



# African Access Initiative (AAI): Improving Cancer Patient Outcomes in Africa: A Holistic, Multi-Sector Approach

# Introduction to BVGH



## Who We Are

BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH) is a nonprofit organization working at the crossroads of the private and public sectors to advance research and improve health.

## What We Do

BVGH connects **people, resources, and ideas** across biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, governments, and nonprofits to solve global health issues.

# Africa's Cancer Crisis & AAI

Annual new cases and deaths due to cancer in Africa are predicted to **DOUBLE** by 2040

Establish sustainable access to cancer medicines & technologies



Strengthen healthcare infrastructure



Build clinical oncology capacity



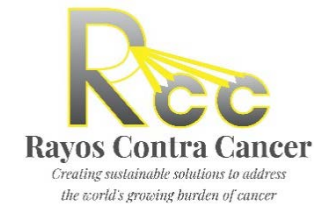
Address the cancer data gap in Africa through clinical trials



Expand awareness of cancer in Africa



# AAI Partners




## Hospital Needs Assessment

**Goal:** Conduct needs assessments of AAI hospitals to define priorities and frame specific needs

### Data include:

- ✓ Number of cancer patients
- ✓ Hospital's diagnostic capabilities and infrastructure
- ✓ Existing and needed medical equipment
- ✓ Cancer research and clinical trials capacity and interests
- ✓ Human resources capacity
- ✓ Cancer drugs used and needed

**AAI Partner Country Questionnaire**  
Access to Medicines - Oncology



**Introduction**  
This questionnaire is to help familiarize BVGH with the cancer needs of your country and hospital including oncology products, healthcare infrastructure, and cancer care and research capacity. Please fill out the following questions as they pertain to your country and hospital.

**Hospital Information**

Hospital Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the main source of funding for the hospital? Please select one.

Public – government funded       Not-for-profit  
 Private (for-profit) – no government funding       Mission / faith based  
 Mixed – government and private funding       Foreign aid  
 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Is there any additional information we should know about your hospital?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Questionnaire Participants**  
Please provide the following details for all participants from your hospital that contributed answers to this questionnaire.

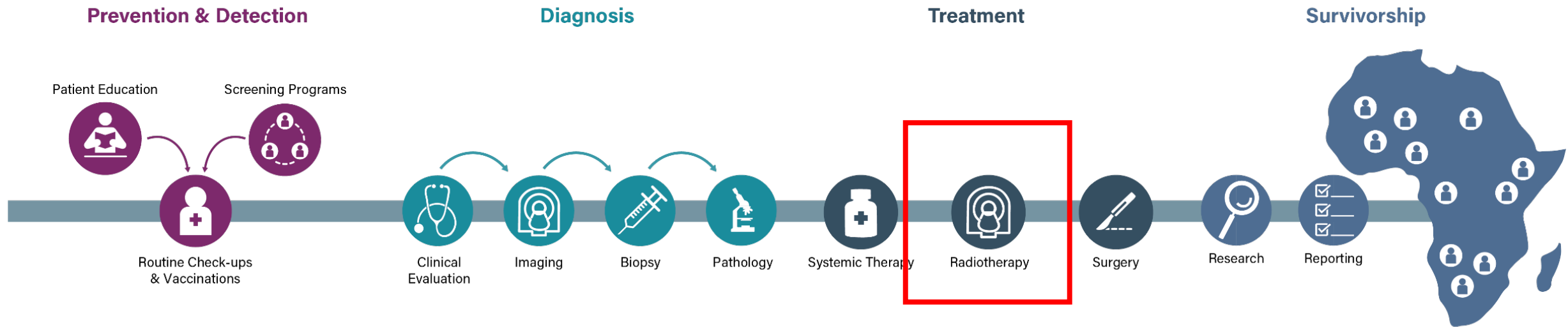
**Participant 1**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title & Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant 2**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title & Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant 3**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title & Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

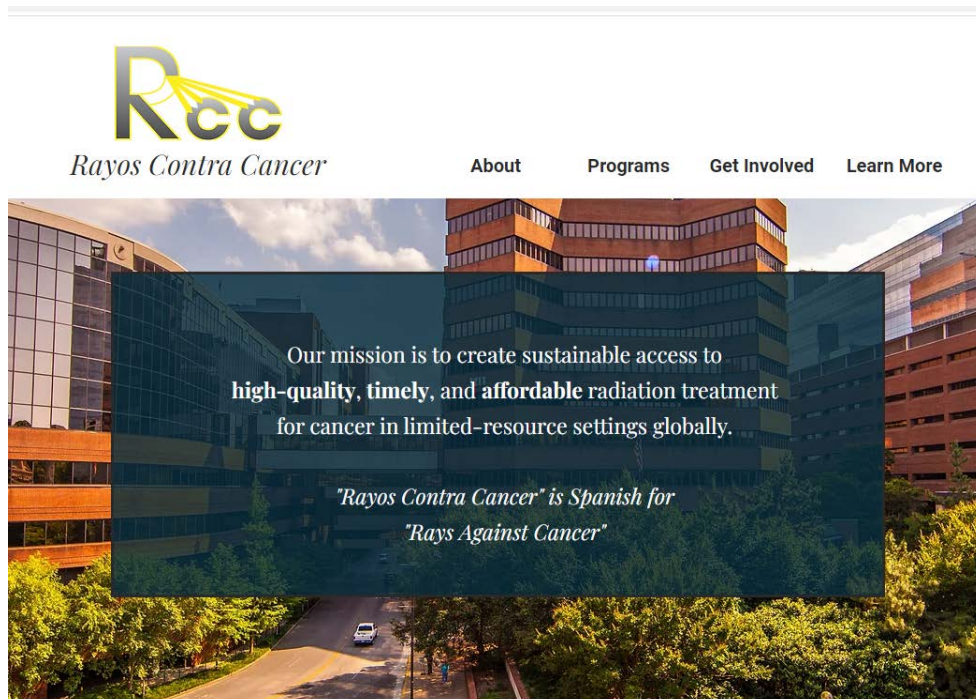
# Cancer Continuum of Care

## Augmenting Africa's services along the cancer patient pathway



# Building Radiotherapy Capacity

## Partnering with Experts



Scalable Solutions for Global Health Radiotherapy through Education & Training, Research, and Collaboration

### Our Impact



12

*Training Programs Completed  
(each one approximately 20-weeks long)*

2000+

*Clinicians trained*

120

*Expert volunteers*

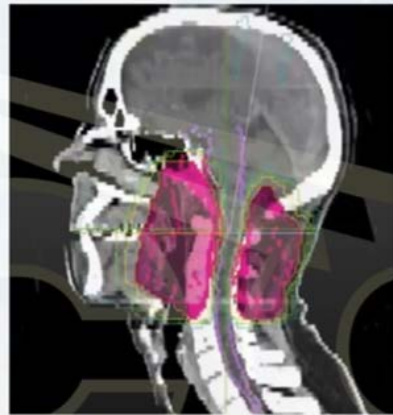
150,000

*Patients benefitted annually  
(estimated based on # of patients treated by participants  
using the technique that was taught)*

## Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy

### High Yield Applications Why use IMRT?

- Complex target shapes
- Conform radiation dose to tumour
- Decrease complications
- Escalate dose to tumour (better tumour control)
- Re-treating patients with previous RT who have almost reached their dose limits for organs at risk

