



About Elekta Foundation



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1. CEO letter

Dear reader,

Since the inception of the Elekta Foundation, we have achieved numerous milestones and made significant progress. As we reflect on our journey, I would like to focus on the remarkable achievements of the past two years. I am immensely proud of the strides we have made in advancing cancer care. Guided by our unwavering commitment to improving cancer care in underserved countries, we have focused on two critical pillars:



Advancing Cancer Awareness, Screening, and Prevention

Our ongoing efforts have strengthened expertise, forged valuable partnerships, and fostered an innovative approach to women's cancer awareness, screening, and prevention in Rwanda. We have refined the FAST model, developed during our first year of operation, for scalable cervical cancer awareness and screening in low-resource settings. Today, breast cancer screening is seamlessly integrated into our existing cervical cancer model, and we have created an innovative 2-in-1 approach that maximizes community engagement and cost-effectiveness.

Since August 2022, over 105,000 rural women in Rwanda have participated in cervical cancer screening, and over 82,000 women have also undergone breast cancer screening. To address the doctor shortage in the countryside, we task-shifted by training over 270 local nurses and midwives in screening and preventative care. Additionally, 5,700 Community Health Workers received education on cancer awareness, playing a key role in mobilizing women for screening.

Close the Clinician Knowledge Gap in Radiotherapy

Recognizing the knowledge gap in radiotherapy, we continually collaborate with esteemed learning partners and offer free digital courses for radiation oncologists, medical physicists, and radiation therapists from low and middle-income (LMIC) countries. Over 6,500 radiotherapy clinicians have undergone free training, enhanced their skills, and ensured high-quality care, benefiting over 1.5M cancer patients.

Our achievements have garnered recognition from the Ministry of Health of Rwanda, local communities, and international authorities such as the White House Cancer Moonshot 2.0, World Cancer Congress, etc. Our partnerships have flourished, uniting international, national, and local allies in a collective effort to empower women-centered healthcare. Driven by a commitment to results and innovation, we are preparing to expand our work to other underserved countries in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Lacy Hubbard, President of Elekta Foundation

2. Mission and work areas

Elekta Foundation, whose operations began in 2022, is an extension of the publicly traded company Elekta's sustainability agenda. Its mission is to [improve access to cancer care in underserved countries](#). By collaborating with governments, academic institutions, private sector, and civil society, the Foundation aims to create smart and effective partnerships to counteract unequal access to cancer care. The initiative is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals related to health, education, reduced inequality, and partnerships (Goals# 3, 4, 10, and 17).

The global burden of cancer continues to grow, with an estimated [28 million cases expected by 2040](#). Healthcare systems in low-income countries are often ill-prepared to handle this burden, and a significant number of cancer [patients lack access to prompt diagnosis and high-quality treatment](#).

Africa faces a growing cancer crisis, and the number of cancer-related deaths could double in the coming decade if swift action is not taken. Elekta Foundation is committed to addressing these disparities in cancer care.

The work is divided into [two main areas](#):

[Awareness, screening & Prevention](#): Increasing awareness of cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment options among policymakers, healthcare providers, and the general public.

[Training & Skill Development](#): Supporting clinical training and research, providing educational programs for healthcare professionals, especially radiotherapy clinicians.



3. Programs and outcomes

We are building a scalable, sustainable, and adaptable model for cancer care in low-resource settings. Since its inception, the Foundation has designed and implemented numerous programs with partners across various fields. Women's health is crucial to us, as they are the cornerstone of communities. Enhancing skills and building capacity play a pivotal role in establishing high-quality and sustainable healthcare systems. Leveraging digital solutions is essential for accelerating progress in cancer care.

3.1 Cervical cancer and breast cancer awareness, screening and prevention

Every two minutes, a woman dies from cervical cancer, mostly in low and middle-income countries (LMICs). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 660,000 new cases of cervical cancer were detected in 2022.

Nearly one-third of the 342,000 women who died from the disease were in Africa. Late-stage cancer often results in death, leading many to view cervical cancer as a death sentence.



Cervical cancer is highly preventable and treatable, as 99 percent of cases are linked to the human papillomavirus (HPV). Apart from HPV vaccination for teenagers, adult women can prevent cervical cancer from HPV-DNA testing and preventative treatment when precancerous lesions are detected.

