



Actions that cancer advocates can take to support the integration of cancer within national Universal Health Coverage (UHC) packages

Developing national UHC plans:

- Call for and engage with national stakeholder mechanisms and consultations to develop time bound national UHC targets consistent with existing commitments, such as the SDGs, Political Declarations on NCDs, and the 2017 cancer resolution. Request regular national stakeholder consultations to develop the above.
- Coordinate with other cancer and NCD organisations to develop joint cancer and/or NCD advocacy priorities, key messages and resources.
- Call for the integration and alignment of existing national cancer control plans with national UHC plans to provide the foundation for cancer services (including the incorporation of key milestones and deadlines).
- Push for the development of a clear and comprehensive national UHC monitoring framework, that integrates data from existing sources such as cancer registries, and regular reporting on progress nationally, at the second HLM on UHC in 2023, and as part of [voluntary national reviews](#).

Prioritising prevention and early detection:

- Call for a comprehensive package of cost-effective and evidence-based prevention measures for cancer and NCDs, drawing on the WHO recommendations including the '[Best Buys](#)' and [other recommended interventions](#) and technical packages for cancer and NCDs.
- Support stronger public information on cancer risk factors, cancer signs and symptoms and press for investment in screening and diagnostic services to alleviate the economic and social impacts of late-stage cancer diagnoses.

Integrating cancer treatment and care:

- Call for governments to use investments in existing cancer programmes, such as cervical cancer elimination, as a foundation for the progressive inclusion of evidence-based interventions to reduce the burden of other priority cancers nationally.
- Advocate for and monitor the inclusion of essential medicines, technologies and vaccines in national cancer control plans and relevant national priority lists, including their procurement, quality assurance and the allocation of sufficient and sustainable resources.
- Leverage national and international mechanisms, including TRIPs flexibilities where appropriate, to help secure affordable prices for essential cancer medicines, technologies and vaccines.
- Develop partnerships across health areas to address the issue of antimicrobial resistance.
- Draw on existing language contained in the [2018 Political Declaration on NCDs](#), World Health Assembly resolutions (including on [cancer](#) and [palliative care](#)), and the [Declaration of Astana](#) to support comprehensive action on palliative care as a core component of UHC.

Investing in cancer and UHC:

- Call on governments to ensure that national UHC plans are fully budgeted and adequate resources are identified, drawing on domestic, bilateral, multilateral and innovative financing.
- Explore existing investment recommendations contained in documents like the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, 'Saving lives, Spending less' report, Lancet Oncology commission on radiotherapy, Lancet Oncology commission on cancer surgery, Lancet commission on economics and NCDs, as well as individual national resources.
- Call on governments to meet existing official development assistance (ODA) commitments, including a contribution of 0.7% of gross national income for developed countries, and call for the inclusion of cancer and NCDs to be included within ODA portfolios.
- Urge multilateral and bilateral funders to re-orient financing mechanisms to support the development of integrated, people-centred services under national UHC plans.