

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

RUTGERS HEALTH
Rutgers Global Health Institute

Global Health **CONNECTION**

Your monthly source of Rutgers global health news, events, and resources
JUNE 2026

A note from Ric Marlink, Director, Rutgers Global Health Institute:

This month, we celebrated the national holiday of Juneteenth. This holiday commemorates the expansion of freedom, marked by the day enslaved people in Texas finally learned of their freedom, 2 years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.

Racism is one of the biggest contributors to health inequities worldwide. Any day that we can celebrate the expansion of freedom and the reduction of the structural racism that contributes to health inequities should be a day of hope and a call to further action.

In these difficult times, we should remember the wonderful words of the late John Lewis. "Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year; it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

Transforming Breast Cancer Care in Botswana Through Coordinated Patient Navigation

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Across sub-Saharan Africa, cancer mortality remains disproportionately high, driven in part by delayed diagnosis and limited access to timely treatment. With cancer deaths projected to increase significantly by 2040, health systems across the region face growing pressure to strengthen early detection and continuity of care.

In Botswana, breast cancer is now among the leading cancers affecting women. With many patients still presenting at advanced stages of disease, the trend mirrors a broader regional rise in non-communicable diseases, placing increasing pressure on oncology services and health systems across sub-Saharan Africa.

In response, Botswana is implementing a new model of coordinated patient navigation designed to improve how patients move through the cancer care system.

With support from the International Cancer Foundation (ICF), the Botswana–Rutgers Partnership for Health (BRPH) is leading the “**Upscaling of Patient Navigator Services in Botswana**” project. Led by Dr. Refeletswe Lebelonyane and implemented under the national stewardship of the Ministry of Health, with additional logistical/in-kind support from Roche, the initiative is establishing an integrated patient navigation pathway designed to ensure no patient is lost between suspicion, diagnosis, and treatment.

To learn more about this new project, please visit:

<https://globalhealth.rutgers.edu/news/transforming-breast-cancer-care-in-botswana-through-coordinated-patient-navigation/>

Update: Our New LinkedIn Page!

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Rutgers Global Health Institute

Promoting Health Equity Worldwide

Public Health · 4 followers · 11-50 employees

[Visit website ↗](#)[✉ Message](#)[✓ Following](#)

A few months ago, we invited you to follow our LinkedIn page. Since then, we've transitioned to a new page and will no longer be using the previous one.

We invite you to follow our new LinkedIn page to stay connected and receive updates on:

- International health programs and partnerships
- Research breakthroughs and faculty initiatives
- Opportunities for engagement, grants, and global collaborations
- Stories of impact from our work in communities around the world

Join us as we continue to share our work and advance global health together.

Thank you for your continued support!

Follow us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/globalhealth-rutgers/>

Did someone forward you this email? [Subscribe here.](#)

Copyright © 2026 Rutgers Global Health Institute. All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).