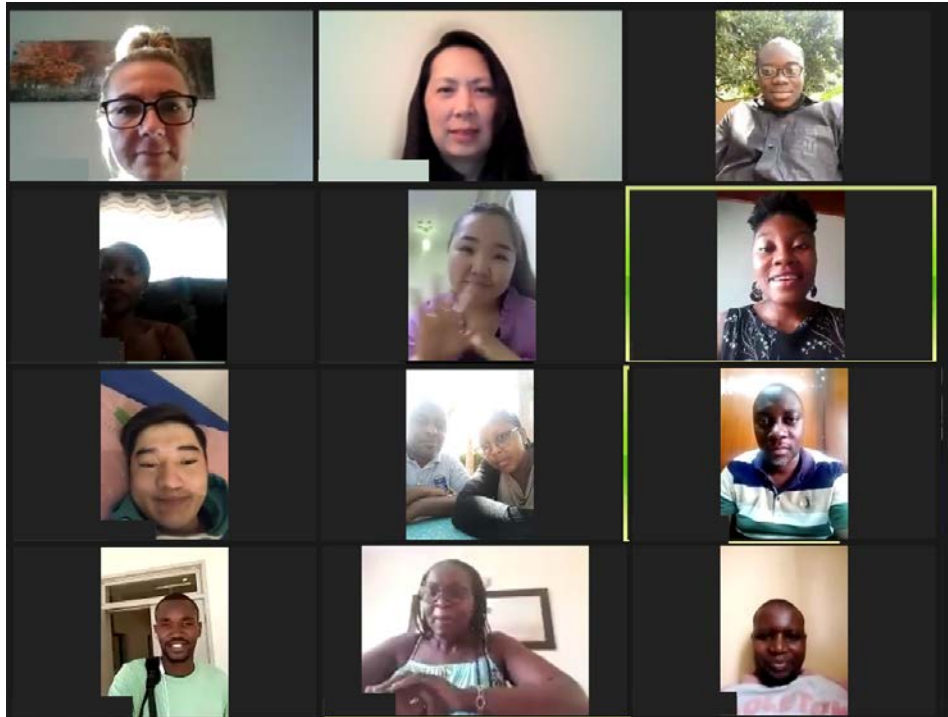


### IMRT 2.0 Course for Africa:

- ✓ Targeted radiation oncologists and medical physicists
- ✓ Weekly 1-hour digital lectures + Q&A
- ✓ Lectures presented by experts in RCC's network
- ✓ Parallel sessions covering topics relevant to ROs and MPs (e.g., contouring practice and commissioning)
- ✓ 247 participants from 8 countries:
  - ✓ Côte d'Ivoire
  - ✓ Ghana
  - ✓ Kenya
  - ✓ Morocco
  - ✓ Nigeria
  - ✓ Rwanda
  - ✓ Senegal
  - ✓ Zambia



## Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy



### IMRT Advancement for RTTs:

- ✓ Targeted radiotherapy technicians
- ✓ Separate courses for English and French speakers
- ✓ Weekly 1-hour digital lectures + Q&A
- ✓ Lectures presented by experts in RCC's network
  - ✓ ESTRO leveraged to identify French speakers
- ✓ 219 participants from 12 countries:
  - ✓ Burkina Faso
  - ✓ Cameroon
  - ✓ Côte d'Ivoire
  - ✓ Ethiopia
  - ✓ Gabon
  - ✓ Ghana
  - ✓ Kenya
  - ✓ Mauritania
  - ✓ Morocco
  - ✓ Nigeria
  - ✓ Senegal
  - ✓ Zambia

# Building Radiotherapy Capacity

## Partnering with Rayos Contra Cancer



- ✓ Contributed network of experts & subject matter expertise
  - ✓ Coordinated logistics with trainers (e.g., topics, lecture timing, material creation)
  - ✓ Produced course assignments (exams & surveys)
  - ✓ Posted lecture recordings on RCC's YouTube page
  - ✓ Communicated about program outcomes
- ✓ Contributed network of African clinicians & setting expertise
  - ✓ Communicated with attendees (reminders, questions, announcements)
  - ✓ Managed program logistics (webinar platform, gradebook, video editing)
  - ✓ Communicated about program outcomes



Thank you!

[kgraef@bvgh.org](mailto:kgraef@bvgh.org)  
[www.bvgh.org](http://www.bvgh.org)