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Title: Humanitarian Collaboration to Improve the Venezuelan Health System

The Venezuelan health system has deteriorated in the last decade due to its economic and political crisis. Extreme inflation and reduced gross domestic income generated due to low oil demand, excessive government spending, United States economic sanctions, and incongruent price controls have negatively impacted the health care system, leading to a collapse in infrastructure and shortage of food and medicine. Without regular reports on basic health indicators, assessment of the impact of the crisis is difficult. With the health care system and public health in decline, the country has suffered from increasing communicable and non-communicable disease burden. As expected, infectious disease cases including measles, malaria, diphtheria, HIV, zika, chagas, dengue, chikungunya, and tuberculosis are rising. The impact of infectious disease outbreaks threaten not only Venezuela, but other border nations and trading partners. The United Nations (UN), Red Cross, Caritas, and multiple countries have offered humanitarian aid; however, the Venezuelan government has declined it. We propose an approach to address this challenge through a humanitarian collaboration. Framing this approach under the UN Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being and related international norms such as the International Health Regulations and Global Health Security Agenda, a multi-sectoral approach including public-private partnerships and OneHealth paradigm can leverage existing resources to prevent a potential outbreak which would result in high cost of mitigation. For example, a training partnership for emergency physicians, nurses, medical personnel, and health professionals from public and private sectors to coordinate with the Venezuelan government to enable massive and rapid assistance to those at risk in areas of vulnerability. These efforts will reinforce the needs for global health by educating, improving, maintaining, and promoting health and well-being in exchange of active learning, gain of relevant skills, and challenging work experience. This transfer of service for knowledge takes into consideration multiple interests and partnership and aims to facilitate and increase access to health care and to reduce the impact of existing and potential infectious disease morbidity and mortality.