



AN INITIATIVE BY





The OxygenForIndia initiative initiated at the height of the unprecedented oxygen crisis in April 2021. Led by Dr. Ramanan Laxminarayan, economist, epidemiologist, and founder and president of the One Health Trust (founded as the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy or CDDEP), OxygenForIndia is a collective effort of philanthropic organizations, corporations, medical and public health professionals, volunteers, and concerned citizens around the world. Many partners and nearly 14,000 small and large donors ranging from students raising money from their friends to Logitech, UiPath, Vista Equity Partners, Facebook, Give Foundation, and more came together to help support OxygenForIndia's work. The initiative persists with a long-term vision to ensure that no one in India dies due to a lack of medical oxygen.

### The immediate impact of our work was recognized by many local institutions in India that we supplied with oxygen equipment to during the shortages in 2021.

"OxygenForIndia was a bright light in a long, dark tunnel during the COVID-19 medical oxygen crisis. Not only did they mobilize a large group of diverse stakeholders to get oxygen to patients quickly, but their strong public advocacy motivated many other groups in India and abroad to imitate their model– saving many lives. The Every Breath Counts Coalition applauds OxygenForIndia for taking all that they learned during the pandemic to ensure that patients never again experience such tragic shortages by developing and testing new solutions, including a National Oxygen Grid. This work continues to inform the new Global Oxygen Alliance (GO2AL), led by Unitaid, The Global Fund, PAHO, the Africa CDC, WHO, UNICEF, and shape the Lancet Global Health Commission on Medical Oxygen Security which will report in 2024."

### Leith Greenslade

Founder & CEO, JustActions Coordinator, Every Breath Counts Coalition Member Board of Directors, TEAMFund



**20,000** Oxygen cylinders deployed



**3,000** Oxygen concentrators deployed



57 Urban and rural centers served



## Helping India Breathe



I would like to say thank you to OxygenForIndia for helping me with oxygen support in the pandemic situation. I got COVID in April 2021 and I developed breathing difficulty. I had to be admitted to the ICU for a month. I had breathing trouble after I got discharged and the doctor advised I stay on Oxygen support as there was inflammation in my lungs. I couldn't afford to buy an Oxygen concentrator due to financial problems. In this crisis, OxygenForIndia really helped me. They gave me the oxygen concentrator for free in a short span of time. It saved my life!



Thank you OxygenForIndia for your kindness and support. - MANISHA CHAUDHARY

I am obliged and grateful to OxygenForIndia for providing me help during these unprecedented times. I was found COVID positive on 9th May, 2021, having severe symptoms such as continuous rise in body temperature and throat and body ache. I tried my best to find an oxygen concentrator. Just when I was about to lose all hope, OxygenForIndia came as saviors. They provided me with the machine on the same day. The team came to my place and explained the technicals about the machine. It was a big relief for me.

Thanks to OxygenForIndia, they are oxygen heroes for me. - JAGDEEP KAUR

























Greetings from Rotary Club of Trichy Chola!

Sub: SERVICE APPRECIATION - OXYGEN WORK FOR COVID 19 SECOND WAVE

We wish to inform you that our TRICHY CHOLA ROTARY CLUB is fighting Congenital Heart disease is main causes and here we are happy and proud to inform you that till now we have successfully completed 161 Free Heart Surgeries (Intervention, Bye-pass Heart Surgery, Heart Valve Replacements to Infants, Children and Adult and also 2 Heart Transplantations (37 years old Male and 12 Years old boy).

We have Donated INR 1.25 Crores worth of Medical Equipment for COVID 19 Treatment to Trichy Taluk Government Hospitals of around INR. 1.25 Crores worth which includes RTPCR machine, Highflow Oxygen Therapy Machine, USG Colour Doppler Machine, Autoclave, ECG Machines, Auto analyser etc. We have circulated the Oxygen Concentrator Machines 30 Numbers to more than 100 needy and deserved peoples. The Oxygen concentrators and cylinders were in extreme demand from May 2021 to July 2021 and there was very little availability in our Trichy and Pudukottai istricts and options were expensive. We heard of Oxygen for India through Chennai Upscale Rotary Club and approached you for Oxygen equipment to distribute these in our Trichy and Pudukottai Districts and save lives, lessen the suffering of people. Oxygen for India provided 5 Litres Oxygen Concentrators against a refundable deposit and charges were most minimal. The delivery happened directly to our centres as



#64, 2nd Street, Jaya Nagar Extn., Karumandapam, Tiruchirapalli - 620001 M: 94434 96161 E: ramesh@candp.in

#### AID INDIA

Old No.45, New no.30, Pycroft Road, 1st Street, Royapettah, Chennai -600014. (Ph : 044-2860 2308, email: info@aidindia.in)

Date: 7th December 2021

From Ms. Gowri Subramanian Project Director. Aid India

Dear OxygenforIndia team.

Sub: Appreciation of Oxygen Service during second wave of COVID

The second wave of COVID in India created a lot of issues across the country and South India was no exception. Organizations like us were working hard to save lives and help people recover from COVID-19. The scarcity of oxygen created additional complications and oxygen equipment such as cylinders and concentrators were difficult to find.

During such trying times, your service of lending oxygen concentrators for a rental fee against a fully refundable deposit was very useful for us in providing aid to backward communities in rural areas.

With the support of 15 oxygen concentrators from your team, we were able to tend to the oxygen needs of rural people in 5 locations.

The following are the 5 locations wherein 3 concentrators each were provided. Vellore (632209), Thiruthani (632601), Thiruvannamalai (606601), Chengalpet (603110), Ranipet

Around 20 villages were catered to at each location and were benefitted from the provision of oxygen concentrators.

We thank you for your timely help and service.

Regards

P.S.

Gowri Subramanian Project Director, Aid India



#### **MELMARUVATHUR ADHIPARASAKTHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES AND RESEARCH** A UNIT OF ADHIPARASAKTHI CHARITABLE, MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL TRUST (Regd.) ] MELMARUVATHUR - 603 319. Tamilnadu, India.

Om Sakthi

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Dr Ramesh, Medical Director

1 November, 2021

Dear OxygenforIndia team,

Subject: Service Appreciation for Oxygen work

MAPIMS Hospital, Chengalpattu district was amongst the largest ICU facilities in Tamil Nadu providing treatment for COVID during the second wave in Apr - July, 2021. During this time we treated hundreds of patients for COVID-19 at Govt approved rates and also provided charitable treatment to the deserving.

During this wave we were looking to augment our oxygen resources to help patient recovery. At a time when it was difficult to source oxygen cylinders and concentrators, you have provided a valuable, charitable service of supplying oxygen concentrator against fully refundable deposit with minimal charges to help us treat patients. We have also received a full refund for all equipment that has been returned.

We appreciate your service and look forward to your support for the subsequent

COVID waves.

Date: 11th October 2021

M.Dinesh, **Co-Founder & Executive Director** No Food Waste. Coimbatore, Tamilnadu.

Dear OxygenforIndia Team,

Subject: Appreciation of Oxygen Service for COVID

No Food Waste is a not-for-profit organization working on surplus food recovery, hunger alleviation, emergency food assistance, nutritional development activities et

No Food Waste has been working on various solutions to address the above-mentioned problems including connecting untouched edible surplus food from various bulk food sources such as wedding halls, restaurants, corporate canteens with needy and hungry people. During COVID-19, No Food Waste has carried out several relief activities for helping the needy and deserving people.

In the middle of the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of COVID the most difficult item to source was Oxygen, we tried our best to source locally and otherwise but couldn't find many ready and reliable options. We heard about OxygenforIndia and approached you for sourcing concentrators to carry out our service. You provided oxygen concentrators and cylinders at minimal charges to enable organisations like us to carry out oxygen service.

We have taken 27 concentrators against payment of refundable deposit from OxygenforIndia. We were very happy with the quality of equipment and effort to ensure we get the equipment quickly despite many restrictions during COVID wave. We have done a partial return of equipment as some patients continue use concentrators. For all equipment returned we have got refund of deposit minus charges as agreed in contract.

We thank the OxygenforIndia team for their service and effort in enabling us to perform Oxygen

Warm Regards

For NO FOOD WASTE MORNech EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

M.Dinesh

waste.in@gmail.com Visit : www.nofoodwaste.in Help Line : 90877 90877





Co-Founder & Executive Director, No Food Waste.







5 M ARULALN DIRECTOR PONNI TECH PARK PVT LTD BANGALORE

From

Dear OxygenforIndia team,

Subject: Letter of Service Appreciation

During the  $2^{n\! d}$  wave of COVID outbreak in India when the entire nation was suffering to breath, our organisation was working towards helping people recover from COVID-19 & contribute to save the lives. But equipment's (cylinders & concentrators) were under huge scarcity or was available at unreasonable price in the market.

At such tough times, we heard about oxygenforindia initiative who were lending stock of cylinders and oxygen concentrators against a fully refundable deposit, transporting to our centre at very minimal charges as a service to help organisations & people.

We procured the concentrators and cylinders to help many communities and people in our local districts. We have been able to help at least <50> lives on their COVID recovery. As the need is diminished now, we have returned all the assets & received a full refund against the returned assets.

This letter is to formally appreciate the efforts put in by oxygenforindia team to go the extra mile and coming forward with initiative to providing oxygen machines. We look forward o your support for the next few months.

#### Warm Regards



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## abcNEWS

### A 'complete collapse' of preventive health: How India's 2nd COVID wave exploded

While the second wave wasn't avoidable, its scale was, experts say.

By Erin Schumaker April 29, 2021, 2:01 PM

 $\square$ 



Family members of a COVID-19 victim console each other during cremation in Jammu, India, April 25, 2021. Delhi has

In addition to the second wave being much bigger than the first, infections and deaths were concentrated among India's urban poor during the first wave, Laxminarayan explained. Many weren't tested for COVID and those who were sick often didn't make it to a hospital, meaning they weren't counted in official COVID-19 statistics. The first wave "was not visible to people in urban India," Laxminarayan said of middle- and upper-class communities. During the second wave, infections and death are everywhere.

#### Get 12 weeks for \$29.99 \$6

#### MEDICAL DISPATCH

## PANDEMIC

In countries where the storm is lifting, it's time to turn outward and help the rest of the world.





Family members of people infected with COVID-19 lining up to replace empty oxygen cylinders in New Delhi, in April. Photograph by Naveen Sharma / SOPA / Shutters

In late April, after his dentist's parents both died and after a colleague fell ill and couldn't get oxygen, Laxminarayan decided to shift from COVID research to COVID relief. He and his team at C.D.D.E.P. decided to focus on India's oxygen-supply problem, which has fundamentally limited the nation's hospital capacity. They launched an initiative called OxygenForIndia, raising eight and a half million dollars in two weeks; with the help of corporate partners, among them Verizon Media, Logitech, and UiPath, they have secured more than two thousand oxygen concentrators—portable devices that remove nitrogen from the air to produce purified oxygen—and thirty thousand cylinders to store gaseous oxygen. By some estimates, those cylinder donations add up to more gaseous oxygen than India has received through foreign aid to date. "Right now, no one wants to leave a hospital bed they're in," Laxminarayan said. "It's the only place they know perhaps they can get oxygen. We want to assure people they will have oxygen at home, so that hospital capacity is freed up for the sickest patients." Laxminarayan thinks that bolstering critical-care capacity is a long-term proposition—"You can't make doctors and nurses overnight"----and that India is better served today by making more efficient use of its existing infrastructure.

NEW YÖRKER

### INDIA'S CRISIS MARKS A NEW PHASE IN THE

### **Forbes**

#### The Oxygen Paradox: It's Available But Not Easily Accessible

I spoke to Ramanan Laxminarayan, an epidemiologist from Princeton now based in Delhi, who is the director of the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy. He's working to remedy the oxygen paradox through his new campaign Oxygen for India. Having written several on-the-ground accounts of India's Covid-19 crisis for the New York Times, he is now working with oxygen manufacturers and local NGOs to bring oxygen from the factories where it's being produced to the hospitals where its needed. As he explains, "The main challenge isn't necessarily an oxygen supply issue. Its getting the oxygen from manufacturers to the hospitals and patients. It's a transportation issue. It's the last mile." Laxminarayan has developed a model to help close this gap, which he calls *the last mile delivery* model, and is deploying it throughout the country.

