WOMEN’S CANCER INITIATIVE

A JOINT COMMITMENT TO SAVE LIVES

Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization Regional Office for the Americas
Breast and cervical cancer are the most common women’s cancers in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Many lives could be saved if women had more access to cancer screening, early diagnosis and treatment, and if girls had more access to HPV vaccines.

Women need to be empowered with knowledge about how to prevent cervical cancer and detect breast cancer early.

Preventing new cancers, detecting them early, and ensuring treatment is a big step forward for women, their families and society.
They are the main supporters of families. They contribute to a country’s development and poverty reduction. They represent half of the workforce in developing countries. They ensure healthy children and families. They promote more friendly and positive environments. They are a key source of change in societies. Investing in women’s health contributes to gender equality.

There are more than 300 million women in the Americas.
Capacity building, to strengthen the country’s health system.

Research, for decision making that can change women’s lives.

Increased access and program strengthening, so every woman receives the care she needs.

Communication and advocacy, for an informed woman to take better care of herself, and her family’s health.
We all share a single mission: no woman should die because she didn’t have the information or access to services she needed, or because she was diagnosed too late, or couldn’t afford her treatment.

Detected early and treated effectively, cervical and breast cancer can be overcome.

Investments made to prevent, control and treat women’s cancers benefit all stages of women’s lives, from childhood to adulthood.

**TOGETHER FOR WOMEN**

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A public-private partnership led by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) and developed as part of the Pan American Forum for Action on NCDs. It was created to promote innovative solutions for improved access to breast and cervical cancer prevention, care and treatment, so all women can have healthy and productive lives.

**The Women’s Cancer Initiative** is a platform for joint action by governments, academia, civil society, private sector and international organizations, to improve the health of women.

Through this platform, all stakeholders are heard, individual efforts are strengthened and successful experiences are shared. Dialogue is facilitated and this leads to multisectoral actions with a wider scope and more potential benefit for girls and women.
01. CREATE AWARENESS ABOUT CANCER PREVENTION AND HEALTH CARE

02. EDUCATE AND INFORM WOMEN ABOUT THE NEED FOR HEALTH CHECKS TO PREVENT CANCER

03. EMPOWER WOMEN TO MAKE THEIR OWN HEALTH DECISIONS AND SEEK HEALTH SERVICES

04. ENSURE THAT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES PROVIDE QUALITY SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT SERVICES TO ALL WOMEN

05. FACILITATE ACCESS TO HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV) VACCINATION
How do we want to change the scourge of women’s cancers?

06. Build capacity among health care

07. Strengthen laboratories for accurate and timely diagnosis

08. Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of cervical and breast cancer programs

09. Promote research

10. Create capacity for evidence-based public policies for women’s cancers