

Research

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch that illuminates the world."
Louis Pasteur, France (1822-1892)

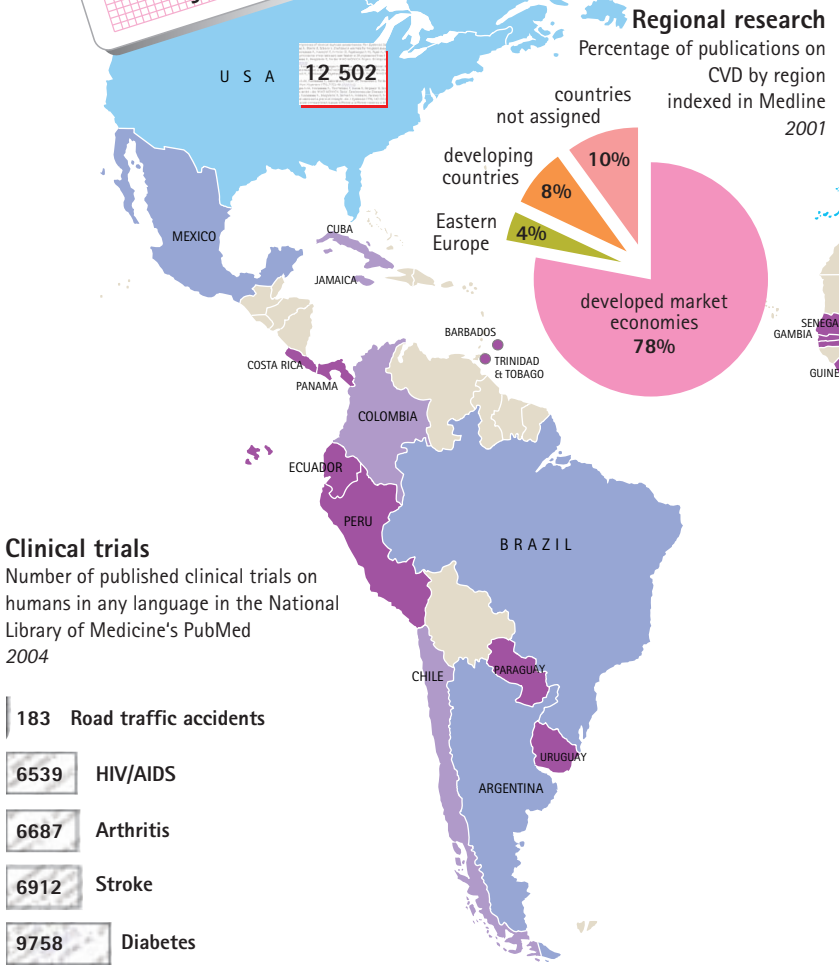
From the description of how a heart muscle cell contracts to the elucidation of the human genome, scientific advances in basic, clinical, and population research in cardiovascular disease, and their global impact, have been phenomenal. New and improved treatments have become possible, and novel markers of future risk have been identified.

Yet several key challenges remain. There is a widespread lack of research capacity, standardized data, communication networks, and human and financial resources, especially in developing countries.

The MONICA (Multinational MONITORing of trends and determinants in Cardiovascular disease) Project involved teams from 38 populations in 21 countries from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, the largest such collaboration ever undertaken. It was set up to explain the diverse trends in cardiovascular disease mortality observed from the 1970s onwards. The project monitored a study population of 10 million men and women, aged 25 to 64 years.

MONICA was important in measuring levels and trends in cardiovascular diseases and their risk factors in different populations, in monitoring prevention policies in different countries, and in demonstrating the importance of the new acute and long-term treatments that were being introduced.

Expenditure on stroke research in the United Kingdom is equivalent to less than 4% of the total annual cost of stroke to the UK health services.



Clinical trials

Number of published clinical trials on humans in any language in the National Library of Medicine's PubMed 2004