## **KRON**

**CORONAVIRUS** 

## **COVID relief:** Bay Area residents launch fundraisers to get supplies into India

by: <u>Dan Kerman</u> Posted: Apr 28, 2021 / 09:24 PM PDT Updated: Apr 28, 2021 / 09:24 PM PDT

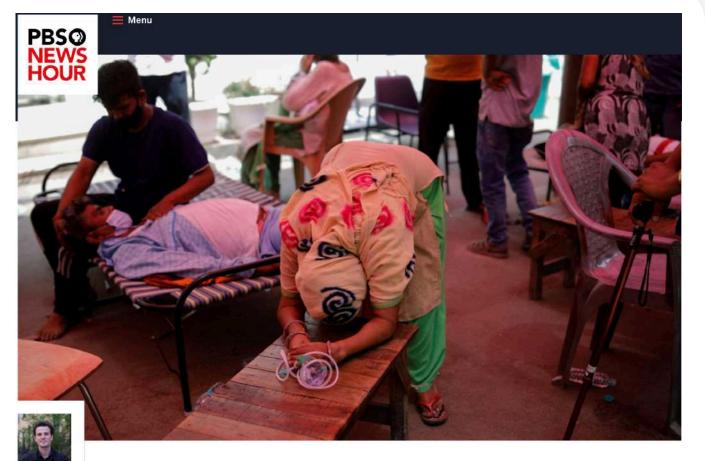
In the meantime, another group oxygenforindia.org is trying to raise \$400,000 to bring oxygen cylinders and concentrators to hospitals and patients at home.

#### Worldwide COVID-19 death toll tops a staggering 3 million >

San Francisco volunteer Neesha Wadhwa has extended family and in-laws in India.

"This issue is very close to me and also a humanitarian crisis so not just my personal relationship to it but being someone in the world who wants to do good and help solve this problem," Neesha Wadhwa, with oxygenforindia.org, said.







### How to help India during its **COVID surge – 12 places you can** donate

India is fighting a desperate battle against a new coronavirus surge that's sent COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths skyrocketing.

Nearly 58,000 people have died in the last month — accounting for a quarter of India's 222,000 deaths since the start of the pandemic according to official reports. But experts estimate that the recent jump in COVID-related deaths could be up to five times greater than official counts.

Multiple, potentially more transmissible variants are now spreading across the country. Vaccines are in short supply, hospitals are overwhelmed and running out of oxygen, crematoriums are full.



India

### Time for a powerful display of humanity

In a pandemic it is easy to apportion blame, but this is a moment for the world to be standing together

March 19, 2020 12:02 am | Updated 09:14 am IST



COMMENTS SHARE



As the COVID-19 pandemic fells country after country, many in India are wondering if we are somehow different. Globally, it took roughly 45 days for the first 100,000 cases. It is likely to take nine days for the next 100,000. The global death count is now doubling every nine days and stands at 8,248, with 207,518 confirmed cases. That is how epidemics work — they gather steam as infected individuals go on to infect even more people. Confirmed cases in India, as of today stand at 169, much lower than small countries such as Iceland (around 250). Could this really be the case that we have fared better than everyone else?

Probably not. Testing in India remains abysmally low. Only about 10 in a million people in India have been tested, compared to say nearly 120 in a million in Thailand or 40 per million in Vietnam. The stated explanation is that the limited number of test kits are being conserved for when they are truly needed but when is the need greater than right now? There are probably shortages even in being able to procure adequate supplies given that many countries are seeking to buy the limited stocks. Testing is the most important thing we could be doing right now. As the Director General of the World Health

🛱 READ LATER



## The COVID-19 crisis in India is getting worse. Here's how you can help.

"The virus is swallowing our city's people like a monster."



