

2025: Year in Review

Throughout 2025, the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center (HDFCCC) Global Cancer Program (GCP) continued to address the global cancer workforce gap through **innovative training programs** across geographic hubs of Tanzania, Vietnam, and Mexico. Across much of the world, a person diagnosed with cancer may never have the chance to see a trained oncologist. While the U.S. has roughly 200 oncologists per million people, countries like Vietnam have only 20, Mexico just 8, and in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, often only one per million people. This imbalance means delayed diagnoses, limited treatment options, and lives lost simply because the workforce does not exist to provide care.

By investing in training local clinicians, we are helping to close this gap.



Tanzanian collaborators organized an international panel shaping discourse on early career training

Strengthening Vietnam's Pediatric Cancer Workforce

Through the **Vietnam Pediatric Hematology–Oncology Fellowship Program**, GCP has trained **12 Fellows**, helping fill a critical shortage of specialized pediatric cancer clinicians. GCP also partners with **nine hospitals** nationwide to mentor providers on complex cases. In 2025, our partner, Vietnam National Cancer Hospital, reported longitudinal mentorship from UCSF since 2022 resulted in life-saving case management for **100 children with complicated cancers**, increasing the country's pediatric oncology capacity, one case at a time.



GCP Director of Asia Pacific collaborations, Dr. Rohini Jain, reviews a case with Vietnam National Cancer Hospital

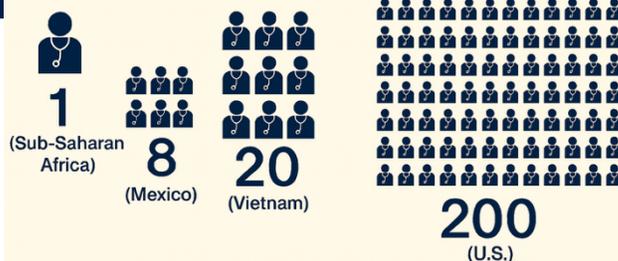
Preparing Expert Cancer Specialists to Serve Communities Across Mexico



GCP Program Director Dr. Katherine Van Loon with Dr. Priscilla Espinosa Tamez (Mexico) and PhD Students from Tanzania: Mr. Furahini Paulo and Dr. Nashivai Kivuyo.

In 2025, GCP celebrated major milestones in training Mexico's advanced cancer specialists. **Dr. Priscilla Espinosa Tamez** completed her **PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCSF**, supported by the GCP Fellowship. Her dissertation on improving colorectal cancer screening in Mexico marks a significant contribution to cancer prevention and care in Mexico. GCP also welcomed **Dr. Alfonso Ramirez-Ristori** to UCSF for advanced training in molecular pediatric pathology, positioning him as **one of Mexico's first specialists in this field**. When he returns to Mexico, he will expand access to precision cancer diagnostics for children. Together, these leaders represent critical progress in strengthening the cancer workforce to serve Mexico.

The global cancer workforce gap:
how many oncologists serve 1 million people?



Invest in training today. Save lives tomorrow.