



Zipline runs the only nationwide drone delivery networks in the world, powered by the fastest and most reliable long distance delivery drone. Partners In Health is a global non-profit organisation dedicated to improving the health conditions of people in the developing world.

Partners In Health and Zipline collaborated to distribute medications to district hospitals close to cancer patients in Rwanda, easing the pressure on the country's main referral point for cancer care Butaro Cancer Center of Excellence.

CANCER TREATMENT DELIVERY SUMMARY

- Partners In Health (PIH) leveraged Zipline's aerial logistics services to **bring chemotherapy treatment closer to home** for patients in Rwanda during the pandemic.
- Average **travel times to receive care reduced by 85%**, from about 8 hours to 1 hour.
- Zipline has delivered **over 17,000 oral cancer tablets** to 16 districts in Rwanda (as of March 2021).

BRINGING CANCER CARE CLOSER TO HOME: PARTNERS IN HEALTH AND ZIPLINE JOIN FORCES



THE CHALLENGE CONTINUING CHEMOTHERAPY AMIDST THE PANDEMIC

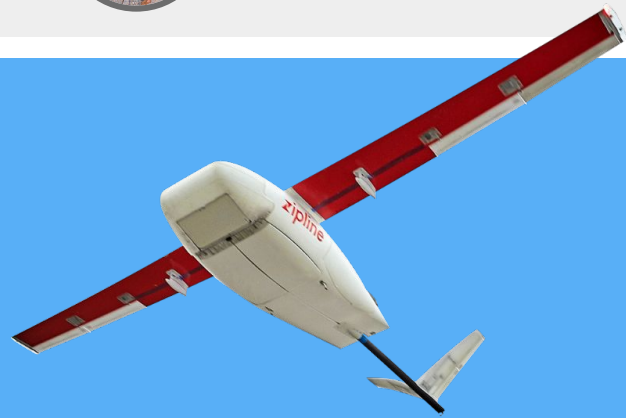
In early 2020, COVID-19 lockdown posed a major health threat to outpatients at the Butaro Cancer Center of Excellence, Rwanda's main referral center for cancer care, managed by Partners In Health and the government of Rwanda. While the nation's distributed network of specialized health facilities remained open, access was affected by restrictions on movement, suspension of public transport, and fear of COVID-19 infection. Patients had to travel 8-12 hours round trip to seek treatment, and as COVID-19 infection rates rose, health professionals feared lengthy travel could increase patient exposure or lead to missed or delayed treatment. PIH had to rethink its approach to delivering time-sensitive medicines.



Dr. Mubiligi
Executive Director
(PIH/IMB)



"Cancer patients at Butaro Hospital come from all over the country so imagine the logistics nightmare. Missing treatment, even by a few days, could reduce their chances of effective treatment response."



ZIPLINE'S SOLUTION AN AGILE AND INSTANT SUPPLY CHAIN

PIH contacted Zipline to distribute cancer medications to local district hospitals closest to patients. The nonprofit transported the cancer medications via road to Zipline's two Rwandan distribution centers, capable of delivering supplies anywhere in the country. Upon request, Zipline delivered the medications using drones to local district hospitals where PIH-trained local health workers administered specialty care to patients. The operation began less than three days after PIH's initial contact with Zipline.

ZIPLINE AT WORK: DELIVERING CANCER MEDICATION IN RWANDA



PIH contacts Zipline to support with delivering cancer medications



PIH delivers medications to Zipline's distribution centers via ground transportation



Zipline sends medications on-demand to local district hospitals via Zipline drones



Patients access medications at local district hospitals

On demand delivery of cancer drugs to local district hospitals reduced average patient travel time from 8 hours to 1 hour - an 85% reduction in travel time that increased access to care, reduced risk of exposure, and increased patient adherence. By March 2021, a year after the partnership with Partners in Health, Zipline had delivered over 17,000 tablets of eight cancer products to patients across 16 districts. This collaboration ensured that patients continued to have access to essential medicines and care.

"When the pandemic hit, my medications were no longer accessible. Partners in Health supported when I called. They told me that they would send the medicine, and my fearful heart was at ease. I am thankful because I got the medicine without difficulty and without worrying about the long journey I would have embarked on with my fragile health."



Patient
Butaro Cancer
Center

BENEFITS OF ZIPLINE SUPPLY CHAIN SERVICES



Instant resource mobilization

Zipline's autonomous system can respond to surges or changes in demand in minutes and can immediately scale to meet new requirements.



Real time visibility & tracking

Get full visibility into your supply chain with real-time tracking - all orders are GPS-tracked and all events are timestamped.



Continuous & resilient operation

Zipline reduces risk and increases operational continuity with autonomous delivery capable of simultaneous delivery to dozens of locations.

SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE AND FLEXIBILITY: LESSONS FROM DELIVERING AT SCALE DURING THE PANDEMIC

As the healthcare landscape is changing, industry stakeholders are being consistently challenged to adapt to a supply chain system that exhibits agility, promptness, just-in-time delivery, and promotes remote care. The pandemic has revealed the diverse ways we can leverage technology to support patient care. The management of chronically ill patients can be brought closer to home to enable the efficient use of scarce resources.

For more information on Zipline's services, contact us at GlobalHealth@flyzipline.com