

TACKLING THE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE AMERICAS: LAUNCH OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TASK FORCE ON NCDs

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The Brazilian government launched in 2011 its [Strategic Action Plan to Tackle Chronic Non-communicable Diseases \(NCDs\), 2011-2020](#), setting management commitments, prioritizing actions and investments needed to address and detain NCDs and their risk factors. The Plan covers the four main groups of chronic diseases (cardiovascular, cancer, chronic respiratory and diabetes) and their common risk factors (smoking, harmful alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, poor nutrition and obesity) and defines three strategic guidelines: a) surveillance, information, evaluation and monitoring; b) health promotion; c) comprehensive care. The plan sets goals and commitments made by Brazil in relation to NCDs, and the Secretariat of Health Surveillance, