutical Industry Strategy which aims to increase the production of

⁹⁵⁴ Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's remarks and answers to media questions at a joint press conference following talks with Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Yusuf Tuggar, Moscow, March 6, 2024, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 6 March 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024.

https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1937162/

⁹⁵⁵ Meeting with deputy prime ministers on current issues, The Russian Government (Moscow) 18 March 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/51125/>

⁹⁵⁶ Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's statement and answers to media questions at a joint news conference following talks with the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of Namibia Peya Mushelenga, Moscow, March 26, 2024, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 6 March 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1941041/

⁹⁵⁷ Михаил Мурашко встретился с Министром здравоохранения и защиты детей Республики Зимбабве Дугласом Момбешорой, медобразования и науки, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 26 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024.

<https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/03/26/21067-mihail-murashko-vstretilsya-s-ministrom-zdravoohraneniya-i-zaschity-detey-respubliki-zimbabve-duglasom-mombeshoroy>

⁹⁵⁸ Михаил Мурашко принял участие в 10-м заседании Межправительственной Российско-Намибийской комиссии по торгово-экономическому сотрудничеству, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 28 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024.

<https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/03/28/21088-mihail-murashko-prinyal-uchastie-v-10-m-zasedanii-mezhpravitelstvennoy-rossiysko-namibiyskoy-komissii-po-torgovo-ekonomicheskomu-sotrudnichestvu>

⁹⁵⁹ Government meeting, The Russian Government (Moscow) 5 April 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/51260/>

⁹⁶⁰ On the 22nd ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 10 April 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024. https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/rso/1943501/

medicine through government incentives and the development of an environment suitable for exports.⁹⁶¹

On 24 May 2024, Deputy Minister of Health Oleg Salagai met with Ambassador of Chad Mahamoud Adam Bechir where both parties confirmed a desire to further strengthen healthcare cooperation to train medical personnel and draft a list of necessary medical products.⁹⁶²

On 4 June 2024, Minister Lavrov announced that healthcare cooperation between Russia and the Republic of the Congo was progressing positively.⁹⁶³ He highlighted that a joint Russian-Congolese laboratory for the detection and prevention of infectious diseases would be established in Congo.

On 10 June 2024, Prime Minister Mishustin announced an allocation of RUB2 billion to increase domestic access to medical therapeutics through the provision of free medicines, products and nutrition to select groups.⁹⁶⁴

On 21 June 2024, Minister Murashko met with Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates Mohammad Ahmad al-Jaber to discuss cooperation on the prevention and treatment of cancer and a potential capacity to treat foreign patients.⁹⁶⁵ This discussion marks an effort to increase access to effective diagnostics and therapeutics.

On 21 June 2024, Minister Murashko and North Korean Minister of Health Chung Moo Rim signed an agreement to cooperate in various fields including healthcare and medical education.⁹⁶⁶ The agreement describes the intent to perform joint research, participate in medical congresses, implement measures for sanitation and disease prevention, train physicians and regulate medicine and medical devices. This agreement demonstrates a move towards the facilitation of more effective medical countermeasures.

On 10 July 2024, Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk highlighted the significant level of healthcare cooperation between Russia and Kyrgyzstan and expressed interest in further enhancing their partnership through future agreements.⁹⁶⁷

⁹⁶¹ Government meeting, The Russian Government (Moscow) 11 April 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2024.

<http://government.ru/en/news/51314/>

⁹⁶² Минздраве России состоялась встреча с чрезвычайным и Полномочным Послом Республики Чад, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 30 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/05/24/21448-v-minzdrave-rossii-sostoyalas-vstrecha-s-chrezvychaynym-i-polnomochnym-poslom-respubliki-chad>

⁹⁶³ Foreign Minister Lavrov's statement and answers to media questions at a joint news conference with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Francophonie and Congolese Abroad of the Republic of the Congo Jean-Claude Gakosso following talks, Oyo, Republic of the Congo, June 4, 2024, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 4 June 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1954483/

⁹⁶⁴ Meeting with deputy prime ministers on current issues, The Russian Government (Moscow) 10 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/51833/>

⁹⁶⁵ Россия и ОАЭ планируют развивать сотрудничество в борьбе с онкозаболеваниями, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 21 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/06/18/21511-rossiya-i-oae-planiruyut-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-v-borbe-s-onkozabolevaniyami>

⁹⁶⁶ Россия и Северная Корея будут развивать сотрудничество в сфере здравоохранения, медобразования и науки, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 19 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/06/19/21512-rossiya-i-severnaya-koreya-budut-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-v-sfere-zdravoohraneniya-medobrazovaniya-i-nauki>

⁹⁶⁷ Alexei Overchuk: Russia is oriented toward raising interregional cooperation with Kyrgyz Republic, The Russian Government (Moscow) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/52084/>

On 18 July 2024, Prime Minister Mishustin affirmed the priority to increase the availability of quality medical care, including increasing of funding towards medical professionals and the implementation of programs for rural healthcare.⁹⁶⁸

On 23 July 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Aleksandr Pankin stated that Russia should boost healthcare funding for the Global South and East, emphasizing the need to address inequalities in the G20 Development Ministerial Meeting.⁹⁶⁹

On 29 July 2024, Deputy Head of the Department for Non-Proliferation and Arms Control of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia Mikhail Kondratenkov stated that a priority for the Russian government is research into the peaceful use of nuclear energy in medicine, underscoring a commitment to advancing quality medical countermeasures.⁹⁷⁰

On 29 July 2024, Russian Deputy Minister of Health Evgeny Kamkin noted the need to enhance healthcare cooperation between Russia and Iraq during a meeting with Iraqi officials.⁹⁷¹

On 13 September 2024, Minister Murashko and Vietnamese Health Minister Dao Hong Lan met to discuss healthcare cooperation.⁹⁷² The Ministers discussed the possibilities for establishing a tissue bank in Vietnam to treat corneal diseases and for medical education and training.

On 1 October 2024, Minister Murashko announced that the opening of 20 new children's hospitals and buildings and the construction of another nine.⁹⁷³ Additionally, "120 perinatal centers have been modernized" to improve the quality of care.

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Domestically, Russia has taken action to facilitate access to quality-assured and effective diagnostics and treatments as well as allocated funds for medications, therapeutics and

⁹⁶⁸ Government meeting, The Russian Government (Moscow) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <http://government.ru/en/news/52148/>

⁹⁶⁹ Statement by Aleksandr Pankin, deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, at the G20 Development Ministerial Meeting on "Fighting Inequalities", Rio de Janeiro, July 23, 2024, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1963326/

⁹⁷⁰ Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the Russian Federation at the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 11th Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Deputy Director of the Department for Non-Proliferation and Arms Control of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr. Mikhail Kondratenkov (Cluster III: Peaceful uses of nuclear energy), Geneva, 29 July, 2024, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1964213/

⁹⁷¹ Россия и Ирак укрепляют сотрудничество в сфере здравоохранения, медобразования и науки, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 29 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/07/29/21623-rossiya-i-irak-ukreplyayut-sotrudnichestvo-v-sfere-zdravoohraneniya>

⁹⁷² Россия продолжает развивать сотрудничество с Вьетнамом в сфере здравоохранения, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/09/13/21746-rossiya-prodolzhaet-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-s-vietnamom-v-sfere-zdravoohraneniya>

⁹⁷³ Михаил Мурашко: Открыто 20 новых детских больниц и корпусов, завершается строительство ещё 9, а модернизация более 120 перинатальных центров и «якорных» акушерских стационаров позволит улучшить качество оказания медицинской помощи, Министерство здравоохранения Российской Федерации (Moscow) 1 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2024/10/01/21792-mihail-murashko-otkryto-20-novyh-detskih-bolnits-i-korpusov-zavershaetsya-stroitelstvo-eschyo-9-a-modernizatsiya-bolee-120-perinatalnyh-tsentrov-i-yakornyh-akusherskih-statsionarov-pozvolit-uluchshit-kachestvo-okazaniya-meditsinskoy-pomoschi>

other medical countermeasures. Internationally, while Russia has reaffirmed its commitment and discussed prospects for collaboration with LMICs, it has not taken any strong actions to facilitate equitable access to medical countermeasures.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ethan Lui

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 20 January 2024, Emir of the Eastern Province Saud bin Nayef bin Abdulaziz and introduced health and development projects in Al-Ahsa Governorate.⁹⁷⁴ Initiatives include “central laboratories and clinics [and] specialized healthcare and oncology centres” to improve access to quality and effective healthcare. This agreement comes as part of the Saudi vision for 2030.

On 20 January 2024, Governor of the Asir Region Turki bin Talal and Minister of Health Fahd bin Abdul Rahman Jalajel witnessed the signing ceremony of the health support agreements funded by Al-Shakreen Endowments.⁹⁷⁵ Projects include specialized centres for oncology and dialysis and a prosthetics-specializing rehabilitation centre aimed at improving the quality of health services to patients in the Asir region and neighboring villages. This agreement is following Saudi Vision 2030 and contributes to the Health Sector Transformation Program goals.

On 15 February 2024, the Ministry of Health announced the launch of a “remote network of EEG services” at Seha Virtual Hospital.⁹⁷⁶ The network will enable individuals with neurological conditions across the Kingdom to access modernized technology for diagnosis and treatment.

On 19 February 2024, the Ministry of Health organized the “Annual Forum of Infection Prevention and Control.”⁹⁷⁷ The forum focused on strengthening Saudi Arabia’s international contribution to protective measures, infection control and healthcare preparedness.

On 27 February 2024, the second two-day Diabetic Foot Conference took place in Riyadh involving 45 panelists to provide insights on the most recent developments in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetic foot. With approximately 1,800 registrations from diverse disciplines of specializations, the conference encourages diabetes research and offers a platform for professionals to exchange ideas.⁹⁷⁸

⁹⁷⁴ Eastern Province Emir Launches Health Projects to Achieve Comprehensive Healthcare, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 20 January 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-01-20-001.aspx>

⁹⁷⁵ Asir Governor and Minister of Health Witness the Signing of Agreements to Support the Health Sector by Al-Shakreen Endowment, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 20 January 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-01-20-002.aspx>

⁹⁷⁶ MOH Launches Remote EEG Network at Seha Virtual Hospital, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 15 February 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-02-15-001.aspx>

⁹⁷⁷ MOH Organizes the Annual Forum of Infection Prevention and Control, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 19 February 2024. Access Date: 30 March 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-02-19-001.aspx>

⁹⁷⁸ MOH Discusses Recent Advances in Diabetic Foot with the Participation of Experts and Specialists, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 2 March 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-02-28-002.aspx>

On 1 March 2024, Minister of Health accompanied by the Tunisian Minister of Health visited the National Center for the Promotion of Organ Transplantation in the Republic of Tunisia.⁹⁷⁹ The purpose of the visit focused on discussing cooperation aspects and gaining primary knowledge of the technologies being utilized to enhance the healthcare sectors in both countries.

On 13 March 2024, Makkah Health Cluster, as a partner of the Saudi Ministry of Health Transformation Strategy, announced its completion of operational plans for all hospitals and affiliated healthcare centers under its jurisdiction for the Ramadan season.⁹⁸⁰ In total, eight hospitals and 43 healthcare centers are sufficiently prepared for the implementation of the plans.

On 20 March 2024, member of the Presidential Leadership Council and governor of Marib Sultan bin Ali Al-Arada launched the Saudi Development and Reconstruction Program for Yemen.⁹⁸¹ The initiative aims to strengthen Yemen's healthcare system by upgrading diagnostic technology and bolstering critical and emergency care services.

On 4 April 2024, the Saudi Cabinet introduced a series of amendments to Resolution 156, the Healthy Marriages Program” for cases of medical incompatibility when genetic diseases are involved.⁹⁸² The amendments aim to serve in the best interest of the public by preventing the rise of genetic diseases and improving treatment for affected populations.

On 29 April 2024, Minister of Health Fahad Al-Jalajel discussed the need for coordinated and proactive measures to address future public health emergencies at the World Economic Forum Special Meeting.⁹⁸³ Minister Al-Jalajel announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Health and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to improve collaboration in disease monitoring diagnostic equipment and enhancing vaccine production to support LMICs.

On 20 May 2024, Vice Minister of Health for Planning and Development Abdulaziz Al-Rumaih presided over the inauguration of the Medical Referral Center.⁹⁸⁴ The national platform is designed to centrally manage medical referrals, treatment requests and patient transfers within and outside of Saudi Arabia. This initiative, aligned with the Ministry of Health's efforts under the Kingdom's Vision 2030, aims to streamline access to healthcare services and improve quality, reducing patient wait-time and enhancing operational transparency.

On 28 May 2024, Minister Al-Jalajel highlighted the urgency of pandemic preparation and international collaboration to address public health challenges at the 77th World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization.⁹⁸⁵

⁹⁷⁹ Minister of Health Visits Tunisia National Center for Promotion of Organ Transplantation, Ministry of Health (Saudi Arabia) 1 March 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-03-01-001.aspx>

⁹⁸⁰ 8 hospitals and 43 Healthcare Centers in Makkah Gear Up for Ramadan, Ministry of Health (Makkah) 13 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 March 2024

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-03-13-001.aspx>

⁹⁸¹ Saudi program boosts healthcare, education in Yemen, Arab News (Riyadh) 20 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2479811/saudi-arabia>

⁹⁸² MOH: To ensure the Well-being of Future Generations, the Saudi Cabinet Introduces Amendments to the “Healthy Marriage Program, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-04-04-001.aspx>

⁹⁸³ Health Minister Participates in Panel Discussion on Future of Global Health, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 29 April 2024. Access Date: 5 July 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-04-29-001.aspx>

⁹⁸⁴ Vice Minister Witnesses Launch of Medical Referral Center Unified Platform (Riyadh) 20 May 2024. Access Date: 14 June 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-05-21-001.aspx>

⁹⁸⁵ Saudi Minister of Health: The Kingdom Stresses Need to Achieve Global Health and Wellbeing, Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 28 May 2024. Access Date: 5 July 2024.

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2024-05-28-001.aspx>

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Saudi Arabia has taken domestic action towards the commitment through health and development projects in the Asir region and in the Eastern Province alongside a remote EEG network. Internationally, Saudi Arabia has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to cooperate on diagnostic equipment and vaccines in LMICs and has launched an initiative to strengthen Yemen's healthcare system.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Fiona (Chenge) Wan

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 11 December 2023, South Africa hosted the three-day BRICS TB Research Network Innovation Summit, where health scientists from BRICS countries discussed scientific research on tuberculosis (TB) vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, drugs and health systems that strengthen the delivery of the aforementioned medical countermeasures.⁹⁸⁶ Experts committed to strengthening collaborative efforts towards eliminating TB by sharing knowledge and experience and transferring technology among member states to address gaps in TB vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.⁹⁸⁷

On 5 February 2024, the Gauteng Department of Health began its HPV vaccination campaign in all special and primary schools in the region.⁹⁸⁸ The initiative is a continuation of the previous vaccination campaign in fall of 2023 which aims to ensure girls are protected against cervical cancer.

On 12 December 2023, Minister of Health Mj Phaahla reaffirmed South Africa's commitment to the adoption of the National Health Insurance by during his speech at the Policy Dialogue on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in South Africa.⁹⁸⁹ The essence of UHC is universal access to a strong and resilient people-centered health system with primary care as its foundation. This initiative aims to address inequitable access to medical services by establishing affordable or free care.

On 22 February 2024, Minister Phaahla along with South Africa's delegation met with the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief to discuss the country's response to the HIV/AIDS

⁹⁸⁶ South Africa to host BRICS TB research Network Innovation Summit, Department of Health (Cape Town) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/South-Africa-to-host-BRICS-TB-Research-Network-Innovative-Summit-09-December-2023.pdf>

⁹⁸⁷ BRICS Health Experts commit to collaborate to end TB, Department of Health (Cape Town) 14 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/BRICS-Health-Experts-commit-to-collaborate-to-end-TB-14-December-2023.pdf>

⁹⁸⁸ Gauteng Health runs HPV vaccination first round campaign in all public primary and special schools, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 18 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.za/news/media-statements/gauteng-health-runs-hpv-vaccination-first-round-campaign-all-public-primary>

⁹⁸⁹ Minister Joe Phaahla: Policy Dialogue On Universal Health Coverage in South Africa, Republic of South Africa (Cape Town) 12 December 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.za/news/speeches/minister-joe-phaahla-policy-dialogue-universal-health-coverage-south-africa-12-dec>

epidemic.⁹⁹⁰ Parties committed to identify new initiatives that contribute towards HIV prevention and treatment challenges and resolve barriers impacting the achievement of “95-95-95” targets.

On February 15, 2024, President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa committed to signing the Health Insurance Bill into law.⁹⁹¹ The bill aims to provide nationwide universal health coverage, especially for historically marginalized groups as a part of South Africa’s former two-tier system.

On 23 March 2024, the Ministry of Health held a TB Symposium to discuss the trajectory of technological advancements for the treatment and management of tuberculosis.⁹⁹² The meeting brought together health professionals, pharmaceutical representatives and the government.

On 9 April 2024, Deputy Minister of Health Sibongiseni Dhlomo and Eastern Cape Member of Executive Council for Health Nomakhosazana Meth announced the launch of contraceptive vending machines in South Africa.⁹⁹³ The vending machines will carry oral contraceptives and HIV prevention tools including self-testing kits to increase accessibility to sexual reproductive health and HIV prevention tools.

On 22 May 2024, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation Blade Nzimande launched the Nuclear Medicine Research Infrastructure to develop cutting-edge diagnostics and treatments for cancer, tuberculosis and other major diseases as well as conduct clinical research.⁹⁹⁴

On 19 June 2024, the Department of Health announces plans to consider adopting Artificial Intelligence (AI) for accelerating the diagnosis of tuberculosis and silicosis.⁹⁹⁵ This initiative, following WHO recommendations will be discussed at a conference from 20-22 June 2024. The focus of the conference is on how AI can help address current diagnostic backlogs and improve disease differentiation.

