

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Global coalition releases new guidance on breast cancer control

BCI2.5 launches Knowledge Summaries for Comprehensive Breast Cancer Control

SEATTLE — Mar. 8, 2017 — International Women's Day marks the launch of a new series of tools to support policymakers, clinicians and cancer advocates in planning breast cancer control programs. The [Knowledge Summaries for Comprehensive Breast Cancer Control](#) are the product of a multi-year collaboration led by the [Union for International Cancer Control](#); [Breast Health Global Initiative](#) (BHGI), which is based at the [Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#) in Seattle, Washington; and the [Center for Global Health](#) at the U.S. National Cancer Institute. This effort supports the goals of the [BCI2.5 campaign](#) to make breast health a global priority and reduce disparities in breast cancer outcomes.

Breast cancer is the most prevalent cancer in women worldwide affecting more than [1.6 million](#) women each year. Estimates suggest [5.8 million](#) women will die from breast cancer by 2025, with a disproportionate number of these deaths occurring in low-resource settings around the world. BCI2.5 provides strategic, evidence-based expert support to countries in their efforts to develop and implement diagnosis, treatment and palliative care programs to improve breast cancer outcomes for women.

"UICC believes that all women must have access to information for their own breast health and access to lifesaving early detection, referral and treatment services. We call on policy makers to harness these new resources to put these critical services in place," said Dr. Julie Torode, Deputy CEO, UICC in Geneva, Switzerland.

The 14 [tools](#) build on resource-stratified guidelines developed by BHGI. BHGI applied an evidence-based consensus panel process to build a framework to define resource prioritization pathways and delivery systems for breast cancer early detection, and diagnosis and treatment at four levels of available resources — basic, limited, enhanced and maximal. The tools provide resource-stratified pathways to facilitate decision-making by policymakers, health care administrators and advocates engaged in implementing breast cancer control programs at various resource levels. Each summary contains relevant clinical content, evidence-based approaches to guide breast cancer control and policy and advocacy considerations to aid in the development and implementation of programs and implementation of selected strategies. They emphasize coordinated, incremental program improvements across the continuum of care to achieve the best possible outcomes at each resource level.

"Cancer control planning is complex and multi-faceted. Evidence has shown that breast cancer outcomes can improve when prevention, early diagnosis, treatment and palliation are integrated and synchronously developed. These tools provide much needed guidance on following a resource-appropriate phased implementation strategy that engages multiple stakeholders including breast cancer survivors, advocates, clinicians and policymakers in the process," said [Dr. Benjamin O. Anderson](#), director of BHGI, BCI2.5 secretariat co-chair, researcher in the Public Health Sciences Division at Fred Hutch and director of the Breast Health Clinic at [Seattle Cancer Care Alliance](#).

More information is available at BCI2.5 campaign's [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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About BCI2.5

Breast Cancer Initiative 2.5 (BCI2.5) is global campaign to reduce disparities in breast cancer outcomes for 2.5 million women by 2025. It operates as a network of partners and likeminded organizations that share a commitment to reducing disparities in breast cancer outcomes and collaborate through BCI2.5 to increase the effectiveness of our independent and collective efforts while catalyzing greater global investment and commitment to breast health care. BCI2.5 Founding Network Partners are the American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen®, Union for International Cancer Control, Breast Health Global Initiative, Fred Hutch, Harvard Global Equity Initiative, National Cancer Institute Center for Global Health (of the National Institutes of Health, US Department of Health and Human Services), Norwegian Cancer Society, Pan American Health Organization and Women's Empowerment Cancer Advocacy Network. The BCI2.5 secretariat is based in Seattle, Washington at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

About Fred Hutch

At [Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#), home to three Nobel laureates, interdisciplinary teams of - renowned scientists seek new and innovative ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer, HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening diseases. Fred Hutch's pioneering work in bone marrow transplantation led to the development of immunotherapy, which harnesses the power of the immune system to treat cancer with minimal side effects. An independent, nonprofit research institute based in Seattle, Fred Hutch houses the nation's first and largest cancer prevention research program, as well as the clinical coordinating center of the Women's Health Initiative and the international headquarters of the HIV Vaccine Trials Network. [Private contributions are essential](#) for enabling Fred Hutch scientists to explore novel research opportunities that lead to important medical breakthroughs. For more information visit fredhutch.org or follow Fred Hutch on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [YouTube](#).

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