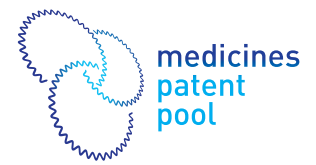




# Cancer

THE MEDICINES PATENT POOL: ACCELERATING ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE ESSENTIAL MEDICINES IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES



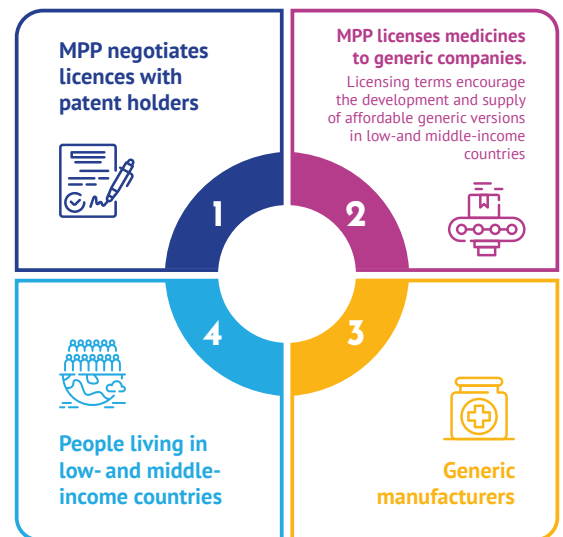
Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide, accounting for **9.7 million deaths in 2022**, or nearly **one in six deaths**.<sup>1</sup>

While there has been tremendous progress in new technologies to treat cancer, major challenges persist in many low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) that face inequity in access to new-generation cancer medicines which could allow patients to live better and longer.

The MPP model, through voluntary licensing, enables access to quality-assured affordable versions of innovative medicines in underserved territories.

## Licensing for Public Health

The Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) is a United Nations-backed public health organisation working to increase access to innovative life-saving medicines for LMICs, including medicines for cancer.



## How does MPP prioritise medicines for in-licensing?

The prioritisation framework considers a series of parameters to answer these questions. These are summarised in the following chart:

MPP prioritisation framework is designed to answer the following three questions.

1. Does the product address a public health need?
2. Are there any access hurdles (anticipated or existing) for the product in LMICs?
3. Would MPP intervention bring improvement over the status quo?

By addressing these guiding principles, MPP collects insights about public health and access dimensions of the products assessed, as well as insights to assess the potential impact of an MPP intervention.

To know more about the medicines prioritised by MPP in cancer, visit our website: <https://medicinespatentpool.org/progress-achievements/prioritisation#pills-oncology>

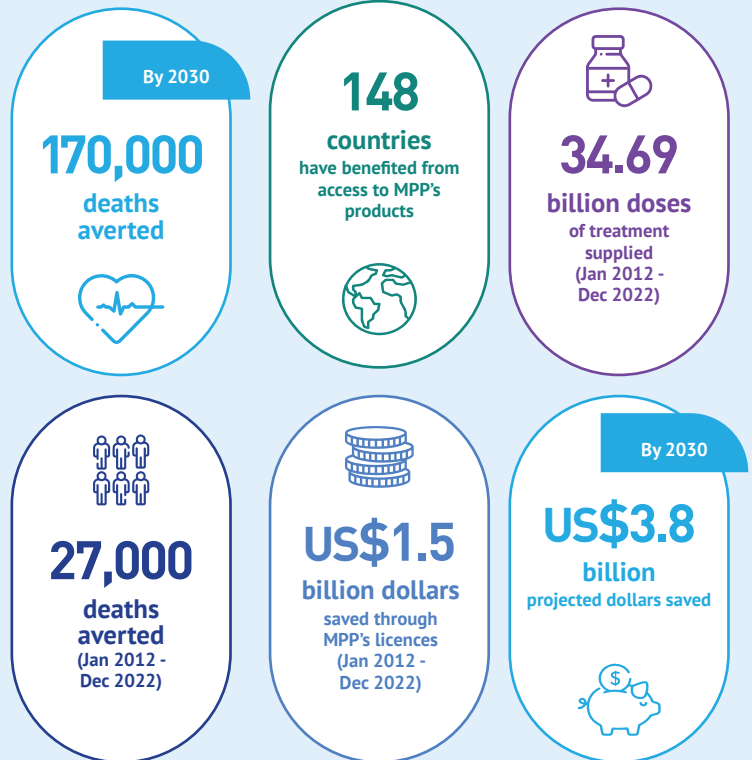
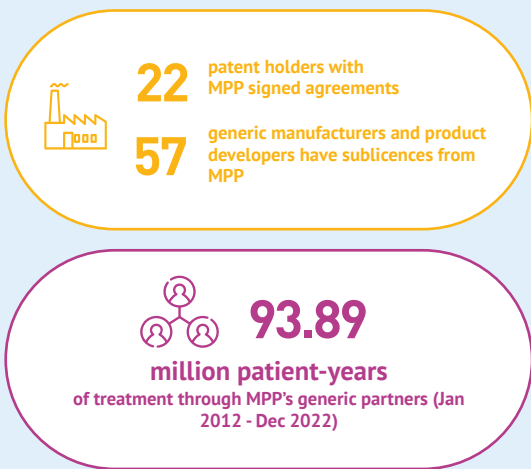


1. <https://gco.iarc.fr/en>

## MPP's impact

MPP negotiates licensing agreements with innovator pharmaceutical companies that will enable more affordable, quality-assured versions of priority new treatments to reach LMICs sooner. MPP works on patented essential medicines across all disease areas, with a focus on medicines already included in the World Health Organization's Model Lists of Essential Medicines (WHO EML) and those that have strong potential for future inclusion thanks to their compelling efficacy and public health impact.

By the end of 2022, MPP had enabled the supply of **34.69 billion doses** of essential medicines across **148 countries** mainly thanks to MPP's licence agreement for the HIV medicine dolutegravir.



## MPP's contribution in cancer

In 2022, MPP signed the first-ever public health-oriented voluntary licence agreement for a cancer medicine with Novartis. The licensed product, **nilotinib**, was included in the WHO EML in 2017 for the treatment of **Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia in adults** and in 2019 in the EML for **children**.

MPP then sublicensed to four manufacturers who are currently working on developing and/or registering quality assured generic versions for supply in the countries included in the licence.

While working to ensure the successful uptake of nilotinib, MPP is also maintaining its effort to identify and prioritise cancer products where an MPP intervention could have the greatest impact.

Originator:  **NOVARTIS**

Generic manufacturers:



## Working in partnerships



Given the multiple challenges in access to cancer medicines and need for partnerships that contribute to addressing the multiple dimensions of access in a holistic manner, MPP has joined the Access to Oncology Medicines (ATOM) coalition.

The ATOM coalition is a global partnership, led by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), to increase access to quality-assured essential cancer medicines in low- and lower middle-income countries (LLMICs) and to help countries develop the capacity for their proper use. MPP partners with the ATOM Coalition to achieve its ambition to increase cancer medicine availability in LLMICs.

If you would like to know more about MPP, its work on cancer medicines or want to work together, please contact

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MPP was founded by Unitaid, which continues to be MPP's main funder. MPP's work on access to essential medicines is also funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). MPP's activities in COVID-19 are undertaken with the financial support of the Japanese Government, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the German Agency for International Cooperation, and SDC.