On 20 June 2024, the Department of Health received a batch of Tecovirimat to help treat individuals with Mpox health complications.⁹⁹⁶

⁹⁹⁰ Governments meets PEPFAR, Stakeholders over SA’s HIV response, Department of Health (Cape Town) 21 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Government-meets-PEPFAR-Stakeholder-over-SAs-HIV-response-21-February-2024.pdf>

⁹⁹¹ South Africa’s Ramaphosa will sign health insurance bill into law, Reuters (Cape Town) 15 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/south-africas-ramaphosa-says-he-will-sign-national-health-insurance-bill-2024-02-15>

⁹⁹² Department holds TB Symposium on new technological developments in the management and treatment of TB patients in SA, Department of Health (Cape Town) 22 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Media-Advisory-Department-holds-TB-Symposium-on-new-technological-developments-in-the-management-and-treatment-of-TB-patients-in-SA.docx>

⁹⁹³ Health Department Hands Over Contraceptives Vending Machine, Department of Health (Cape Town) 9 April 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Health-Department-to-launch-Contraceptives-Vending-Machine-09-April-2024.pdf>

⁹⁹⁴ Minister Blade Nzimande Launches Nuclear Medicine Research Infrastructure, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 22 May 2024. Date Access: 27 June 2024. <https://www.gov.za/news/media-statements/minister-blade-nzimande-launches-nuclear-medicine-research-infrastructure>

⁹⁹⁵ Health Department to consider AI to accelerate TB & Silicosis diagnosis in SA, Department of Health (Pretoria) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Media-Advisory-Health-Department-to-consider-AI-to-accelerate-TB-Silicosis-diagnosis-in-SA.pdf>

⁹⁹⁶ Health welcomes the first batch of Mpox treatment as cases increase, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.za/news/media-statements/health-welcomes-first-batch-mpox-treatment-cases-increase-20-jun-2024>

On 20 June 2024, the Director-General of Health Sandile Buthelezi addressed the conference on “Dust and Infection Free Lungs: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for TB and Silicosis.”⁹⁹⁷ He highlighted the role of Computer Aided Detection in revolutionizing tuberculosis and silicosis diagnostics and discussed the potential of portable X-ray units and Computer Aided Detection solutions for enhancing outreach and early detection. The conference aims to address implementation challenges and develop strategies for effective Computer Aided Detection use in diverse medical settings.

On 17 July 2024, Minister of Health Aaron Motsoaledi presented the 2024-2025 National Health Budget to the National Council of Provinces.⁹⁹⁸ He outlined a budget of ZAR62.2 billion, a 3.5 per cent increase, emphasizing the commitment to advancing National Health Insurance (NHI) and addressing health system inequalities. This initiative aims to implement NHI in phases to ensure equitable access to healthcare.

On 20 July 2024, Deputy Minister Phaahla led the South African delegation to the 25th International AIDS Conference in Munich, Germany.⁹⁹⁹ Organized under the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC), the delegation includes health scientists, HIV activists, policymakers, and representatives from civil society organizations. The group discussed HIV vaccine trials and survey results, with contributions from SANAC members and civil society representatives.

South Africa has partially complied its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. South Africa’s commitment to National Health Insurance as part of UHC demonstrates its efforts to facilitate access to the HPV vaccination for girls nationally. Internationally, South Africa has committed to cooperation with BRICS countries, many of whom are LMICs, to ensure improved vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics for TB. However, South Africa has not taken strong action to engage with LMICS, LDCs and SIDS.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Arushi Chhikara and Alice Quan

Türkiye: +1

Türkiye has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 11 January 2024, the Minister of Health Fahrettin Koca reaffirmed his commitment to continuing to support the collapsed health system in Gaza.¹⁰⁰⁰ He also confirmed that 85 patients had been brought from Gaza to Türkiye as part of the seventh evacuation, to receive medical treatment.

⁹⁹⁷ DUST AND INFECTION FREE LUNGS: HARNESSING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR TB AND SILICOSIS, Department of Health (Pretoria) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/DGs-Speaking-Notes-for-TB-in-the-Mines-Conference-20-22.pdf>

⁹⁹⁸ POLICY DEBATE ON BUDGET VOTE - 18 DR AARON MOTSOALEDI, MINISTER OF HEALTH NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES (NCOP) 17 JULY 2024, 16H00, Department of Health (Pretoria) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/NCOP-Health-Budget-Speech-17-July-2024.pdf>

⁹⁹⁹ Deputy Minister Phaahla leads SA delegation to AIDS Conference in Germany, Department of Health (Pretoria) 20 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://www.health.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Deputy-Minister-Phaahla-leads-SA-delegation-to-AIDS-Conference-in-Germany-.pdf>

¹⁰⁰⁰ Sağlık Sistemi Çöken Gazze İçin Gayretimiz Devam Edecek, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) 11 January 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/TR-101721/saglik-sistemi-coken-gazze-icin-gayretimiz-devam-edecek.html>

On 18 January 2024, Minister of Health and Egypt's Minister of Health Khaled Abdel Ghaffar held a meeting to discuss facilitating the shipment of medication and medical devices, orthotics and prosthesis for people in Gaza.¹⁰⁰¹

On 19 January 2024, representatives of the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency and International Health Services Inc. held a meeting with representatives from the Health Ministry of Kuwait and Investment Fund of Kuwait to discuss international initiatives facilitating medical devices and supplies and medication.¹⁰⁰²

On 5 February 2024, the Ministry of Health led the mobilization of healthcare workers and resources across Türkiye to support the provinces affected by earthquakes.¹⁰⁰³ As a part of the initiative, warehouses in the region were established to supply medical supplies, devices and medications. The Ministry of Health also began an emergency vaccination campaign, providing tetanus, mumps, measles, rubella, rabies, Hepatitis-B and infant/child vaccines.

On 9 February 2024 Minister of Health shared the newly drafted article on improvements in the healthcare field.¹⁰⁰⁴ The article contains regulations on drug and medical device research and developments to licensing and facilitation of drugs.

On 14 March 2024, President Erdoğan pledged to continue developing the infrastructure and public in local government focusing on increasing the number of hospitals and health facilities to bring a hospital to every major city.¹⁰⁰⁵ President Erdoğan also highlighted that healthcare workers are the future of the country with implementing more benefits for medical students to encourage accessible and quality care within the next four years.

On 27 March 2024, the Turkish Embassy in partnership with the Turkish aid agency donated medical and laboratory equipment to South Sudanese medical students.¹⁰⁰⁶ The donation aims to strengthen the medical and education sector, thus enabling students to carry out practical work in the field.

On 18 April 2024, the Minister of Health and the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides participated in the EU-Türkiye High Level Dialogue on Health in Ankara.¹⁰⁰⁷ The meeting discussed common interests and priorities in interregional threats to health, mental health challenges, and cancer prevention and medical treatment.

¹⁰⁰¹ Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://disab.saglik.gov.tr/Eklenti/47495/0/129--disabgm-bulten-subat-2024-enpdf.pdf>

¹⁰⁰² Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://disab.saglik.gov.tr/Eklenti/47495/0/129--disabgm-bulten-subat-2024-enpdf.pdf>

¹⁰⁰³ Türkiye'nin Sağlık Ordusu Deprem Bölgesi İçin Seferber Oldu, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) 5 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/TR-102173/turkiyenin-saglik-ordusu-deprem-bolgesi-icin-seferber-oldu.html>

¹⁰⁰⁴ Sağlıkta Yeni Düzenlemeler İçeren Teklif Komisyondan Geçti, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) 9 February 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 March 2024. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/TR-102277/saglikta-yeni-duzenlemeler-iceren-teklif-komisyondan-gecti.html>

¹⁰⁰⁵ Cumhurbaşkanı Erdoğan, 14 Mart Tıp Bayramı kapsamında Sağlık çalışanlarıyla iftar programında bir araya geldi, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) 14 March 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 March 2024. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/TR-102982/cumhurbaskani-erdogan-14-mart-tip-bayrami-kapsaminda-saglik-calisanlariyla-iftar-programinda-bir-araya-geldi.html>

¹⁰⁰⁶ Türkiye donates medical equipment to South Sudanese students, Anadolu Ajansı (Ankara) 27 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/turkiye-donates-medical-equipment-to-south-sudanese-students/3176863>

¹⁰⁰⁷ Commissioner Kyriakides in Türkiye to participate in the EU-Türkiye High Level Dialogue on Health, Delegation of the European Union to Türkiye (Ankara) 18 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/t%C3%BCrkiye/commissioner-kyriakides-t%C3%BCrkiye-participate-eu-t%C3%BCrkiye-high-level-dialogue-health_en?s=230

On 17 May 2024, Minister Koca met with the Nigerian Minister of Health Tunji Alausa to reiterate Türkiye's commitment to collaborate on medical practices and treatments against cancer.¹⁰⁰⁸

On 25 May 2024, Minister Koca announced the publication of a Presidential Decree to build the capacity to produce medicine and medical technologies as a part of Türkiye's integrated health system approach.¹⁰⁰⁹

On 17 July 2024, the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) announced that it had supplied medical equipment to the Deynile Hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia.¹⁰¹⁰ The equipment provided includes patient monitors, ventilators, defibrillators and other medical equipment. This initiative aims to improve access to emergency health services in the country.

On 18 July 2024, TİKA announced that it had provided surgical and emergency response equipment, as well as medical drugs to the Mokowe Hospital in Kenya.¹⁰¹¹ This support aims to enhance the hospital's orthopedic care and improve medical services for Kenyan patients.