In this April 25, 2021, file photo, a relative of a person who died of COVID-19 reacts at a crematorium in Jammu, India. (AP Photo/Channi Anand, File)



A patient receives oxygen outside a Gurdwara, a Sikh house of worship, in New Delhi, India, Saturday, April 24, 2021. India's medical oxygen shortage has become so dire that this gurdwara began offering free breathing sessions with shared tanks to COVID-19 patients waiting for a hospital bed. They arrive in their cars, on foot or in three-wheeled taxis, desperate for a mask and tube attached to the precious oxygen tanks outside the gurdwara in a neighborhood outside New Delhi.



## **Beyond COVID-19**

Under the OxygenForIndia initiative, we are working with partners to establish a stable, reliable oxygen supply system for India, long term. This work has been supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and USAID. One Health Trust (OHT) researchers and collaborators are working with the government of Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka on state-wide pilots for what will eventually become a National Medical Oxygen Grid (NMOG).

The Grid is a state-of-the-art IT platform for monitoring, tracking, and supporting data-based decision-making, to ensure the supply of high-quality medical oxygen to all parts of the country and help deal with any fluctuations in demand.



The acute need for oxygen predates COVID-19, and shortages are a constant problem, particularly in rural India. Pregnant women and children with pneumonia can die without supplemental oxygen. Medical oxygen is among the most essential and best understood medical interventions.

Dr. Ramanan Laxminarayan Co-lead National Medical Oxygen Grid Project Founder and President of the One Health Trust





An ideal oxygen grid for the country would work much like an electricity grid, with central generation (LMO), transmission (tankers and cylinders), storage (liquid and gaseous), and decentralized production (PSA generators and oxygen concentrators). A sustainable oxygen grid one that supplies medical oxygen when and where it is required — needs both centralized and decentralized production, plus reliable transmission and storage.

Dr. Indu Bhushan Co-lead National Medical Oxygen Grid Project Founding CEO of Ayushman Bharat







# The National Medical Oxygen Grid (NMOG)

The NMOG was developed by researchers and public health experts at OHT to address the need for a systematic means of monitoring, regulating, and allocating a medical oxygen supply throughout India. A concept blueprint of the NMOG was released by OHT researchers in October 2022, serving as an overview of the final design of the model's pilot version, launched in July 2023.

## This IT platform is available in both a web portal version as well as a phone app version.

To conceptualize and build resilient data systems for decision-making and reporting, it is imperative to bring together rigorous thinking and robust innovation. Strong inter- and intra-departmental relationships are critical to catalyze national and state-level action, implement a resilient data system of oxygen access, and strengthen decision-making and governance mechanism across sectors.

Some of the ways in which NMOG will support health systems strengthening are as follows:

ensuring that oxygen is always available everywhere and, during any spurt in demand, diverting from production to consumption points while keeping the other points completely untouched;

forecasting changes in demand based on patterns of consumption to adjust production and ensure availability to meet evolving demands;

ensuring that most fluctuations in demand can be met through the existing production volume of medical oxygen and a storage reserve;

studying historical patterns of oxygen demand, supply, and consumption and driving policy changes based on data captured;

and acting as a global repository for oxygen capacity building tools such as clinical and technical guidelines and reports, training videos, posters, and more.

# **National Medical Oxygen Grid's** (NMOG's) Working & Operations

### One time activity

- Facility registration with HFR ID under ABDM
- Facility to declare their oxygen assets

#### Daily data entry

- Bed occupancy
- Disease specific patient load
- Oxygen stock, supply raised & received, and consumed

#### Data entry personnel

Oxygen asset operator/staff nurse/pharmacist

#### Data entry

• Under the supervision of oxygen nodal person such as a specialist, anesthetist, etc.

