



Burkina Faso Project report - September 2023

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Executive Summary:

This project was created in alignment with one of HERhealthEQ's main pillars of service, Cervical Cancer. The objective was to deliver equipment that would assist in the reduction of mortality, screening positivity and cancer detection rate in Burkina Faso. This project deployed two pieces of equipment into the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics of the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (CHU, University Hospital Center) of Bogodogo in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; One video Colposcopy device and one Cryotherapy unit.

Introduction:

Established in 2016, HERhealthEQ was born out of a need to reduce the equity gap in access to healthcare for women around the world. What began as a singular donation of a mammography machine to a Costa Rican hospital, has now grown into an international web of healthcare solutions. The HERhealthEQ team is driven by a desire to see fewer women face the choice between their own healthcare and putting food on the tables of their families.

Our Mission is to improve women's health in developing countries by providing access to medical devices & equipment, creating an equitable standard of care.

By deploying these two pieces of equipment in conjunction with each other, HERhealthEQ is able to impact the full life cycle from detection to screening to treatment, for the Burkina Faso woman.

Key Milestones:

- 3650 women have been screened and treated since implementation.
- Alignment of objectives with HERhealthEQ's mission and vision.

Project activities:

In Burkina Faso, the socio-economic status of women is shaped by a range of factors. Traditional gender roles often limit women's access to education and formal employment, resulting in lower literacy rates and limited economic opportunities. The prevalence of child marriage and early pregnancies further hinder their educational and economic prospects. However, women's



empowerment initiatives, community organizations, and government policies are striving to challenge these norms. Through programs that focus on education, skill development, and entrepreneurship, women are gradually breaking barriers, gaining economic independence, and contributing to the transformation of their communities. Access to information around sexual health and contraception is limited, further decreasing the likelihood that women in Burkina Faso are receiving regular pap smears to identify cell changes and test for HPV / other cervical cancer identifiers.

- This project was important in establishing the strategic partnership with the Kimi Foundation, MedGyn and Jhpiego
- The colposcope will be used to detect precancerous cervical lesions, enabling local women to be treated early thus optimizing their treatment efficacy.

Financial Summary:

Value of deployed equipment:

Item	Cost (USD)
Cryotherapy and Colposcopy package	\$4,850
Total	\$4,850

Conclusion:

Due to the nature of the remote deployment, HERhealthEQ has not received updated metrics on usage this year. We intend to reconnect with the service teams at the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics of the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire, to ensure both pieces of equipment are being maximized to their full potential. Overall, this donation is important as it targets the full life-cycle of patient care, providing devices to assist with both detection and treatment of cervical cancer.

HERhealthEQ is grateful to all the individual donations that helped make this project a reality, including our partners at the KIMI foundation, MedGyn and Jhpiego for the equipment and strategic partnership. Without our supporter’s help, we would not be able to impact the lives of women around the world.