Stakeholders’ webinars on WHO cancer initiatives

Session: Financing for cancer

Date: 2 February 2024, Time: 15:30–17:00

Venue: Virtual meeting, webinar: https://who.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TdPlsTD8QNq1JDtgsqfAHA

Introduction

Cancer has an impact on many aspects of life, not just the health of the individuals affected, but also their families, professions, and overall well-being. The emphasis on advocacy and education for early screening and diagnosis is crucial, as it can significantly affect treatment outcomes and survival rates.

However, an often-under-discussed aspect of cancer is the financial burden it places on those living with the disease and their support networks, including families and caregivers. This burden can come from medical expenses, loss of income, and long-term financial impact.

Addressing this financial burden is as important as the medical treatment itself. This includes advocating for better insurance coverage, financial assistance programmes, and support for those dealing with the economic impacts of cancer. It also involves educating patients and families about available resources and financial planning strategies to manage these costs.

Creating a supportive community and resources for financial counselling and assistance can significantly alleviate the stress and burden on those affected by cancer, allowing them to focus more on recovery and quality of life.

This webinar aims to shed light on the multifaceted challenges posed by cancer, moving beyond health concerns to address the critical aspect of financial burdens and support mechanisms. An invited panel of experts, advocates will discuss the following:

1. Financial challenges faced by persons living with cancer and their support networks.
2. Need for better insurance policies and financial assistance programmes to help people affected by cancer. This involves advocating for policies that provide broader and more accessible coverage.
3. Information on available resources and strategies for financial planning. This includes educating patients and families about how to manage medical expenses and other related financial burdens.
4. Building on the strategic leadership of WHO and invite participating entities to strengthen collaboration with WHO and its partners at global, regional, national and local level.

The meeting will be conducted in English.