

## Collaborative Pilot Project Begins in Guatemala with CHW's Foundation for International Health

Respira will be used as a rescue treatment for asthma exacerbations in a population particularly vulnerable to chronic respiratory conditions. Efficacy data and user feedback will be the primary endpoints of this field test.

November 17, 2008—As part of the first field test, volunteer doctors and nurses from CHW's Foundation for International Health will employ Respira to treat asthma exacerbations in the town of Esquipulas, Guatemala. Esquipulas is about 250 miles northeast of Guatemala City. The town suffers from a high level of dust and airborne particulate matter, closely linked to the elevated occurrence of various respiratory ailments.

The primary endpoints for this pilot study are positive efficacy data, sufficient durability and straightforward user interaction. Approximately 100 devices will be tested over a period of six months. Information gathered from the field will be used to further improve Respira for use in the developing world. Parallel studies in Mexico will supply additional field data that, taken cumulatively with this CHW field test, will strongly improve Respira Design's understanding of critical design parameters for the production version of Respira.

Respira Design intends to commercialize and distribute Respira to individuals and medical professionals in developing countries who suffer from or treat asthma. The device is a low-cost asthma spacer that enables the efficient delivery of aerosolized medication to a child's lungs. Not only is the device effective, but it is affordable to produce and distribute in underserved communities.

### About Catholic Healthcare West—Foundation for International Health

CHW's mission is to serve those who are poor or disadvantaged both domestically and internationally. The foundation is a collaborative healing ministry that alleviates unnecessary suffering by promoting self-sustaining communities, providing education and supporting health care services to people in need.

### About Respira Design

Respira Design ([www.respiradesign.org](http://www.respiradesign.org)) is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to create and implement solutions that improve healthcare outcomes for sufferers of asthma in the developing world.

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