



World Cancer Congress
Geneva, Switzerland
18 – 20 Oct 2022



Media Advisory

For information only – Not for publication

Inaugural study on number of maternal cancer orphans worldwide to be presented at the World Cancer Congress.

2,000 scientists, public health officials, civil society representatives and activists to attend the event in Geneva, 18-20 October 2022.

Thursday 22 September 2022 (Geneva, Switzerland)—Preliminary findings on the global number of children orphaned by the death of their mother or carer due to a cancer-related illness will be reported on for the first time at the [World Cancer Congress](#), organised by the Union for International Cancer Control ([UICC](#)). The study is one of a number that will highlight new findings at the event.

In another abstract, South African researchers will be presenting the estimated cancer burden and the projected costs of cancer in the country by 2030. This comes at a time when non-communicable diseases such as cancer are surpassing communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS or malaria [as the main cause of death](#) in sub-Saharan Africa. And a joint study by Australian and French researchers identified a positive association between pre-existing cancer diagnosis and COVID-19-related death.

The World Cancer Congress will also host high-level debates, expert sessions and patient testimonies, on the prevention, screening and early detection of cancer, palliative care, cancer research and progress, and tobacco control ([see programme themes and schedule](#)).

What: World Cancer Congress

When: October 18-20

Where: International Conference Center Geneva. Online registration with access to on-demand recordings of sessions is also available.

Topics and speakers include:

Generational ban on tobacco: New Zealand has pioneered new legislation aimed at making the next generation “smoke-free” by prohibiting anyone born after 2008 from buying tobacco products in their lifetime. There are moves in [Southeast Asia](#) and [Europe](#) to implement similar legislation.

Thursday 20 October, 11.10am – 12.10pm.

- **Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall**, Associate Minister of Health of New Zealand
- **Adriana Blanco Marquizo**, Head of Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
- **Ulysses Dorotheo**, Executive Director of the Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance (SEATCA)



World Cancer Congress Geneva, Switzerland 18 – 20 Oct 2022



Discussion on promising breakthroughs: vaccines, multicancer screening, precision interception and prevention, immunotherapy, artificial intelligence. What current innovations are helping to improve care in low-income settings and close the equity gap? *Thursday 20 October, 8.30-9.30am.*

- **Prof. Anil D'Cruz**, President of UICC (2020-2022) and Director, Oncology Apollo Hospitals
- **Dr Suzette Delaloge**, Associate Professor of Medical Oncology, Head of "Interception", the personalised cancer prevention programme at Gustave Roussy
- **Prof. Antoine Geissbuhler**, Director, Division of eHealth and Telemedicine, Geneva University Hospitals
- **Teresa Graham**, Head of Global Product Strategy, Roche Pharmaceuticals
- **Dr Elisabete Weiderpass**, Director of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

Regional cancer control strategies to reduce mortality: What are regionally relevant approaches that can be taken to try to reduce the burden of cancer considering available resources ?

Wednesday 19 October, 8.30-9.30am

- **Ahmed Al-Mandhari**, Regional Director for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean office
- **Marcos Espinal**, Assistant Director a.i., Pan American, Health Organisation (PAHO)
- **Stella Kyriakides**, EU Commissioner for health and food Safety, European Commission

Other invited speakers include:

Bertrand Levrat, Director of the Geneva University Hospitals; **Bente Mikkelsen**, Director of Non-Communicable Diseases at WHO; **Mauro Poggia**, President of the Council of State of Geneva and State Counsellor in charge of Health.

Other highlights of the programme:

- **Cancer Care in times of uncertainty, conflict and war:** The challenges of delivering care in zones of unrest and to refugees, with testimonies from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Latin America and Ukraine. [See relevant sessions.](#)
- **Improving access to cancer medicines** in low-income regions, following the recently launched Access to Oncology Medicines (ATOM) Coalition. [See relevant sessions.](#)
- **The threat of antimicrobial resistance for cancer patients**, the need for infection control and the rational use of drugs. [See relevant sessions.](#)
- **"Big debate" on the right to assisted dying.** Should medical aid in dying be available to cancer patients as part of palliative or supportive care? Under what circumstances? Ethical considerations and a look at countries where it is currently legal. *Wed 19 Oct, 1.40-2.40pm.*

###

Media Registration

Accredited media are invited to register at: <https://www.uicc.org/2022-world-cancer-congress-press-accreditation>

Registration provides in-person access to the Conference Center (CICG) and to the World Cancer Congress digital platform.



World Cancer Congress Geneva, Switzerland 18 – 20 Oct 2022



###

Further information:

Eric Grant

Communication and Media Manager, UICC

grant@uicc.org

Tel +41 79 124 15 23

Michael Kessler

Congress media consultant

michael.kessler@inton-media.com

Tel +34 655 79 26 99

###

About the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)

The Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) is the largest and oldest international cancer-fighting organisation. Founded in Geneva in 1933, UICC has over 1,200 member organisations in 172 countries. It enjoys consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). UICC has over 50 partners, including associations, companies and foundations committed to the fight against cancer. UICC is a founding member of the NCD Alliance, the McCabe Centre for Law & Cancer and the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP). UICC established the City Cancer Challenge Foundation in January 2019 and the Access to Oncology Medicines (ATOM) Coalition in 2022.

UICC's mission is to both unite and support the cancer community in its efforts to reduce the global cancer burden, promote greater equity and ensure that cancer control remains a priority on the global health and development agenda. It pursues these goals by bringing together global leaders through innovative and far-reaching cancer-control events and initiatives, building capacities to meet regional needs and developing awareness campaigns.

www.uicc.org

About World Cancer Congress

The World Cancer Congress unites the global health and cancer community with a multidisciplinary programme that features the latest successful interventions in cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care.



World Cancer Congress Geneva, Switzerland 18 – 20 Oct 2022



The Congress was awarded 'Best Conference Development' and 'Best use of social media' at the [2017 Association Excellence Awards](#).

The first International Cancer Congress was held in Madrid in 1933. It led to the foundation of the International Union Against Cancer in 1935, renamed the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) in 2010. The last edition took place in Malaysia in 2018.

www.worldcancercongress.org