#### **One-time activity**

- Registration
- Declare their oxygen assets

#### Daily data entry

- Orders received, accepted, and dispatched
- Oxygen stock

#### Data entry personnel

Oxygen asset operator

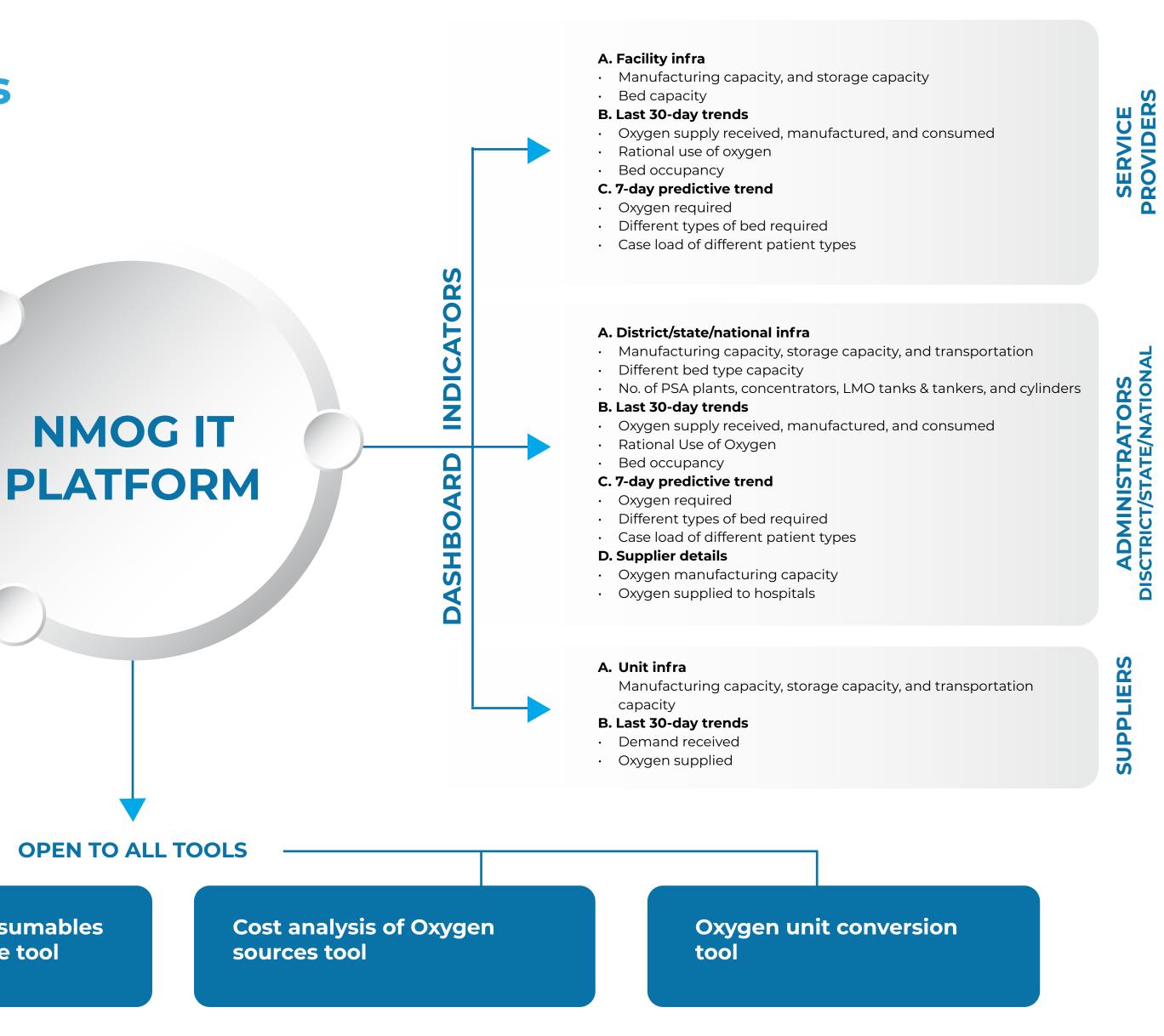
#### Data entry

• Under the supervision of facility manager

Knowledge products toolguidelines, training videos, and posters

Oxygen therapy consumables based on facility type tool

**OPEN TO ALL TOOLS** 



## What Makes **NMOG a Breath** of Fresh Air

The below chart displays a side-by-side comparison of features included in the NMOG in contrast to its predecessors.

