

Accurate, affordable, and enabling

New initiatives from our **Publishing Partners**

Founded as recently as 2000, **Partec Essential Health-care** has achieved remarkable success in the fields of malaria and TB diagnostics as well as HIV monitoring and AIDS patient follow-up.

With the CyFlow system, it introduced the world's first mobile/portable flow cytometry instrument in 2000, which was developed in order to serve the rapidly growing demand from developing countries for a stable, robust, and easy-to-operate as well as accurate and affordable alternative for CD4 counting in AIDS patient monitoring.

Highlights of the technique include:

- mobile/portable instruments and point-of-care solutions (operation with standard power supply or 12 V DC from solar panels or car battery);
- 95% cost reduction per CD4 test (from EUR 40 to EUR 1.75);
- CD4/CD4% tests available as dry kit in ready to use test tubes, no cooling chain required;
- a new standard in precise and accurate cell enumeration for HIV monitoring

Highly sensitive detection of TB and Malaria is performed with the CyScope® microscopes: the world's first mobile and battery-operated transmitted light and fluorescence microscopes.

The mobile immunology and HIV monitoring laboratory CyLab was released in 2002. Additionally, the Partec systems are adapted to the partially extreme climatic conditions by maintaining the highest performance stability and robustness. As an important prerequisite, the techniques are affordable, almost service- and maintenance-free, and easy to learn.

Up to this day, more than 1500 Partec CyFlow CD4 counting devices have been implemented for support of patient programmes in more than 100 countries worldwide. From 2008 to 2010, 8 million CD4/CD4% tests were performed with CyFlow instruments.

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) has announced further progress on its commitment to reinvest 20% of profits made in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) back into projects that strengthen the healthcare infrastructure in those countries. GSK has formed a new

partnership with three leading NGOs to deliver the reinvestments in LDCs: AMREF in East and Southern Africa, CARE International UK in Asia Pacific and Save the Children in West Africa. The shared objective of the investments will be to improve health outcomes by supporting frontline health workers who operate in these countries.

GSK currently supplies medicines to 37 of the 48 LDCs and 2010 profits available for reinvestment in 2011 amount to approximately £3.5 million. The amount available for investment in each country will be proportional to the amount of profit generated there. As the profits vary from country to country, GSK has set a minimum investment of £10 000.

The chronic shortage of trained frontline health workers in LDCs is recognised as one of the most fundamental constraints to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Appropriately trained and adequately supported frontline health workers can improve access to basic health services in their communities, leading to improved health outcomes, especially for mothers and children. For example, in some settings, a fully trained and well-supported community health worker can effectively deliver treatments, and provide health education for common childhood illnesses such as pneumonia, diarrhoea, malaria, and acute malnutrition, and reach up to 5000 children in a year.

Andrew Witty, CEO of GSK said, 'GSK is committed to playing its part in improving access to healthcare in all of the countries in which we operate. In 2010, we created a Developing Countries and Market Access operating unit dedicated to increasing patient access to GSK medicines and vaccines while expanding our presence and helping us to build a sustainable business in developing countries. Although the profits we make in LDCs are relatively small at this time, our commitment to reinvest 20% of them provides a sustainable model to help improve healthcare infrastructure – one of the key health challenges in these countries. We are pleased to partner with three respected NGOs – AMREF, CARE and Save the Children – to deliver solutions that can make a difference on the ground in the world's poorest countries.'