On 23 July 2024, TİKA announced that it had arranged the dispatch of a volunteer medical team to Burundi as part of an oral and dental health initiative launched in cooperation with the Association of the Friends of Africa.¹⁰¹² The initiative provided 900 free dental treatments in Gitega and Bujumbura.

On 30 July 2024, TİKA announced that it had supported the dispatch of a 41-member medical team from Türkiye to Niger.¹⁰¹³ The initiative provided a total of 2,941 outpatient services in various medical areas such as internal medicine, gynecology and dentistry. This project helped facilitate Nigerians' access to quality health services.

On 30 July 2024, TİKA announced that it had renovated and reopened facilities at the Wassila Bourguiba Obstetrics and Gynecology Hospital in Tunisia.¹⁰¹⁴ The project aims to upgrade the hospital's medical equipment and patient care capacity. As the hospital is Tunisia's first and largest maternity hospital, this initiative will facilitate Tunisian women and children's access to healthcare services.

Türkiye has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. It has taken steps to facilitate medical supplies and products domestically and in Gaza, began a vaccination campaign amid natural disasters and improved upon existing

¹⁰⁰⁸ Afrika Ülkeleri Kanserle Mücadele Farkındalığının Artırılması ve Destek Programı, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) 17 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 July 2024.

¹⁰⁰⁹ Bakan Koca Duyurdu: Sağlık Vadisi Kararı Resmî Gazete'de, T.C. Sağlık Bakanlığı (Ankara) 25 May 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 July 2024. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/TR-104026/bakan-koca-duyurdu-saglik-vadisi-karari-resmi-gazetede.html>

¹⁰¹⁰ Medical Equipment Support from TİKA to a Hospital in Somalia, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (Ankara) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 3 August 2024. <https://tika.gov.tr/en/medical-equipment-support-from-tika-to-a-hospital-in-somalia/>

¹⁰¹¹ Surgical Equipment Support from TİKA to a Hospital in Kenya, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (Ankara) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://tika.gov.tr/en/surgical-equipment-support-from-tika-to-a-hospital-in-kenya/>

¹⁰¹² Turkish Doctors Continue to Heal in Africa, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (Ankara) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://tika.gov.tr/en/turkish-doctors-continue-to-heal-in-africa/>

¹⁰¹³ Turkish Doctors Provide Medical Aid in Niger, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (Ankara) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://tika.gov.tr/en/turkish-doctors-provide-medical-aid-in-niger/>

¹⁰¹⁴ TİKA Renovated the Patient Care Ward of the Gynecology and Obstetrics Hospital in Tunisia, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (Ankara) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://tika.gov.tr/en/tika-renovated-the-patient-care-ward-of-the-gynecology-and-obstetrics-hospital-in-tunisia/>

regulations to ensure equitable and safe access to medical countermeasures. Türkiye has also engaged with LDCs through its aid for South Sudan.

Thus, Türkiye receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lillian Toe

United Kingdom: +1

United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 5 February 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced GBP100 million in funding to support medical care for 3 million vulnerable individuals in Ethiopia.¹⁰¹⁵ Funding will enable access to “family planning support, medicines, and childhood vaccinations.”

On 7 February 2024, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation issued a statement for the spring 2024 COVID-19 vaccination programme.¹⁰¹⁶ The initiative targets at-risk populations, outlines vaccine products available based on age-group and includes future considerations for vaccination programmes.

On 14 February 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care announced GBP10 million for eight technological companies to develop and increase access to medical devices for cancer, Alzheimer’s and stroke.¹⁰¹⁷ This includes a device by HistoSonics which aims to destroy liver cancer tumours with ultrasonic waves instead of the traditional, albeit-less safe, radiotherapy.

On 4 March 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced GBP1.5 million in funding for the International Planned Parenthood Federation.¹⁰¹⁸ Funding will enable vulnerable girls and women in Ukraine to access “vital sexual and reproductive healthcare, including mobile clinics and access to safe abortion care.”

On 13 March 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced that 150 tonnes of aid from the UK will enter Gaza.¹⁰¹⁹ In addition, a full field hospital was expected to arrive in Gaza

¹⁰¹⁵ UK announces £100 million of new aid for over 3 million vulnerable people in Ethiopia as humanitarian crisis deepens, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 February 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-100-million-of-new-aid-for-over-three-million-vulnerable-people-in-ethiopia-as-humanitarian-crisis-deepens>

¹⁰¹⁶ JCVI statement on COVID-19 vaccination in spring 2024 and considerations on future COVID-19 vaccination, 4 December 2023, Department of Health & Social Care (London) 7 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-spring-2024-and-future-vaccination-programmes-jcvi-advice-4-december-2023/jcvi-statement-on-covid-19-vaccination-in-spring-2024-and-considerations-on-future-covid-19-vaccination-4-december-2023>

¹⁰¹⁷ Funding for game-changing tech which could destroy cancers and predict disease, Department of Health and Social Care and Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 14 February 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-for-game-changing-tech-which-could-destroy-cancers-and-predict-disease>

¹⁰¹⁸ UK supports most vulnerable women and girls in Ukraine, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, and Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon (London) 4 March 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-supports-most-vulnerable-women-and-girls-in-ukraine>

¹⁰¹⁹ Major humanitarian push as 150 tonnes of UK aid enter Gaza, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 13 March 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-humanitarian-push-as-150-tonnes-of-uk-aid-enters-gaza>

within the week to provide medical care including pharmaceuticals and maternity care to upwards of 100 patients daily.

On 13 March 2024, the UK Health Security Agency announced a collaboration with The Pirbright Institute involving new research to develop vaccines against henipaviruses.¹⁰²⁰ The initiative aims to protect populations from the global health threat and accelerate the development of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics to strengthen future epidemic preparedness.

On 18 March 2024, Minister for Development Andrew Mitchell announced at the UK-Africa Health Summit 2024 that the government will increase global health research funding, which informs the facilitation of malaria vaccines to 20 African countries.¹⁰²¹ The initiative aims to immunize over 6 million children in Africa by 2025. This emphasises the United Kingdom's promotion of equitable access to health in its engagement abroad, showcasing its commitment to international cooperation on the subject.

On 21 March 2024, the National Institute for Health and Care Research invested GBP17.9 million to support the Advanced Therapy Treatment Centre.¹⁰²² The investment reaffirms the UK's role as world leader in clinical research and advanced therapies.

On 25 March 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care launched plans to expand water fluoridation scheme to reach 1.6 million more residents in the northeast of England to tackle tooth decay.¹⁰²³ The initiative aims to reduce tooth decay and improve overall dental health and equity.

On 28 March 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care announced plans to improve patient experience by streamlining processes within dental and pharmacy environments.¹⁰²⁴ Under the new plan, dental therapists and hygienists and pharmacy technicians will be given greater power to administer and supply certain medications. The initiative aims to provide more accessible primary care services.

On 4 April 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved combined antibiotic cefepime/enmetazobactam (Exblifep 2 g/0.5 g powder for concentrate for solution for infusion) to treat adults with urinary tract infections and pneumonia.¹⁰²⁵

¹⁰²⁰ New research to develop vaccines against deadly henipaviruses, UK Health Security Agency (London) 13 March 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-research-to-develop-vaccines-against-deadly-henipaviruses>.

¹⁰²¹ UK-Africa Health Summit 2024: Minister Andrew Mitchell's speech, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 March 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/uk-africa-health-summit-2024-minister-andrew-mitchells-speech>

¹⁰²² UK advanced therapies to get £17.9 million boost, European Pharmaceutical Review (Kent) 21 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.europeanpharmaceuticalreview.com/news/221329/uk-advanced-therapies-to-get-17-9-million-boost/>

¹⁰²³ Plans to expand water fluoridation in north east, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 25 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-expand-water-fluoridation-in-north-east>

¹⁰²⁴ New powers for dental and pharmacy staff to free up appointments, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 28 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-powers-for-dental-and-pharmacy-staff-to-free-up-appointments>

¹⁰²⁵ Combined antibiotic approved to treat adult patients with severe infections of the urinary tract and hospital-acquired pneumonia, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/combined-antibiotic-approved-to-treat-adult-patients-with-severe-infections-of-the-urinary-tract-and-hospital-acquired-pneumonia>

On 5 April 2024, the government donated GBP2 million worth of medical equipment including oxygen concentrators, suction and volumetric pumps, patient monitors, heated humidifiers and ventilators to Ukraine.¹⁰²⁶

On 9 April 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care approved Fosdenopterin (Nulibry) to treat the genetic disease Molybdenum Cofactor Deficiency Type A in adult patients.¹⁰²⁷

On 11 April 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care announced the opening of 160 more Community diagnostic centre sites across England for patients to receive checks, tests and scans.¹⁰²⁸ The government rollout aims to reduce diagnostic testing backlogs in hospitals, alleviate the burden on the healthcare system and ensure patients receive timely care.

On 3 May 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved new formulations of the pre-exposure prophylaxis medication cabotegravir to prevent HIV-1 infection in adolescents and adults.¹⁰²⁹

On 8 May 2024, the government announced a new five-year countrywide action plan to tackle antimicrobial resistance (AMR).¹⁰³⁰ The plan includes reducing the need for antimicrobials, optimizing antimicrobial use, investing in research to develop vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics and supporting LMICs to respond to AMR.