The innovative FAST model to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer

Leveraging the Foundation's accomplishments from the first year of operation, we've taken significant strides forward in Rwanda during our second year. After successfully completing the pilot phase in the Gicumbi district during 2022/23, we proceeded with Phase 2 to screen the entire district this year. This is the first district in the country to have achieved the required coverage of eligible women. In Phase 2, we finetuned the FAST model to make it faster, better, and more economical, and we screened nearly 24000 women in three months. This was a 30% efficiency gain compared to Phase 1.

Our program includes community outreach, HPV-DNA testing, follow-ups for HPV-positive women, and preventative treatment. Rapid self-sampling HPV testing forms the linchpin of the FAST model, and open-system laboratories are closely situated in the center of the screening program. They can process 800-1000 samples daily on a

single PCR machine. Quality control is supported by mobile colposcopy devices that assist in VIA procedures at each clinic, a dedicated gynecologist to mentor health providers on an ongoing basis, and a patient navigator to support patients from biopsy to cancer treatment. All data from POC (primary health centers) are synchronized to a centralized government-owned system, where a dedicated data manager ensures compliance and generates daily reports for prompt actions.

The FAST-model includes	Added value:
F = Fast HPV testing (>850/day) A = Affordable cost per woman (<25\$/women) S = Systematic tracking via digital tools T = Timely diagnosis and treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public-private partnership • High throughput • Digital solutions • Qualitative care

Results from Cervical Cancer screening since the start



+ 105,000
women screened
for cervical
cancer



+ 2,500
treated for
precancerous
lesions



+ 50
detected with
advanced stage
cancer

Dual Cancer Screening: Cervical and Breast, 2-in-1 Visit

In Rwanda, as in many African nations, breast cancer stands as the second leading cause of mortality after cervical cancer. The combination of stigma and limited access to screening often leads to late-stage diagnoses. To tackle this challenge, we have introduced a [2-in-1 model](#), allowing seamless cervical and breast cancer screenings in one visit to local health centers. Thanks to joint funding from Partners In Health (PIH), we successfully implemented this [integrated screening program](#) in the Kayonza district, located in the eastern region of Rwanda. By streamlining services, we not only enhance cost efficiency but also broaden our impact.

During dual screening sessions, healthcare providers conduct Clinical Breast Exams (CBE) alongside HPV testing. Individuals with abnormal findings proceed to breast ultrasounds for further diagnosis. This comprehensive approach optimizes cancer detection and resource allocation at primary care centers and ultimately improves treatment outcomes.

Results from Breast Cancer screening since the start



+ 82,000

women received
clinical breast
examination



+ 40

detected with
breast cancer

Community-based Palliative Care with One-Egg-a-Day program

Similar to other African countries, Rwanda faces a shortage of palliative care services for cancer patients. It's crucial to acknowledge that transplanting models from advanced nations won't adequately address the situation; context-specific solutions are imperative. To better support [women detected with cancer through our screening programs](#), we enlisted the expertise within Africa to develop community-based supportive care. This approach aims to enhance their quality of life, provide compassionate care, and meet the unique needs of the African region.

A ['One Egg a Day' pilot program](#) aims to combat malnutrition, reduce social isolation, and enhance treatment outcomes. Guided by palliative care specialists, local NGO volunteers educate cancer patients and their families on nutrition and health. Community Health Workers source locally produced eggs, boil them, and deliver them every three days. Additionally, volunteers conduct bi-weekly home visits to monitor progress and provide personalized support. This program emphasizes the importance of comprehensive cancer care, including community involvement, [nutrition, mental health, and social cohesion](#). Furthermore, this model is applicable in resource-constrained settings.



Capacity Development for Sustainability

Capacity building is a central task in our work, as it focuses on the long-term sustainability of our efforts. Collaborating with partners, we increase knowledge, train new skills, and build capacity, thereby contributing to effective institutional structures. For instance, local health providers receive comprehensive training, including HPV testing, clinical breast examination, cervix examination with mobile colposcope assistance, and performing thermal ablation to treat precancerous lesions.

Results from Capacity Building since the start



+ 5,800
community
health workers



+ 270
nurses and
midwives



Key insights from our work in Rwanda

- Community Health Workers (CHWs): Vital for local mobilization.
- Local Screening Services: Improve accessibility and outcomes.
- Screening and Treatment Linkage: Early detection leads to timely intervention.
- Patient Navigator: Ensure seamless follow-up and care coordination.
- Dedicated Data Manager: Accurate tracking and timely evaluation.
- Gynecologist and Nurse Master Trainers: Enhance quality of care from local nurses.
- Comprehensive Care: Address nutrition and mental health for recovery.

