

# How cancer affects our world

Non-Communicable Diseases, including cancer is one of the **World Health Organization's "Ten threats to global health."**

Every year, **9.6 million people die from cancer every year.**

**Progress is possible**

**3.7 million people** can be saved each year if we act.

**There's a lot we can do.**

Because genetic mutations play a role in **5-10%** of cancers. Whereas, **27%** of cancers relate to tobacco and alcohol use.

## What can you do to reduce your cancer risk?

- Choose healthy foods
- Move more
- Quit smoking
- Cut down on alcohol
- Be sunsmart & stay away from solariums
- Avoid pollutants and chemicals (including asbestos, pesticides and containers containing BPA)
- Get vaccinated
- Know the signs & symptoms

Good health drives productivity, social stability and economic growth.

What inaction costs us.

The total global economic cost of cancer is **1.16USD trillion**

What we're all losing financially:

- Lost productivity
- Lost household income
- Disability and premature death
- Healthcare costs
- Reduced quality of life

## Saving lives saves money

If we invested in **11.4USD billion** in prevention strategies, we'll save a massive **100USD billion** in avoided cancer treatment costs.

## Make the world a healthier place for all

Around **70%** of all cancer deaths occur in the least developed parts of the world.

### Why is that?

- 90%** of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) don't have access to radiotherapy – one of the essential ways to treat cancer.
- Only **5%** of global resources for cancer prevention and control are spent in LMICs.
- By 2040, the global demand for cancer chemotherapy will increase from **10 million to 15 million** – two thirds of this demand is expected to come from patients living in LMICs.

## Inequity in our own backyard

Your gender, level of education, level of income, and in which part of the country you live impacts your access to, and the level of cancer diagnosis, treatment and care you receive.

Inequities in accessing life saving cancer services exist for:

- Women
- Children
- Lower socio-economic populations
- Rural and remote populations

Let's give everyone a better chance with equal access to cancer care for all.

## Our target

To reduce **premature cancer deaths** and deaths from non-communicable diseases by **25% by 2025.**

## How do we get there?

- Early detection and diagnosis
- Timely and accurate treatment
- High quality data and research
- Improved supportive and palliative care

**Progress is possible.**

Today, there are **43.8 million people** who are alive within **5 years of a cancer diagnosis.** As investment, information, diagnostics and treatments improve, our chance of surviving cancer is getting better.

For cited references, visit [worldcancerday.org/infographic](http://worldcancerday.org/infographic)

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