The NMOG is compared to other platforms along the lines of pure technological functionalities as well as oxygen management-specific functions.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

- Intuitive User Interface Master/Satellite Users Privileges/Right Customization User Manual Included
- Accessible Technical Support/Grie

### **FEATURES**

- Facility Profile Creation Oxygen Infrastructure Manageme Bed Infrastructure Monitoring Supplier Profile Creation Disease-wise Patient Monitoring Mock Drill Management Order Placing & Management (De Order Placing & Management (Su Order & Delivery Status Tracking Oxygen Source Cost Analysis Oxygen Demand Estimation Bed Occupancy & Disease Case P Rational Use of Oxygen Tool Oxygen Unit Conversation Tool
- Predictive Analytics Dashboard

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## **NMOG Pilot Program**

A pilot program for the NMOG was launched in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka in July 2023 with the approval of state health authorities. It aims to test the effectiveness and usability of the NMOG IT platform. We are scheduled to implement the NMOG IT platform in both states before December 2023.

### **Community Health Centre (CHC)**

"App is useful to document oxygen usage and data entry made easy."

"Easy to use the app and data entry is simple."

"Tool allows us to monitor our consumption and supply especially refilling of cylinders."

- Nursing Officers
- PSA Plant Operator

### Sub District Hospitals (SDHs)

"Very easy to use and carefully designed tool."

"The NMOG app is valuable as it allows us to monitor our oxygen consumption and manage the distribution of oxygen effectively. It enables us to track our daily oxygen usage and proves to be a beneficial tool for our hospital."

- Chief Pharmacist
- Data Entry Operator

The pilot program was conducted at the following facilities:

## **Uttar Pradesh**

- King George's Medical University, Lucknow
- G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur
- Baba Raghav Das Medical College, Gorakhpur
- District Hospital, Sitapur
- Combined Hospital Lok Bandhu Raj Narayan, Lucknow
- CHC Mohanlal Ganj, Lucknow

### Karnataka

- Sir CV Raman General Hospital, Bengaluru
- GH KR Puram, Bengaluru
- CHC Thyamagondlu, Bengaluru

#### **District Hospitals (DHs)**

"Incredibly practical tool that facilitates the understanding on medical oxygen consumption"

"Tool allows us to access comprehensive information regarding oxygen & bed availability and equipment specifications."

- Biomedical Engineer
- Data Entry Operator

#### Government Medical Colleges (GMCs)

"Novel and excellent app, user-friendly interface encourages consistent data entry, easy to use, particularly effective for inventory monitoring."

"Highly beneficial for our daily data entry needs, provides insights into bed occupancy, performs automatic calculations."