On 16 May 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency announced the establishment of a team with GBP1.8 million in funding to support international efforts at tackling AMR.¹⁰³¹ The team aims to facilitate the research and advancement of medical products and diagnostics and develop an AMR community among LMICs.

On 16 May 2024, the government announced GBP85 million in funding to address AMR.¹⁰³² Of this, GBP50 million is allocated towards supporting African countries access antimicrobial drugs and GBP25 million towards identifying and bolstering surveillance of disease outbreaks in the Caribbean.

¹⁰²⁶ UK donates £2 million lifesaving healthcare package to Ukraine, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-donates-2-million-lifesaving-healthcare-package-to-ukraine>

¹⁰²⁷ Fosdenopterin approved to treat adult patients with molybdenum cofactor deficiency (MoCD) Type A, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fosdenopterin-approved-to-treat-adult-patients-with-molybdenum-cofactor-deficiency-mocd-type-a>

¹⁰²⁸ Diagnostic checks rolled out to 160 sites under CDC programme, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/diagnostic-checks-rolled-out-to-160-sites-under-cdc-programme>

¹⁰²⁹ New cabotegravir formulations approved to help prevent HIV-1 infection in adults and adolescents, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-cabotegravir-formulations-approved-to-help-prevent-hiv-1-infection-in-adults-and-adolescents>

¹⁰³⁰ New 5-year plan to combat antimicrobial resistance, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-five-year-plan-to-combat-antimicrobial-resistance>

¹⁰³¹ MHRA announces dedicated new team to support the international community in tackling antimicrobial resistance, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-announces-dedicated-new-team-to-support-the-international-community-in-tackling-antimicrobial-resistance>

¹⁰³² £85 million pledged to tackle antibiotic emergency, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/85-million-pledged-to-tackle-antibiotic-emergency>

On 20 May 2024, the Vaccine Development and Evaluation Centre developed a tool to screen against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.¹⁰³³ The tool aims to reduce antimicrobial resistance and improve tuberculosis treatment for patients.

On 21 May 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency announced a four-week consultation to improve the safety and efficacy of in-vitro diagnostic devices.¹⁰³⁴

On 21 May 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency announced a regulatory framework to recognize medical devices in Great Britain from Australia, Canada, the European Union and the United States.¹⁰³⁵ The framework aims to promote safe and equitable access to quality medical devices.

On 23 May 2024, the Vaccine Development and Evaluation Centre announced the development of an immunoassay for Mpox.¹⁰³⁶ The initiative aims to better understand Mpox transmission, infection and individual immune responses.

On 23 May 2024, the Vaccine Development and Evaluation Centre announced their support for the development of a maternal vaccine for Group B *Streptococcus*.¹⁰³⁷ The vaccine aims to prevent infant mortality, reduce antibiotic use in childbirth and protect infants from disease onset.

On 28 May 2024, the National Health Agency announced a change in the prenatal pertussis vaccine to ADACEL® (Tdap).¹⁰³⁸ The initiative aims to ensure pregnant women are adequately protected from infection.

On 12 July 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved a new Ocrelizumab injection to be used in the treatment of multiple sclerosis in adults.¹⁰³⁹

On 17 July 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care alongside the Minister of Prevention and Health Andrew Gwynne announced that a national respiratory syncytial virus vaccination program would be launched in September.¹⁰⁴⁰ This initiative aims to protect both infants and the elderly and reduce the burden on the National Health Service.

¹⁰³³ VDEC develops a tool to reduce antimicrobial resistance to tuberculosis, UK Health Security Agency (London) 20 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/vdec-develops-a-tool-to-reduce-antimicrobial-resistance-to-tuberculosis>

¹⁰³⁴ MHRA announces consultation on improved safety for high risk in vitro diagnostic devices, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 21 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-announces-consultation-on-improved-safety-for-high-risk-in-vitro-diagnostic-devices>

¹⁰³⁵ MHRA announces a proposed framework for international recognition of medical devices, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 21 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-announces-a-proposed-framework-for-international-recognition-of-medical-devices>

¹⁰³⁶ VDEC rapidly develops an immunoassay for Mpox during the 2022 global outbreak, UK Health Security Agency (London) 23 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/vdec-rapidly-develops-an-immunoassay-for-mpox-during-the-2022-global-outbreak>

¹⁰³⁷ VDEC is supporting a GBS vaccine to prevent newborn deaths, UK Health Security Agency (London) 23 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/vdec-is-supporting-a-gbs-vaccine-to-prevent-newborn-deaths>

¹⁰³⁸ Prenatal pertussis vaccine change from July 2024 letter, UK Health Security Agency (London) 28 May 2024. Access Date: 8 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prenatal-pertussis-vaccine-change-from-july-2024-letter>

¹⁰³⁹ Ocrelizumab approved as an injection to treat multiple sclerosis in adults, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ocrelizumab-approved-as-an-injection-to-treat-multiple-sclerosis-in-adults>

¹⁰⁴⁰ National RSV vaccination programme announced, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-rsv-vaccination-programme-announced>

On 17 July 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved Capivasertib for the treatment of patients with advanced breast cancer who have not responded to other anti-hormonal therapies.¹⁰⁴¹

On 17 July 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved Vibegron to be used in the treatment of patients with Overactive Bladder Syndrome.¹⁰⁴²

On 19 July 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved the first generic raltegravir medicines for treating both adult and paediatric HIV patients.¹⁰⁴³ This approval aims to expand access to effective medical countermeasures for HIV.

On 23 July 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved a weight-loss drug, Semaglutide, to serve as a preventative medicine and help reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease in overweight adults.¹⁰⁴⁴

On 24 July 2024, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved a new COVID-19 vaccine, Comirnaty, targeting the JN.1 COVID-19 subvariant.¹⁰⁴⁵

On 1 August 2024, the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care of the United Kingdom Wes Streeting jointly announced that the government would hire over 1000 general practitioners.¹⁰⁴⁶ This initiative aims to deliver more appointments, reduce wait times and increase overall access to medical services.

On 1 August 2024, the National Health Service announced that Zanubrutinib, a new medicine, would be made available as an additional treatment option for patients with blood cancer.¹⁰⁴⁷

On 20 September 2024, MHRA approved fruquintinib to treat metastatic colorectal cancer in adults.¹⁰⁴⁸

¹⁰⁴¹ Capivasertib approved to treat patients with advanced breast cancer, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/capivasertib-approved-to-treat-patients-with-advanced-breast-cancer>

¹⁰⁴² MHRA approves vibegron to treat adult patients with Overactive Bladder Syndrome (OAB), Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-vibegron-to-treat-adult-patients-with-overactive-bladder-syndrome-oab>

¹⁰⁴³ MHRA approves the first generic raltegravir medicines to treat adult and paediatric patients infected by HIV, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-the-first-generic-raltegravir-medicines-to-treat-adult-and-paediatric-patients-infected-by-hiv>

¹⁰⁴⁴ MHRA approves GLP –1 receptor agonist semaglutide to reduce risk of serious heart problems in obese or overweight adults, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-glp-1-receptor-agonist-semaglutide-to-reduce-risk-of-serious-heart-problems-in-obese-or-overweight-adults>

¹⁰⁴⁵ MHRA approves Comirnaty JN.1 COVID-19 vaccine for adults and children from infancy, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 27 July 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-comirnaty-jn1-covid-19-vaccine-for-adults-and-children-from-infancy>

¹⁰⁴⁶ Over 1,000 more GPs to be recruited this year, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-1000-more-gps-to-be-recruited-this-year>

¹⁰⁴⁷ First targeted treatment made available for hundreds of blood cancer patients on the NHS, National Health Service (London) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 2 August 2024. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2024/08/first-targeted-treatment-made-available-for-hundreds-of-blood-cancer-patients-on-the-nhs/>

¹⁰⁴⁸ Fruquintinib approved to treat adult patients with metastatic colorectal cancer, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fruquintinib-approved-to-treat-adult-patients-with-metastatic-colorectal-cancer>

On 27 September 2024, MHRA approved leniolisib phosphate to treat phosphoinositide 3-kinase delta syndrome which is a rare inherited disorder that prevents the body from fighting infections.¹⁰⁴⁹ The medication will be available to individuals over 12 years of age who weigh 45 kilograms or more.

On 16 September 2024, the UK Health Security Agency announced the purchase of over 150,000 doses of mpox vaccine to vaccinate high-risk individuals including gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men, some healthcare workers and those in close contact with individuals who have mpox.¹⁰⁵⁰

United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. Domestically, the UK has launched a COVID-19 vaccination programme and research for henipaviruses to facilitate access to effective vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics. Internationally, the UK has committed to funding to vaccinate children in Africa and provide medical countermeasures including medications and vaccines to Ethiopia which is a LDC and Ukraine and Palestine which are LMICs.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Arushi Chhikara and Zainab Ibraheem

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 11 December 2023, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population launched a Global Health Security Program.¹⁰⁵¹ The program will enhance the Government of Nepal's ability to prevent and detect infectious diseases. As one of 50 planned programs around the world, this initiative will help detect infectious diseases early and support the response to them before becoming a widespread pandemic.

