
COMMITTED TO IMPROVING MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Reducing child mortality and improving maternal health figure among the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. These health challenges remain important in the new Sustainable Development Goals, and Sanofi is committed to continuing our efforts to address them. The Sanofi Espoir Foundation focuses on reducing maternal and neonatal mortality and fighting childhood cancer as two of its longstanding priorities.

Training midwives to combat maternal and neonatal mortality

To help reduce maternal and neonatal mortality, the Foundation put in place a unique initiative, "Midwives for Life," aimed at combating largely preventable complications and deaths in developing countries through more and better trained health personnel. Midwives are key players in this fight. At the end of 2015, 11 long-term programs were underway, including six pilot projects in Asia (Myanmar, Cambodia), Latin America (Mexico) and Africa (Senegal/Ivory Coast, Tanzania and Ethiopia). In 2014 the Sanofi Espoir Foundation launched the "Midwives for Life Awards" to reward initiatives by midwives to reduce maternal and newborn mortality and improve the health of women and newborns in developing countries. For the second year of the awards, 10 winning projects from Cambodia, India, Morocco, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe and two twin projects in Japan/Mongolia and the Netherlands/Sierra Leone/Morocco were selected by a jury of experts.

Fighting childhood cancer: "My Child Matters"

In wealthier countries, 80% of childhood cancers can be cured, but in low-resource countries this figure drops to 20% or even 10%, and yet 80% of affected children live in these regions. The "My Child Matters" program has been developed by the Foundation since 2006 to help enable children with cancer in low- and middle-income countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to benefit from earlier and better-supported diagnoses. This program aims to strengthen the capacity of local teams deployed in collaboration with the St Jude Children's Research Hospital, the International Society of Pediatric Oncology, the Union for International Cancer Control, the French-African Pediatric Oncology Group (GFAOP), Childhood Cancer International and other organizations to fight against childhood cancer. Since 2006, this program has supported 45 projects in 33 countries. Results from the "My Child Matters" program were highlighted during the World Cancer Leaders' Summit in November 2015. For example, in the Philippines, an archipelago of thousands of islands, access to care remains a major challenge for poor families, in particular those living in remote areas. Thanks to ten years of collaboration and mobilization by stakeholders from civil society and the Filipino Ministry of Health, the Philippines Children's Medical Center in Manila has become a national reference center for childhood cancers. The rate of late diagnosis has dropped from 70% to 30%, and the survival rate has been multiplied by four.

Facts and figures

"MY CHILD MATTERS" IN 2015

50,000 CHILDREN
taken into care

16,000 HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS trained

25,000 FAMILIES
helped