Our partners

Government:

Ministry of Health



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Health

Rwanda Biomedical Center



A Healthy People. A Wealthy Nation

Civil Society:

Society for Family Health



ACREOL



Heza Initiative



Läkarmissionen



Global NGO:

Partners in Health



Private sector/Other

gynius

VINNOVA
Sweden's Innovation Agency



3.2 Education programs in radiotherapy

Despite radiotherapy being a critical component in cancer treatment, its availability remains significantly inadequate in many low-income countries. The scarcity of qualified professionals exacerbates the situation. While vendor training is beneficial, it often falls short. Comprehensive education is essential to empower clinicians to treat patients promptly, safely, and effectively. Our program aims to bridge knowledge gaps, increase patient throughput, and enhance care quality.

Collaborating with Rayos Contra Cancer (RCC), a US-based NGO that leverages volunteer clinicians for teaching, we offer free and vendor-neutral educational courses to radiation oncologists, medical physicists, and radiation therapists in Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa. The interest in participating in these programs is substantial, and evaluations of the course have shown high scores and confidence level.

Key Results – education in radiotherapy since the start



> 6,500
radiotherapy
clinicians trained



> 1.5 million
patients benefiting,
total impact

3.3 Highlights and Recognition



In September 2023, Elekta organized a global fundraising event, “[Ride4Rwanda](#),” with the aim of raising funds for the Elekta Foundation's work in Rwanda. Thirty-nine cyclists embarked on a four-day journey, cycling from Crawley outside London to Amsterdam. Their impressive feat covered a total of 560 kilometers. The event raised \$55,000.

In late January 2024, Elekta Foundation celebrated its 2nd anniversary in Kigali, Rwanda. Representatives from the Ministry of Health, Rwanda Biomedical Center, Society for Family Health (SFH) and other partners joined a reception hosted by the Swedish Ambassador at the Swedish residence.



VINNOVA
Sveriges innovationsmyndighet



gynius



Vinnova, Sweden's Innovation Agency has approved an AI project through the Medtech4Health innovations program. The project aims to revolutionize cervical cancer diagnostics by using an AI tool to effectively detect precancerous lesions. The Elekta Foundation will validate this tool in the field, ensuring its accuracy and effectiveness in real-world conditions.

The Elekta Foundation and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) have signed an MoU to advance women's health. Our joint efforts integrate Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), emphasizing HPV awareness and early cancer detection.

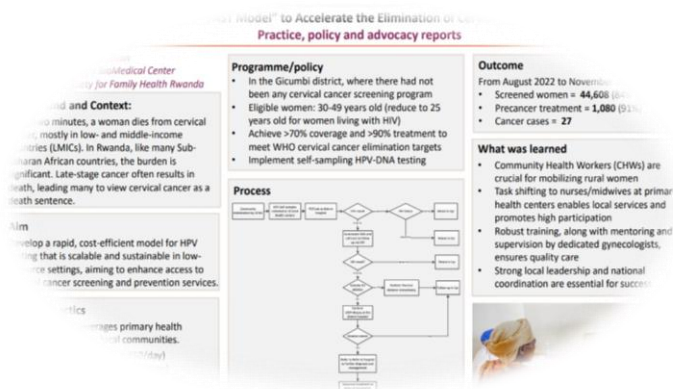


We implemented a barcode system for HPV testing, which speeds up the process and reduces human error. By using barcodes instead of names, lab workers remain unaware of patient identities. The software then converts the code to the woman's name and phone number when the results are ready, ensuring privacy.



The Elekta Foundation's efforts in cervical cancer elimination have been highlighted once again by the White House Cancer Moonshot Initiative. Cancer Moonshot 2.0, a comprehensive initiative led by the White House, aims to significantly reduce cancer incidence and mortality, ultimately making the word 'cancer' less daunting.

At the Global Health Catalyst Summit, President Lacy Hubbard received an award for the Elekta Foundation's rapid progress in fighting cervical cancer. Under her leadership, the Foundation has made significant strides in early detection and treatment, especially in Rwanda.



Four abstracts have been accepted by the World Cancer Congress 2024. These abstracts cover topics related to the FAST model for cervical cancer screening, 2-in-1 dual screening, the role of community engagement, and the "One Egg a Day" initiative.

3.4 Way Forward

As we look ahead, our commitment to eliminating cervical cancer and advancing women-centered care remains unwavering. The following strategic areas priorities guide our path forward:

Expanding Partnerships and Promote Cross-Sector Synergy:

- Actively seek new partners, donors, and co-financiers who share our vision. Collaborating with like-minded organizations amplifies our impact and accelerates progress.
- Strengthen existing partnerships to create a powerful network committed to our mission.
- Public-private partnerships play a crucial role. Through cross-sector collaborations, we bridge gaps, address disparities, and shape a healthier future by leveraging skills from both domains.

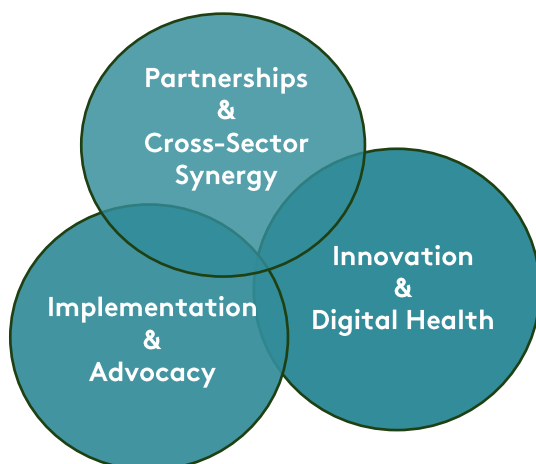
Innovation Integration and Digital Health Advancements:

- Work with partners to combine expertise and fresh ideas to create innovative solutions that push boundaries and transform cancer care.
- Embrace digital technologies, from AI diagnostics to remote patient management. Be at the forefront of advancements that enhance cancer awareness, screening, and prevention.
- Educating radiotherapy professionals to adopt new treatment technologies for better patient throughput and quality of care.

Proven Implementation and Advocacy in Action:

- Our track record speaks for itself. As skilled implementers, we translate vision into action. Our commitment to efficient execution drives tangible results.
- Showcase successful projects and transformative initiatives. Highlight how our actions directly benefit women's health and well-being.
- Advocate for cancer control and best practices to policymakers.

Our strategic lines extend an open invitation to potential collaborators. Join us on this transformative journey toward a world where cancer is no longer a burden.



4. History and governance

4.1 History

The Elekta Foundation is a Swedish philanthropic organization that was officially inaugurated on January 25, 2022, at the Swedish Pavilion at the World EXPO in Dubai. The Elekta Foundation operates under the rules of the Swedish Foundations Act (Stiftelselagen) and is governed by the County Administrative Board (Länsstyrelsen). The Registration number is 802482-0196, and the Foundation number is 1031648.

4.2 Fund Sources

The operations are funded by income from several sources, such as donations from Elekta's shareholders, corporate partnerships, and individual donors, as well as international and national institutional funding, the Rwandan government, and in-kind gifts.

4.3 Program Management

As an active implementer, we are deeply involved in both the design and execution of our programs. We are committed to minimizing administrative expenses to ensure that the vast majority of our funds are directed to these programs. For example, during our screening programs in Rwanda, we hire local project coordinators, experts, and master trainers. This model not only maximizes the impact of our funds but also aims to achieve sustainability, as local capacities and expertise can continually implement new programs and support cancer patients even after our programs conclude.

4.4 Governance

At the Elekta Foundation, we prioritize compliance issues as a cornerstone of our operations. Our governance framework is meticulously aligned with Elekta's robust governance standards, ensuring integrity, transparency, and accountability in all our activities.

The Elekta Foundation's Code of Conduct

Elekta Foundation is an extension of Elekta's sustainability agenda, and its operations rest on the Foundation's fundamental statutes. We maintain the same high standards and ethical values as Elekta, which is also why Elekta's Code of Conduct is valid for consultants, employees, and everyone engaged in the Foundation's work.

Doing what's right

Doing what's right is key and of utmost importance. For us, this is based on five pillars,

- **Avoid** - conflict of interest, improper payments, and corruption.
- **Respect** - human rights and equal opportunities.
- **Contribute** - to sustainable development and health and safety.

- **Protect** - confidential and personal information. Safeguard foundation integrity and assets.
- **Comply** - with local and international laws and regulations.

Responsible utilization of resources

The Elekta Foundation, as an NGO, recognizes the critical importance of managing resources with utmost care and responsibility. We are therefore committed to ensuring that every resource—whether financial or material—is utilized effectively and efficiently to achieve our mission. We believe in transparency. In our external communications, we openly share how resources are allocated. Our stakeholders deserve to know how their contributions are making a difference. In order to keep overhead costs at a minimum, Elekta Foundation pays Elekta five percent of each expense for their IT, HR, and other administrative services, which is a more cost-effective solution than building Elekta Foundation infrastructure.