#### • Chief Pharmacist

Data Entry Operator



## Work & Impact

# OxygenForIndia & The Lancet Global Health Commission on Medical Oxygen Security

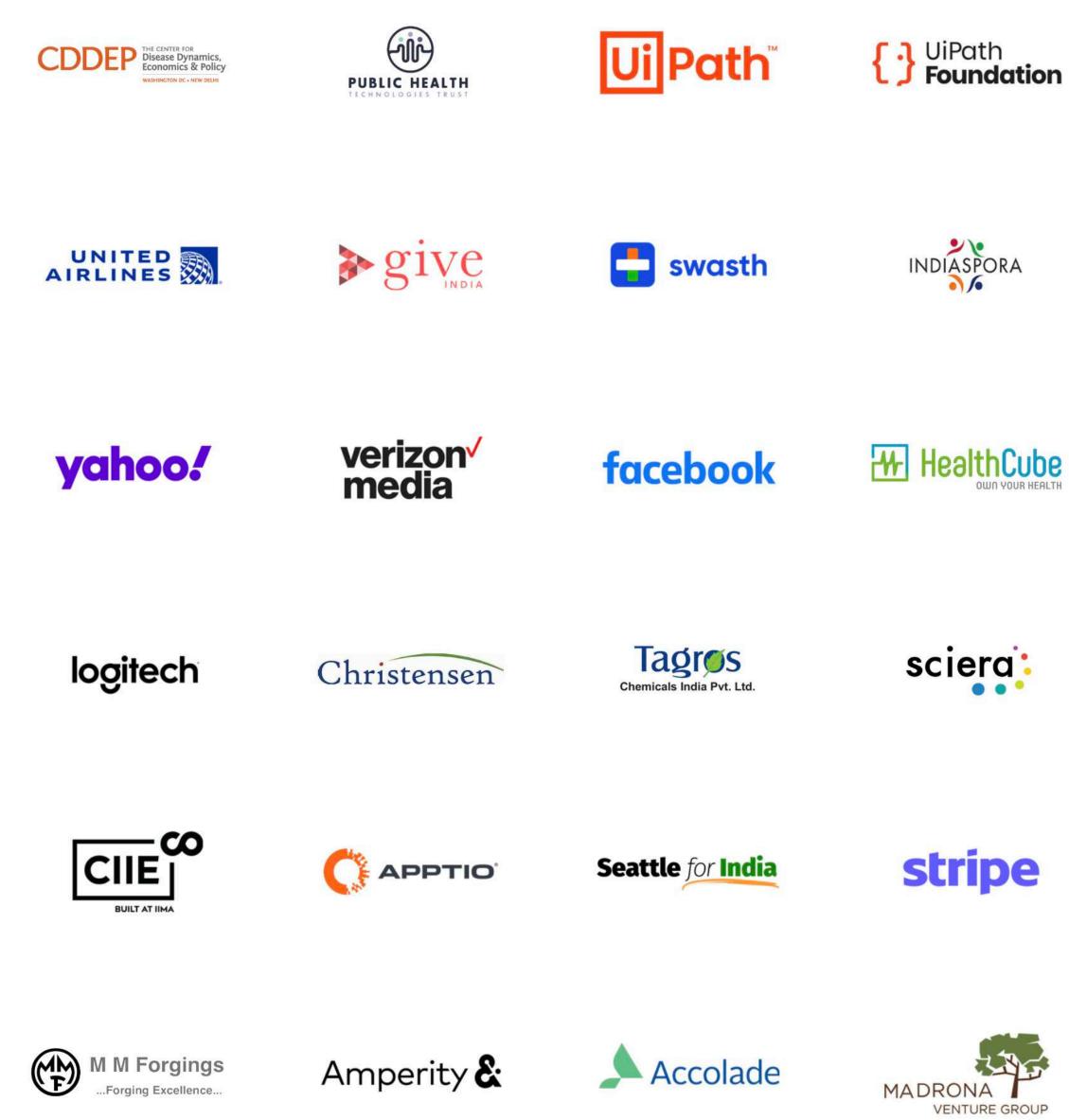
The Lancet Global Health Commission on Medical Oxygen Security is led by 20 Commissioners and guided by a team of 40 Advisors and an Executive Committee including co-hosting organizations— Makerere University in Uganda, icddr,b in Bangladesh, and the University of Melbourne and the Murdoch Children's Research Institute in Australia — with support from the Every Breath Counts Coalition.

In May 2023, The Lancet Global Health Commission on Medical Oxygen Security released a statement honoring the adoption by 194 WHO Member States of the first resolution dedicated to increasing access to medical oxygen at the World Health Assembly. The Commission, which includes OHT's Dr. Ramanan Laxminarayan, also highlighted the launch of a new Global Oxygen Alliance (GO2AL) to continue providing emergency oxygen support to low- and middle-income countries. The new WHO oxygen resolution will help countries bolster their health systems in the face of respiratory pandemics, like that of COVID-19.

Dr. Laxminarayan emphasizes the urgency to maintain the momentum gained in improving access to this life-saving and essential intervention.

# The Role of Oxygenation Devices in Alleviating the Oxygen Crisis in India

The One Health Trust's Dr. Deepshikha Batheja co-authored a new study evaluating the benefits of increased availability of oxygenation devices during the COVID-19 pandemic in India. The study indicates that training staff and providing oxygenation devices on a timely basis can help maximize their utility and allow healthcare facilities to address oxygen demands. This evaluation is relevant to strengthening health systems in many resource-constrained low- and middle-income countries (LMIC).















# **Thank You**

We are grateful for your support. Your contribution helped those who suffered without oxygen during the COVID-19 pandemic and endures by bolstering our fight to prevent future medical oxygen access crises.