On 5 February 2024, the U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) opened the CDC East Asia and Pacific regional office in Tokyo, Japan.¹⁰⁵² This new regional office is tasked to prevent, detect and respond to diseases in the East Asia and Pacific region. The office aims to increase collaboration in the region to detect and respond to health threats quickly, especially in countries with lower health capabilities.

¹⁰⁴⁹ MHRA approves first medicine for rare immune disease APDS, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-first-medicine-for-rare-immune-disease-apds>

¹⁰⁵⁰ UK secures more vaccines to help boost resilience against mpox, UK Health Security Agency (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-secures-more-vaccines-to-help-boost-resilience-against-mpox>

¹⁰⁵¹ USAID and the Government of Nepal Launches Global Health Security Program, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 11 December 2023. Access Date: 11 March 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-11-2023-usaid-and-government-nepal-launches-global-health-security-program>

¹⁰⁵² CDC Opens New East Asia and Pacific Regional Office in Japan, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Tokyo) 5 February 2024. Access Date: 11 March 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/p0202-cdc-japan-office.html>

On 23 February 2024, the Department of State announced a USD20 million youth initiative under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program.¹⁰⁵³ This new initiative is aimed at spreading awareness of HIV/AIDS amongst youth and promoting the innovation of prevention and treatments for this health threat. The PEPFAR program is a global effort funded by the US in PEPFAR supported countries including LMICs.

On 26 February 2024, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced USD36.9 million of funding for programs supporting behavioral health services.¹⁰⁵⁴ This funding will address the overdose and mental health crises by providing more funding for resources for first responders and community outreach programs. The initiative will help promote mental health and support better coverage of critical health services, particularly for rural areas.

On 29 February 2024, USAID alongside the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development committed to improve global health security.¹⁰⁵⁵ Their initiative includes more funding and research to combat neglected tropical diseases, the Pandemic Fund and increased manufacturing of medical countermeasures. This aims to support developing countries with underfunded health sectors and increasing access for people to vaccines and treatments.

On 4 March 2024, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services received counteroffers from drug companies during negotiations to lower prescription drug costs for Americans.¹⁰⁵⁶ This initiative is part of the Inflation Reduction Act that is lowering health care costs already for low or modest income people. The policy aims to support people in rural areas too, allowing people to save on medication such as insulin, vaccines and other prescription drugs.

On 6 March 2024, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services dedicated nearly USD50 million for opioid treatments and recovery services in rural communities.¹⁰⁵⁷ Especially since accessing treatment is harder in rural communities, this initiative will increase access to substance use disorder treatment and support recovery services.

On 4 March 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services received counteroffers from drug companies during negotiations to lower prescription drug costs for Americans.¹⁰⁵⁸ This initiative is part of the Inflation Reduction Act that is lowering health care costs already for low or modest income people.

¹⁰⁵³ New PEPFAR Youth Initiative: \$20 Million to Address HIV/AIDS Among Youth, U.S Department of State (Washington) 23 February 2024. Access Date: 23 June 2024 <https://www.state.gov/new-pepfar-youth-initiative-20-million-to-address-hiv-aids-among-youth/>

¹⁰⁵⁴ Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Funding to Increase Capacity for Behavioral Health Services, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 26 February 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/02/26/biden-harris-administration-announces-new-funding-to-increase-capacity-for-behavioral-health-services.html>

¹⁰⁵⁵ USAID and Germany's Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Convene Strategic Development Dialogue, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 29 February 2024. Access Date: 11 March 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/feb-29-2024-usaid-and-germanys-ministry-economic-cooperation-and-development-convene-strategic-development-dialogue>

¹⁰⁵⁶ Biden-Harris Administration Receives Counteroffers from Drug Companies as Part of Ongoing Negotiations to Lower Drug Prices, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 4 March 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/04/biden-harris-administration-receives-counteroffers-from-drug-companies.html>

¹⁰⁵⁷ Biden-Harris Administration Announces Launch of Nearly \$50 Million Initiative to Support Opioid Treatment and Recovery Services in Rural Communities, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 6 March 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/06/biden-harris-administration-announces-launch-nearly-50-million-initiative-support-opioid-treatment-recovery-services-rural-communities.html>

¹⁰⁵⁸ Biden-Harris Administration Receives Counteroffers from Drug Companies as Part of Ongoing Negotiations to Lower Drug Prices, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 4 March 2024. Access Date: 13 March 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/04/biden-harris-administration-receives-counteroffers-from-drug-companies.html>

income people. The policy aims to allow people to save on medication such as insulin, vaccines and other prescription drugs.

On 6 March 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services dedicated nearly USD50 million for opioid treatments and recovery services in rural communities.¹⁰⁵⁹ Especially since accessing treatment is harder in rural communities, this initiative will increase access to substance use disorder treatment and support recovery services.

On 22 March 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced a grant of USD39.4 million to support mental health and substance abuse services across the country.¹⁰⁶⁰ Of the grant funding, USD6 million will be used to connect community-based resources to individuals with mental health and substance use disorders, USD6 million to integrating primary healthcare providers with behavioural health professionals, USD15.2 million towards outpatient treatment programs, USD5.2 million towards accessing mental health treatment through primary care avenues, USD4.6 million to preventing underage drinking through capacity-building and USD2.4 million towards enhancing mental health services and suicide prevention programs for at-risk college students.

On 26 March 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced 41 prescription medications under Medicare Part B will be lowered due to inflation rebates from the lower cost prescription drug law under the Biden-Harris Administration.¹⁰⁶¹ Based on individual insurance coverage, savings are between USD1 and USD3,575 per dose. The initiative aims to improve accessibility to prescription drugs and ensure the Medicare program's long-term sustainability.

On 28 March 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced additional actions to extend temporary coverage to people during Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance renewals.¹⁰⁶² This step ensures people are adequately covered to receive medication, treatment and other medical countermeasures.

On 2 April 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services released a white paper highlighting steps the government has taken to address drug shortages.¹⁰⁶³ The Department also presented a series of solutions to enhance supply chain resiliency and quality control strategies, while partnering with other government agencies to prevent shortages.

¹⁰⁵⁹ Biden-Harris Administration Announces Launch of Nearly \$50 Million Initiative to Support Opioid Treatment and Recovery Services in Rural Communities, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 6 March 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/06/biden-harris-administration-announces-launch-nearly-50-million-initiative-support-opioid-treatment-recovery-services-rural-communities.html>

¹⁰⁶⁰ Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$39.4 Million in Funding Opportunities for Grants to Help Advance the President's Unity Agenda, Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 22 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/22/biden-harris-administration-announces-39-4-million-funding-opportunities-grants-help-advance-presidents-unity-agenda.html>

¹⁰⁶¹ HHS Announces Savings for 41 Prescription Drugs Thanks to Inflation Rebates from the Biden-Harris Administration's Lower Cost Prescription Drug Law, Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 26 March 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/26/hhs-announces-savings-41-prescription-drugs-thanks-inflation-rebates-from-biden-harris-administrations-lower-cost-prescription-drug-law.html>

¹⁰⁶² HHS Takes Additional Actions to Help People Stay Covered During Medicaid and CHIP Renewals, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2024. Access date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/03/28/hhs-takes-additional-actions-to-help-people-stay-covered-during-medicaid-and-chip-renewals.html>

¹⁰⁶³ HHS Releases White Paper Focused on Preventing Drug Shortages, Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 2 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/04/02/hhs-releases-white-paper-focused-preventing-drug-shortages.html>

On 4 April 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services finalized policies to increase access to care and protect enrollees with Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D.¹⁰⁶⁴ The rules aim to ensure people with Medicare receive essential treatment in a timely manner and have access to more affordable and equally effective drug options.

On 11 April 2024, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced a data modernization initiative.¹⁰⁶⁵ This new initiative will simplify the data sharing process between US organizations and departments to quickly identify threats to both US and global health which allow for faster responses. These new improvements will allow authorities to see problematic trends such as new illnesses or diseases and quickly make decisions to resolve the issue.

On 16 April 2024, the White House released details of the new Global Health Security Strategy outlining health as a top priority for the US and committing to strengthen health partnerships with foreign countries.¹⁰⁶⁶ Some initiatives include improving pandemic readiness to generally pushing for more development or innovation to improve health. By highlighting the importance of health, it can create new medical countermeasures to address pressing illnesses and diseases.

On 24 April 2024, USAID announced its CATALYST study will expand to include HIV prevention options dedicated to African countries.¹⁰⁶⁷ With funding from other programs such as PEPFAR, this aid provides HIV prevention methods and technologies to women and girls in Africa who are disproportionately affected by this virus.

On 25 April 2024, USAID announced new partnerships between the US and Angola to prevent and treat malaria.¹⁰⁶⁸ The President's Malaria Initiative will be expanded to cover Angola providing financial and technical assistance to combat this health threat.

On 10 May 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced new actions and initiatives to prevent and reduce the impact of the H5N1 bird flu upon its detection in dairy cattle.¹⁰⁶⁹ The department has provided financial support to producers supplying personal protective equipment to help prevent the spread of H5N1 between humans and animals. Other government agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control have pledged additional USD101 million dedicated to testing, preventing and finding treatments for the H5N1 virus.