Management team:

President, Lacy Hubbard

Before joining the Elekta Foundation, Lacy spent 23 years in the radiotherapy industry, holding various Vice President positions in building teams, developing service products, and leading transformational programs across the globe. At the Elekta Foundation, Lacy has established a new organization and operation. She designed and implemented scalable, sustainable, and adaptable models for women's cancer screening and prevention in low-resource countries. By leveraging cutting-edge technologies and digital innovations, the Foundation has achieved efficacy, cost-effectiveness, and high impact.



Lacy earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in Shanghai, China, and an Executive MBA from Washington University in St. Louis (WashU) in the United States.

Communications & Partnerships Manager, Cornilla von Plomgren

Cornilla has held various executive roles in the NGO and logistics sectors. Regardless of work, sustainability has been regularly present throughout her career. At ActionAid, she managed partnerships and developed projects for children's psychosocial support in Zarqa, Jordan, and education in Nam Chua, Vietnam. She also served as Commercial Director for Mentor and Head of Sightsavers Sweden & Norway. Cornilla is a strong advocate for cross-sector collaboration and firmly believes that digitization, combined with innovative solutions, can address numerous societal challenges.



Cornilla earned a Master of Law from Stockholm University and studied Business Administration at Umeå University in Sweden.

Executive assistant, Viveca Gasslander

Viveca supports the Elekta Foundation as an Executive Assistant. She has extensive international experience at various companies, managing large projects such as conferences, events, training, and education programs. At Elekta AB, she serves as the Executive Assistant to Chairman and Founder Laurent Leksell, the Directors of the Board, and the Executive Vice President of Human Resources. Viveca is proud to contribute to improving cancer care in underserved regions and communities, believing in the Foundation's vision and its potential to make a difference.



Accounting:

Maria Häggström, Aglaia

Auditing:

Auditor, Helena Andersson, BDO

Board members:

Chair of Elekta Foundation, Cecilia Wikström

Cecilia Wikström has been a member of the Board of Directors for Elekta AB since 2018. She also serves as the Board Chairman of the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), the chair of the Alva Myrdal Centre at Uppsala University, and the CEO of both the Beijer Foundation and the Anders Wall Foundation. Cecilia served as a member of the Swedish Parliament from 2002 to 2009 and was elected to the European Parliament, where she served from 2009 to 2019.



Cecilia earned her Bachelor of Theology from Uppsala University in 1993. Since her ordination in 1994, she has held various positions within the Church of Sweden and is the author of several books.

Board member of Elekta Foundation, Larry Leksell

Dr. Laurent Leksell (Larry) is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Elekta AB and a principal shareholder of the company. He co-founded Elekta in 1972 with his father to commercialize the Gamma Knife, which his father, Dr. Lars Leksell, invented. Larry served as CEO of Elekta from 1972 to 2005. He also chairs the Board of Leksell Social Ventures, a philanthropic organization he established with his wife. Previously, he was Chairman of the Board at Stockholms Stadsmission from 2005 to 2015. Additionally, Larry holds Board positions at the International Chamber of Commerce and the Stockholm School of Economics in Sweden.



Larry has received numerous accolades, including the Gold Medal from the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences and the Medal of Enterprise from the Royal Patriotic Society. In 2013, he was awarded the Medal of His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

Board member of Elekta Foundation, Tomas Puusepp

Tomas has 40 years of experience in international medical technology. He held various positions at the Research Institute for Nuclear Physics, Scanditronix, and Ericsson before joining Elekta, where he became CEO until 2013. Tomas is a member of the Board of Permobil AB (part of Investor AB Publ. listed on OMX), Sectra AB (Publ. listed on OMX), and Implantica AG (Publ. listed on First North).



Tomas is a trained Electrical Engineer and studied physics at both the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm (KTH) and Stockholm University in Sweden. He also completed International Executive Management Training (IEP) at IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Together with our partners, we
have achieved amazing results since the
Foundation's inception. We are immensely happy, proud,
and grateful for everything that has been delivered and accomplished.
Our vision is to uphold everyone's right to access high-quality and equitable cancer care
because we believe where you live should not determine how long and how well you live. In the
coming years, we plan to expand our programs to all districts in Rwanda and extend our
reach to other African countries. Our Elekta Foundation needs your support to
succeed. With your support, we can make our vision a reality. We look
forward to building upon our success and having an even greater
impact in underserved countries. Information on how to
support and collaborate with us can be found on
our website **[www. elektafoundation.com](http://www.elektafoundation.com)**



Elekta Foundation
Hagaplan 4
113 68 Stockholm, Sweden
www.elektafoundation.com