



American Heart Association International

DIABETES

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death worldwide. In 2020, approximately

19.05 million
people die from CVD –

32%
of global deaths.¹

For nearly 100 years, the American Heart Association has been leading the fight against heart disease and stroke. **In the last 10 years, we've expanded our reach to over 100 countries**, working with organizations around the world to help change policies, implement programs, and strengthen healthcare systems to help improve and save lives.

We believe that where you live should not limit your health or the quality of your life.

The Difference Between Life and Death



In 2019, the WHO reported **1.5 million deaths** directly caused by **diabetes**, **the seventh leading** cause of death worldwide. Due to lifestyle changes affecting diet and exercise, **low- and mid-income countries** are seeing a **rapid increase** in the number of people diagnosed with diabetes, **outpacing** the rates in **higher-income countries**.³

People with Type 2 diabetes are **2-3 times more likely to have a heart attack or stroke**, and the condition can often result in blindness, kidney failure, and lower limb amputation.⁴



Despite the current grim reality of diagnoses and deaths, Type 2 diabetes is **largely preventable and treatable** through **lifestyle changes** like diet, exercise, and smoking cessation.

Our Work

We're piloting a program in China with the American Diabetes Association and several Chinese medical societies to **educate** healthcare professionals about **diabetes prevention and treatment** and establish **continuous quality improvement systems** to better serve patients with diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

Through our already established network of **200 hospitals** from our Improving Care for Cardiovascular Disease in China (CCC) project, we're **tracking diabetes cases to evaluate the quality of care**. With that data, we're **identifying strategies to improve the quality of care** for patients with cardiovascular diseases and diabetes.



For 2020, the first year of the pilot in China:

40 hospitals

will begin to report diabetes-related data elements

and evaluate the quality of care from cardiologists for glycemic management in hospitalized ACS patients with diabetes.

20 clinics

will enroll in a new database

with information on management of diabetes inpatients/outpatients to evaluate the quality of care from endocrinologists for CVD risk management in diabetes patients.

Our Commitment

As champions for health equity, by 2024, the American Heart Association will **advance cardiovascular health for all, including identifying and removing barriers to health care access and quality.** We continue to prioritize the health of the people around the world by:



Establishing AHA offices in 8 countries with more than **50 staff members** dedicated to our global efforts



Creating an International network of more than **40,000 instructors in over 100 countries** who are helping save lives through Resuscitation and First Aid education



Working with more than **20 organizations** to help further lifesaving work in cardiovascular health.

Who We Work With

- All India Institute of Medical Science
- American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin
- American Diabetes Association
- Chinese Diabetes Society
- Chinese Society of Cardiology
- World Health Organization



¹ Tsao CW, Aday AW, Almarzooq ZI, Alonso A, Beaton AZ, Bittencourt MS, Boehme AK, Buxton AE, Carson AP, Commodore-Mensah Y, Elkind MSV, Evenson KR, Eze-Nliam C, Ferguson JF, Generoso G, Ho JE, Kalani R, Khan SS, Kissela BM, Knutson KL, Levine DA, Lewis TT, Liu J, Loop MS, Ma J, Mussolino ME, Navaneethan SD, Perak AM, Poudel R, Rezk-Hanna M, Roth GA, Schroeder EB, Shah SH, Thacker EL, VanWagner LB, Virani SS, Voecks JH, Wang N-Y, Yaffe K, Martin SS; on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and Prevention Statistics Committee and Stroke Statistics Subcommittee. Heart disease and stroke statistics—2022 update: a report from the American Heart Association [published online ahead of print January 26, 2022]. *Circulation*. doi: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000001052

² WHO, 2021 Fact Sheet on Cardiovascular Disease

³ WHO, 2020 Fact Sheet on Diabetes. Accessed October, 2021 <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/diabetes>

⁴ World Health Organization (WHO), 2016. Global Report on Diabetes. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241565257>