

The World Cancer Declaration

The World Cancer Declaration is a tool to help bring the growing cancer crisis to the attention of government leaders and health policy-makers in order to significantly reduce the global cancer burden by 2020 through 11 key targets.

It represents a consensus between government officials, public health experts and cancer advocates from around the world who are committed to eliminating cancer as a life-threatening disease for future generations.

In one easy step individuals can make a difference. By signing the World Cancer Declaration, signatories join a worldwide community calling on key decision makers to commit to key actions required for a cancer free world.

www.uicc.org/signdeclaration



"We the global cancer community call on the world to take immediate steps to reduce the global cancer burden by committing to the 11 Declaration targets and providing the resources and political backing needed to achieve them."

As the custodian of the Declaration, UICC encourages action to achieve the Declaration's targets locally, nationally, regionally and globally, and promotes a comprehensive response across the globe.

Partnership is key within the framework of the World Cancer Declaration: **"By working together, we can more easily implement the priority actions and achieve the 2020 targets."**

Targets: by 2020

1. Sustainable delivery systems will be in place to ensure that effective cancer control programmes are available in all countries
2. The measurement of the global cancer burden and the impact of cancer control interventions will have improved significantly
3. Global tobacco consumption, obesity and alcohol intake levels will have fallen significantly
4. Populations in the areas affected by HPV and HBV will be covered by universal vaccination programmes
5. Public attitudes towards cancer will improve and damaging myths and misconceptions about the disease will be dispelled
6. Many more cancers will be diagnosed when still localised through the provision of screening and early detection programmes and high levels of public and professional awareness about important cancer warning signs
7. Access to accurate cancer diagnosis, appropriate cancer treatments, supportive care, rehabilitation services and palliative care will have improved for all patients worldwide
8. Effective pain control measures will be available universally to all cancer patients in pain
9. The number of training opportunities available for health professionals in different aspects of cancer control will have improved significantly
10. Emigration of health workers with specialist training in cancer control will have reduced dramatically
11. There will be major improvements in cancer survival rates in all countries

PROGRESSING TOWARDS THE 2020 TARGETS

- Through its member organisations, now more than 400 in over 120 countries, the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) promotes partnerships and international collaboration aimed at accelerating progress towards achieving the 2020 targets
- Given the huge variability in cancer burden and service provision throughout the world, UICC encourages members to use the World Cancer Declaration as a template to develop regional or national cancer declarations that can better reflect local needs and priorities and allow for more accurate quantification of targets where data exists



Priority actions

We believe that the Declaration targets can be achieved, provided that a number of priority actions are implemented:

HEALTH POLICY

- Place cancer on the development agenda. Increase the political priority given to cancer by demonstrating that a country's investment in dealing with its growing cancer problem is an investment in the economic and social well-being of the country. Organisations concerned with cancer control should work with the global donor community, development agencies, the private sector and all civil society to invest in cancer control
- Mobilise stakeholders to ensure that strategies to control cancer globally are targeted at those who are most in need. Involve all major stakeholder groups in the development, or updating, of national cancer control policies
- Implement strategies that have been proven to bridge existing cancer surveillance gaps
- Increase efforts to involve cancer patients in cancer control planning at a local and national level

CANCER PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION

- Increase efforts to reduce tobacco consumption by encouraging governments to fully implement and enforce the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)
- Raise awareness about the need for culturally sensitive cancer risk reduction campaigns, along with public and professional education about cancer warning signs. Push governments to implement policies that will support risk-reducing strategies at a community level and enable individuals to make more informed consumption choices and adopt healthier behaviour
- Encourage governments to implement measures to reduce people's exposure to environmental and occupational carcinogens
- Undertake actions to ensure that vaccines and other strategies that are shown to prevent cancer-causing infections are made more widely available
- Advocate for the provision of affordable screening programmes for which there is evidence of efficacy in the population in question. Undertake pilot projects that are designed to evaluate the feasibility and efficacy in populations in which the screening technology has not yet been tested

CANCER TREATMENT

- Promote the development and use of cancer treatment guidelines that are relevant to local needs and resources. Ensure that sufficient treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care facilities and well-trained staff are available to meet the physical, social and emotional needs of patients with cancer
- Take steps to tackle the many barriers to optimal pain control. Work with governments to address the over-regulation of pain medicines. Cooperate with international organisations, including the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization, to ensure that global implementation of the UN's international drug control conventions do not unduly interfere with legitimate efforts to advance access to pain medicines for cancer patients in pain
- Work with the pharmaceutical industry to increase access to cancer medicines that are affordable and of assured quality
- Increase the number of health professionals with expertise in all aspects of cancer control by providing specialist training opportunities and fellowships to enable professionals to study in specialist settings
- Raise awareness about the impact of health worker emigration on the ability of countries to provide adequate levels of cancer care and work collectively to address global and national health workforce shortages and the resultant deepening of inequity
- Increase investment in independent basic and applied cancer research and accelerate the translation of research findings into clinical and public health practice
- Encourage cancer research organisations in different countries to collaborate, share data and define complementary research objectives to optimise the use of the limited funds available for cancer research and reduce duplication of effort

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