¹⁰⁶⁴ Biden-Harris Administration Finalizes Rule Expanding Access to Care and Increasing Protections for People with Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D, Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 4 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/04/04/biden-harris-administration-finalizes-rule-expanding-access-care-increasing-protections-people-medicare-advantage-medicare-part-d.html>

¹⁰⁶⁵ CDC Data Modernization Efforts Accelerate Nation's Ability to Detect and Rapidly Respond to Health Threats, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta) 11 April 2024 Access Date: 28 April 2024 <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/p0411-CDC-data-modernization.html>

¹⁰⁶⁶ FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Releases Strategy to Strengthen Global Health Security, The White House (Washington) 16 April 2024 Access Date: 28 April 2024 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/04/16/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-releases-strategy-to-strengthen-global-health-security/>

¹⁰⁶⁷ USAID's CATALYST Study Expands HIV Prevention Options for Women and Girls in Africa, U.S Agency for International Development (Washington) 24 April 2024. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/apr-24-2024-usaids-catalyst-study-expands-hiv-prevention-options-women-and-girls-africa>

¹⁰⁶⁸ USAID Launches New Partnerships to Support Malaria Prevention, Strengthen Infrastructure, and Bolster Food Security in Angola, U.S Agency for International Development (Washington) 25 April 2024. Access Date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/apr-25-2024-usaid-launches-new-partnerships-support-malaria-prevention-strengthen-infrastructure-and-bolster-food-security-angola>

¹⁰⁶⁹ Fact Sheet: USDA, HHS Announce New Actions to Reduce Impact and Spread of H5N1, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 10 May 2024. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/05/10/fact-sheet-usda-hhs-announce-new-actions-reduce-impact-spread-h5n1.html>

On 3 June 2024, the Department of State announced the successful adoption of amendments to the International Health Regulations by the World Health Assembly.¹⁰⁷⁰ These changes will improve transparency on health concerns, increase access to urgent health products and improve prevention procedures of outbreaks worldwide. Along with a recent pledge by the government of USD700 million to a new Pandemic Fund, these commitments will better prepare the U.S and the world for the next health emergency.

On 13 June 2024, the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority within the Department of Health and Human Services announced new funding of up to USD500 million in Project NextGen.¹⁰⁷¹ Project NextGen is dedicated to developing new methods to administer vaccines that will make it more accessible to everyone. Moreover, this funding incentivizes innovation on the next generation of vaccines to prevent future pathogens and health threats.

On 20 June 2024, Administrator of USAID Samantha Power released a statement detailing a pledge of at least USD1.58 billion to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization over five years.¹⁰⁷² This commitment will help to increase accessibility of vaccines which protect against malaria, cervical cancer and other diseases. Furthermore, funding will allow for countries worldwide to better prepare for future health emergencies and incentivize innovation.

On 2 July 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services awarded USD176 million to Moderna for the development of an mRNA-based influenza vaccine.¹⁰⁷³ This investment aims to boost pandemic readiness and support general research and development of medical countermeasures.

On 11 July 2024, Secretary of Health Xavier Becerra met with the health ministers of Canada and Japan to discuss the global health partnership between the three countries.¹⁰⁷⁴ They discussed ongoing health initiatives, efforts to protect citizens from pandemics and other health matters.

On 31 July 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced over USD68 million in funding to improve essential HIV medical care and services for low-income women, infants, children and youth living with HIV.¹⁰⁷⁵

¹⁰⁷⁰ Amendments to International Health Regulations Strengthen Global Pandemic Preparedness, U.S Department of State (Washington) 3 June 2024. Access Date: 23 June 2024. <https://www.state.gov/amendments-to-international-health-regulations-strengthen-global-pandemic-preparedness/>

¹⁰⁷¹ BARDA awards up to \$500 million in Project NextGen funding for vaccine clinical trials, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 13 June 2024. Access Date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/06/13/barda-awards-500-million-project-nextgen-funding-vaccine-clinical-trials.html>

¹⁰⁷² A Global Pledge to Immunize Half a Billion Children and Strengthen Our Global Health Security, U.S Agency for International Development (Washington) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 24 June 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-20-2024-global-pledge-immunize-half-billion-children-and-strengthen-our-global-health-security>

¹⁰⁷³ HHS provides \$176 million to develop pandemic influenza mRNA-based vaccine, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 31 July 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/02/hhs-provides-176-million-develop-pandemic-influenza-mrna-based-vaccine.html>

¹⁰⁷⁴ Readout of HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra's Meeting with Minister Keizo Takemi, Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare of Japan and Minister Mark Holland, Canada Minister of Health, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 31 July 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/15/readout-hhs-secretary-xavier-becerras-meeting-minister-keizo-takemi-ministry-health-labour-welfare-japan-minister-mark-holland-canada-minister-health.html>

¹⁰⁷⁵ Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$68 Million to Improve Access to HIV Care for Women, Infants, Children and Youth, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/31/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-68-million-improve-access-hiv-care-women-infants-children-youth.html>

On 1 August 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced new policies to mitigate drug shortages and increase access to medical treatments for underserved communities.¹⁰⁷⁶

On 19 September 2024, the Indian Health Service announced USD1.19 million in funding for dementia care and services.¹⁰⁷⁷ Of this, USD200,000 will go to the Indian Health Board of Minneapolis Inc. to increase access to early diagnosis of dementia, USD199,383 will go to Nez Perce Tribe to strengthen culturally sensitive dementia care and USD200,000 will go to Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation to increase their capacity to provide dementia care.

On 26 September 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced up to USD27 million in funding for the Transforming Antibiotic R and D with Generative AI to stop Emerging Threats project which aims to use AI to develop new antibiotics.¹⁰⁷⁸

On 30 September 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that it has awarded USD68.5 million in grants through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to support programs to address mental health and substance use.¹⁰⁷⁹ This includes USD9 million for the Addiction Technology Transfer Centers Cooperative Agreement for behavioural and primary healthcare, USD2.6 million for HIV treatment and prevention services as well as behavioural healthcare and USD2.4 million to enhance mental health services in colleges and universities.

On 30 September 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that the cost for 54 drugs to treat conditions including cancer, osteoporosis and pneumonia through Medicare Part B has been lowered.¹⁰⁸⁰ This will support affordable healthcare for seniors and those with disabilities.

On 8 October 2024, USAID announced that it has provided USD1.35 million in response to Rwanda's Marburg Outbreak since 27 September 2024.¹⁰⁸¹ Funding has been used to contact trace, prevent and control infection, provide diagnostics and support other needs.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in LMICs, LDCs and SIDS. This compliance was achieved as the country is pursuing

¹⁰⁷⁶ HHS Finalizes New Policies to Support Underserved Communities, Mitigate Drug Shortages, and Promote Patient Safety in Hospitals, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 15 August 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/08/01/hhs-finalizes-new-policies-support-underserved-communities-mitigate-drug-shortages-promote-patient-safety-hospitals.html>

¹⁰⁷⁷ IHS Awards Nearly \$1.2 Million Addressing Alzheimer's Disease during World Alzheimer's Month, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/19/ihs-awards-nearly-1-2-million-addressing-alzheimers-disease-during-world-alzheimers-month.html>

¹⁰⁷⁸ HHS Invests in Project to Accelerate the Discovery and Development of New Antibiotics Using Generative AI, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/26/development-new-antibiotics-using-generative-ai.html>

¹⁰⁷⁹ Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$68.5 Million Awarded for Behavioral Health Education, Training and Community Programs, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/30/biden-harris-administration-announces-68-5-million-awarded-behavioral-health-education-training-community-programs.html>

¹⁰⁸⁰ HHS Announces Cost Savings for 54 Prescription Drugs Thanks to the Medicare Inflation Rebate Program Established by the Biden-Harris Administration's Lower Cost Prescription Drug Law, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/30/hhs-announces-cost-savings-for-prescription-drugs-thanks-to-medicare-inflation-rebate-program.html>

¹⁰⁸¹ USAID Mobilizes Response to Marburg Outbreak in Rwanda, U.S Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-08-2024-usaid-mobilizes-response-marburg-outbreak-rwanda>

initiatives to bring more affordable healthcare treatments for its own citizens. Furthermore, the US is funding global initiatives by providing vaccines and supporting health systems, specifically with the detection and response to disease outbreaks.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kevin Li

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

On 14 December 2023, the Council of the EU and the European Parliament agreed on the regulation of substances of human origin used in healthcare and to include human breast milk and intestinal microbiota in such categorization.¹⁰⁸² This will consolidate the existing legal regulations, improve the safety of human-derived products and promote better protection of donors and recipients.

On 23 January 2024, the Council of the EU agreed to the practice of a new regulation to reform the healthcare fee system, promote sustainability of the European regulatory network for a durable financial base and simplify the current legislation.¹⁰⁸³ This will establish secure funding for the European Medicines Agency to support operations.

On 14 February 2024, the Council of the EU amended the medical device legislation to lengthen the transition period of in-vitro diagnostic medical devices, commence the roll-out of a new electronic database called EUDAMED and obligated manufacturers to notify the public of potential shortages of certain medical devices.¹⁰⁸⁴ This will promote transparency in healthcare information and work to eliminate medical device shortages.

