

- PREVENTION -

Programme Development

To strengthen existing NGO programmes through funding and or partnerships with other NGOs and the government, and to establish community-centered programmes, promoting awareness of the lifestyle measures that prevent cancer

- EARLY DETECTION -

Collaboration among NGOs

To strengthen the capacity of NGOs to provide early detection, screening and support services through the pooling of scarce resources

Education

To establish public education programmes to increase awareness of early signs and symptoms, and the need for self-examination and cancer screening

- DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT -

Standards of Care

To encourage regional governments to address the insufficient and erratic supplies of treatment medications-e.g. chemotherapeutic agents

Access to Treatment

To improve the ability of health professionals to diagnose and monitor patients by improving the laboratory and medical imaging infrastructure available in the region and to improve patient referral mechanisms to ensure timely referral

Regional Reciprocal Arrangements

To encourage Caribbean governments to re-evaluate and or normalize reciprocal agreements regarding inter-island health care that is of an urgent and or essential nature for persons with a diagnosis of cancer

Resource Allocation and Management

To encourage policy level reflection and strategic planning regarding the level of finance and the human resources needed to achieve comprehensive cancer care-including long term management structure in both governmental and NGO sectors

Accountability

To facilitate the development of an environment of accountability regarding health system errors that contribute to negative patient outcomes

Education

To promote patient empowerment through education on their disease, treatment plan and available care options.

Information

To encourage the development of a regional atlas of cancer care services as a means of facilitating co-ordination, patient navigation and continuity of care

Insurance Coverage

To encourage Caribbean insurance companies to provide coverage to individuals that are BRCA positive without discrimination

This Caribbean Cancer Advocacy Agenda was developed largely in consultation with cancer patients and survivors in order to give voice to this community and support the process of greater cancer patient led cancer advocacy in the Caribbean.

- PALLIATIVE CARE -

Access to Pain Medication

To encourage Caribbean countries to ensure adequate and uninterrupted supplies of opiates; including legislative changes to the categories of health professionals who are able to administer this class of drug

Training and Management

To increase competencies related to the safe and rational prescribing of opiates and strengthen access to patient-centered palliative care led by a multidisciplinary team and including psycho-oncology support services

Hospice and Rehabilitation

To strengthen access to affordable hospice care facilities and rehabilitation services

- SURVIVORSHIP -

Advocacy Capacity

To build the capacity of survivors to openly advocate for improvements in cancer care across the cancer continuum

- MONITORING AND EVALUATION -

Cancer Registry Development

To encourage Caribbean governments to legislate for the establishment of sustainable cancer registries where none exist to facilitate effective cancer control planning

- CROSS-CUTTING -

NGO Capacity Building

To strengthen existing NGO cancer control and prevention programmes through: strengthening governance; improving resource mobilisation; strengthening advocacy capacity; and building of partnerships with other NGOs, the government and the private sector

Cost of Care

To encourage the government and the private sector including insurance companies to explore mechanisms of reducing costs and increasing affordability throughout the continuum of cancer care (ie. screening, diagnostics, medication, care, palliation and beyond the survivorship timeline)

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