


**Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International**  
*Serving Christ and the World Through Pharmacy*

How Will You Serve? Pharmacists on Mission

*Be Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind. Romans 12:2*

May 30th, 2024

**DR. LANCE PLYLER**  
 CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER  
 SAMARITAN'S PURSE

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How Will You Serve? Pharmacists on Mission

**Outline:**

Go and serve: Encouragement and Innovation



- Acts 1:8 Be My Witnesses to the End of the Earth
- Ephesians 6:7-8 Serve wholeheartedly
- Local Missions (clinics for indigent care)
- International Missions (World Medical Mission and DART)
- Telemedicine/Virtual Health Care

Pharmaceutical Research

- Antivirals and monoclonal antibodies
- New antibiotics
- Vaccine Development

Pharmaceutical Supply chain and Logistics

Prayer: "Prayer is my best medicine"


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How Will You Serve? "Pharmaceutical Missions"

**Pharmaceutical missions: ChatGPT Definition:**

Pharmaceutical missions typically refer to initiatives or efforts by pharmaceutical companies or humanitarian organizations to provide healthcare services, medications, or medical supplies to underserved or impoverished communities, often in developing countries or areas affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crises. These missions aim to improve access to essential healthcare resources, promote health education, and support public health initiatives in regions where they are needed most.



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*"...But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". Acts 1:8*






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Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. Ephesians 6: 7-8





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**Medical Missions at Samaritan's Purse**



Pharmacist Dr. Mike Limer is one of many pharmacists that serve on mission at Samaritan's Purse

Setting up the EFH pharmacy in Mosul, Iraq  
 March, 2017

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**Local Missions ...**



**Free Clinic**




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**International Missions: Disaster Response**




Haiti Earthquake; January, 2010.





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**International Missions: Infectious Disease and Epidemics**



**Cholera Response: November, 2011**

Treatment is very protocol driven

- Careful IVF rehydration
- Electrolyte management/ORS
- zinc administration
- Antibiotics (Doxycycline or other)

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**International Missions: Refugee Camps**




**Pharmaceutical Responsibilities**

- Measles vaccination and additional vaccine campaigns
- Vitamin A administration
- Therapeutics
- Malnutrition management

South Sudan Refugee Camps, 2012





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**Medical Missions: Malnutrition**




**Severe Acute Malnutrition**

- Severe malnutrition management: Kwashiorkor vs. Marasmus
- Micronutrient deficiencies
- Products: F-75 vs. F-100, RUTF, CSB, Plumpy Nut, etc.

Yida Refugee Camp, 2012

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**Medical Missions: Malnutrition**




Disease Process?




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**Medical Missions: Malnutrition**



Disease Process? Rickets





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**Telemedicine/Virtual Health Care**




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**Telemedicine/Virtual Health Care**



Kapsowar Hospital, June, 2023.




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**Telemedicine/Virtual Health Care**



First patient at Samaritan's Purse treated via telemedicine; June, 2023.



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**Medical Missions: Pharmaceutical Research**




Ebola Epidemic in West Africa, 2014.

First humans to be administered the experimental antiviral ZMapp.



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### Medical Missions: Pharmaceutical Research



Young boy at Soddo Hospital in Ethiopia (survivor of a Nile River Crocodile attack)




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### Medical Missions: Pharmaceutical Research

**Macrocyclic Peptides**

- No new antibiotics have been introduced for gram-negative bacteria in more than 50 years
- Diseases need to develop new antibiotics to address the global threat of antibiotic resistance.
- A new antibiotic has the potential to fight drug-resistant infections caused by carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii (CRAB).
- CRAB can cause sepsis and pneumonia killing up to 50% of infected patients.
- Macrocyclic Peptides (MCPs): a novel structural class of antibiotics with broad spectrum activity, low propensity for development of resistance, and a novel mechanism of action. It also has very potent activity against CRAB strains.




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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Research




New Cardiothoracic Center: Tenwek Hospital, Kenya





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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Research



Tenwek Hospital Cardiothoracic Centre

Will Revolutionize Management of Rheumatic Heart Disease in East Africa and Beyond






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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Research

Aspirin in lieu of Anticoagulation for Mechanical Heart Valves in Rheumatic Heart Disease

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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Research (Vaccines)

**Dengue Vaccine Description:**

Dengue vaccine is a vaccine used to prevent dengue fever in humans. Development of dengue vaccines began in the 1920s, but was hindered by the need to create immunity against all four dengue serotypes. As of 2023, there are two commercially available vaccines, sold under the brand names **Dengvaxia** and **Qdenga**.






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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Research (Vaccines)

**Dengue Vaccine Description:**

**Qdenga®:** Qdenga (two-part recombinant chimeric vaccine) is now being used as a travel vaccine (primarily in Sweden). They recommend for travelers with previous known self-reported (hospitalized or polio clinic testing) dengue fever, vaccination is recommended before travel to an endemic country (and are at risk for recurrent or severe Dengue).

**Dengvaxia®:** Dengvaxia can lead to antibody dependent enhancement in dengue naive patients that subsequently acquire the disease after vaccination. This phenomenon paradoxically can cause more severe dengue in vaccinated patients that subsequently acquire the disease.



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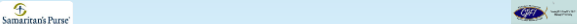
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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Research (Vaccines)

**Additional Vaccines in Development:**

- Malaria:** Mosquitoes and Anemia
- HIV vaccine development:** There is still no effective vaccine against HIV, and is a global health priority (GAVI)
- Tuberculosis:** One of the top 10 causes of death worldwide and efforts to develop a vaccine are ongoing.
- Ebola:** Ebola (Ebola Zaire), but dire need for vaccines specific to the other subtypes of Ebola.



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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Supply Chain & Logistics

**International medical/pharmaceutical supply chain and logistics is quite challenging given multiple factors:**

- remote settings and transportation logistics ("the last mile")
- stringent and variable regulatory requirements (especially controlled substances)
- geopolitical tensions
- specialized storage conditions ("cold chain")



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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Supply Chain & Logistics



**Israel Response**

-When Hamas attacked Israel in early October 2023, Samaritan's Purse immediately deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team. Thousands of innocent civilians have been displaced and in need of critical relief.



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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Supply Chain & Logistics



**Israel Response**

Franklin Graham visited Israel in mid-November, and was deeply moved by what he saw. Speaking with a widow whose husband was killed while helping patients at a clinic, Franklin prayed for God's hand on her life and the lives of her two young children. Minutes later, he pledged ongoing support and help to the mayor of the region.



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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Supply Chain & Logistics



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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Supply Chain & Logistics



The newest 757 cargo jet airlifted 1,000 advanced trauma life support kits (combat application tourniquet, chest tube kit, suture kit, and intubation kit) to help save lives in vulnerable Israeli communities.

757 Samaritan's Purse Cargo Plane




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### International Missions: Pharmaceutical Supply Chain & Logistics




Samaritan's Purse Logistics Warehouse  
Wilkesboro, North Carolina  
(Developing warehouse pharmaceutical inventory capability)






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"Prayer is our Best Medicine"

- ...Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. **James 5:16**
- Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. **Mark 11:24**
- Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. **Matthew 7: 7-8**

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### Samaritan's Purse Mission Statement:

Samaritan's Purse goes to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering, helping meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.





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**Prescription for Renewal**  
Medical Missions Conference  
August 15-18, 2024  
Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld  
Orlando, Florida






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Thank You!

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