On 26 February 2024, the Council of the EU adopted new rules to limit workplace exposure to lead, its inorganic compounds and diisocyanates.¹⁰⁸⁵ This will reduce the effects of the toxic substances on sexual function and fertility, damage to the nervous system, asthma and dermal diseases.¹⁰⁸⁶

On 29 February 2024, the European Commission endorsed Croatia's preliminary assessment of a payment request of EUR162.5 million that covers the delivery of investments in healthcare.¹⁰⁸⁷

¹⁰⁸² Blood, tissues and cells: Council and Parliament strike deal, Council of the EU (Brussels) 30 January 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/12/14/blood-tissues-and-cells-council-and-parliament-strike-deal/>

¹⁰⁸³ European Medicines Agency: Council gives final green light to the overhaul of its fee system, Council of the EU (Brussels) 23 January 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/01/23/european-medicines-agency-council-gives-final-green-light-to-the-overhaul-of-its-fee-system/>

¹⁰⁸⁴ Medical devices: Council endorses new measures to help prevent shortages (Brussels) 21 February 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/02/21/medical-devices-council-endorses-new-measures-to-help-prevent-shortages/>

¹⁰⁸⁵ Protecting workers against lead and diisocyanates: Council signs off on new limit values, Council of the EU (Brussels) 26 February 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/02/26/protecting-workers-against-lead-and-diisocyanates-council-signs-off-on-new-limit-values/>

¹⁰⁸⁶ Protecting workers against lead and diisocyanates: Council signs off on new limit values, Council of the EU (Brussels) 26 February 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/02/26/protecting-workers-against-lead-and-diisocyanates-council-signs-off-on-new-limit-values/>

¹⁰⁸⁷ Commission endorses positive preliminary assessment of Croatia's fourth payment request for €162.5 million under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_1226

Measures for the payment request include the purchase of diagnostic medical equipment to improve the accessibility, quality and safety of healthcare.

On 1 March 2024, the European Commission organized a series of Humanitarian Air Bridge flights to deliver aid amid Yemen's public health emergency.¹⁰⁸⁸ The flights carried vaccines, therapeutics and medical equipment to provide immediate assistance and prevent infectious disease outbreaks in the future.

On 17 March 2024, the European Commission released a press statement outlining a new cooperation agreement between the EU and Egypt.¹⁰⁸⁹ In it, Egyptian President El-Sisi noted the EU and Egypt's joint commitment to humanitarian assistance including medical equipment in Gaza. The EU will provide EUR275 million to support this initiative in 2024.

On 24 April 2024, the European Commission's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority launched the Critical Medicines Alliance to prevent medicine shortages.¹⁰⁹⁰ As a part of this initiative, the Alliance will aim to secure the supply and availability of medicines, contributing to a more resilient pharmaceutical industry.

On 24 April 2024, the European Parliament adopted the European Health Data Space and new rules on substances of human origin (SoHo).¹⁰⁹¹ The new regulations aim to provide safe and quality SoHo therapies and protective measures for patients and donors.

On 25 April 2024, the European Parliament adopted a series of measures proposed by the European Commission to increase access to in vitro diagnostics (IVDs).¹⁰⁹² The measures include providing manufacturers more time to transition to new safety requirements on IVDs, informing national authorities of supply disruptions and improving transparency on medical equipment.

On 26 April 2024, the European Union allocated EUR68 million in humanitarian aid to scale up health interventions for Palestinians inside Gaza.¹⁰⁹³

On 27 May 2024, the European Council approved new rules to improve the safety and efficacy of substances of human origin, including blood, tissues, cells, breast milk and intestinal microbiota.¹⁰⁹⁴ These rules are designed to improve the cross-border use of these substances in the European Union.

¹⁰⁸⁸ In February, the EU has organised 13 Humanitarian Air Bridges to Yemen to fight health emergency, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2024. Access Date: 31 March 2024.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_1246

¹⁰⁸⁹ Press statement by President von der Leyen with Austrian Chancellor Nehammer, Belgian Prime Minister De Croo, Cypriot President Christodoulides, Greek Prime Minister Mitsotakis, Italian Prime Minister Meloni and Egyptian President El-Sisi, European Commission (Cairo) 17 March 2024.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_24_1521

¹⁰⁹⁰ Commission launches the Critical Medicines Alliance to help prevent and address shortages of critical medicines, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2229

¹⁰⁹¹ New EU rules on substances of human origin, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. https://health.ec.europa.eu/blood-tissues-cells-and-organs/overview/new-eu-rules-substances-human-origin_en

¹⁰⁹² Commission welcomes adoption by European Parliament of measures to improve the availability of in vitro diagnostics, European Commission (Brussels) 25 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2291

¹⁰⁹³ EU steps up humanitarian assistance for Palestinians, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2024. Access Date: 9 May 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2288

¹⁰⁹⁴ EU health policy, European Council (Brussels) 27 May 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-health-policy/>

On 30 May 2024, the European Council adopted updated rules on medical device laws including in-vitro diagnostic medical devices.¹⁰⁹⁵ These updates aim to mitigate shortages and enhance transparency by ensuring comprehensive and accessible information related to medical devices.

On 11 June 2024, the European Commission's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority signed a contract securing up to 665,000 pre-pandemic vaccine doses of the Zoonotic Influenza Vaccine Seqirus.¹⁰⁹⁶ This will provide participating Member States with preventative measures against the Avian Flu.

On 17 June 2024, the Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks updated the public on their guidelines on the benefit-risk assessment of phthalates in certain medical devices.¹⁰⁹⁷ This provides up-to-date guidelines on carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic to reproduction and endocrine-disrupting phthalates addressing the safety of medical devices.

On 17 June 2024, the European Council approved the establishment of a reliable source of materials for medical radioisotope production.¹⁰⁹⁸ These will be used for cancer diagnoses and treatments, cardiac conditions and other diseases. This ultimately supports the medical industry and relevant stakeholders in the member states.

On 20 June 2024, the European Union and its Member States announced over EUR750 million in funding for the African Vaccines Manufacturing Accelerator which aims to enhance the development and production of vaccines in Africa.¹⁰⁹⁹ Of this, approximately EUR220 million will be allocated from the EU budget.

On 21 June 2024, the European Commission approved a new set of recommendations regarding vaccine-preventable cancers.¹¹⁰⁰ These recommendations aim to increase vaccination against human papillomaviruses and Hepatitis B. Ultimately, the goal is to reduce the occurrence of these cancers and thereby alleviate pressure on the healthcare system within the European Union.

On 28 June 2024, the European Commission approved the first-ever vaccine to protect against the Chikungunya virus.¹¹⁰¹ Additionally, the Commission initiated the implementation of a EUR500,000 EU4Health programme aimed at combating the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito which transmits the Chikungunya disease. This program is designed to enhance vector control and reduce the transmission of vector-borne diseases within the EU.

¹⁰⁹⁵ Medical devices: Council adopts new measures to help prevent shortages, Council of the EU (Brussels) 30 May 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/30/medical-devices-council-adopts-new-measures-to-help-prevent-shortages/>

¹⁰⁹⁶ Commission secures access for Member States to 665,000 doses of zoonotic influenza vaccines to prevent avian flu, European Commission (Brussels) 11 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3168

¹⁰⁹⁷ Phthalates in certain medical devices: updated SCHEER guidelines published, European Commission (Brussels) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-archives/53997>

¹⁰⁹⁸ Radioisotopes for medical use: Council approves conclusions, Council of the EU (Brussels) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/17/radioisotopes-for-medical-use-council-approves-conclusions/>

¹⁰⁹⁹ Team Europe announces over €750 million to the African Vaccines Manufacturing Accelerator, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 20 July 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3262

¹¹⁰⁰ EU steps up the fight against vaccine-preventable cancers under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 25 June 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3404

¹¹⁰¹ Commission authorises Chikungunya vaccine and funds new mosquito eradication programme, European Commission (Brussels) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 4 August 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3502

On 26 July 2024, the European Commission approved a EUR2 billion measure to support the PALLAS project which involves constructing a reactor and nuclear health center in the Netherlands.¹¹⁰²

On 16 September 2024, the European Investment Bank provided over 1.4 million doses of HPV vaccines to Angola.¹¹⁰³ The Bank also stated that it will send another batch of vaccines for a total of 2.2 million.

On 7 October 2024, the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) announced that it will provide EUR20 million as part of HERA's first Invest agreement.¹¹⁰⁴ Funding will support Fabentech to develop and deploy "broad-spectrum therapeutics aimed at combating biological threats to public health."

The EU has fully complied with their commitment to facilitating safe, effective, quality-assured and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical countermeasures. It has implemented new rules to promote the safety of workers from toxic substances, contemporized regulations surrounding biomaterials, reformed healthcare fee systems and modernized legislations surrounding electronic medical devices. The EU has also partnered with other countries including Cambodia to bolster their health programs and supply humanitarian aid to alleviate the burden on the health systems in Gaza.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emily Shin

¹¹⁰² Commission approves €2 billion Dutch measure to support production of medical radioisotopes for cancer diagnosis and treatment, European Commission (Brussels) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 4 August 2024. https://euratom-supply.ec.europa.eu/activities/supply-medical-radioisotopes_en

¹¹⁰³ Angola receives vaccines to fight cervical cancer, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/angola-receives-vaccines-to-fight-cervical-cancer>

¹¹⁰⁴ First HERA Invest agreement signed to support research and development in cross-border health threats, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (Brussels) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/first-hera-invest-agreement-signed-support-research-and-development-cross-border-health-threats-2024-10-07_en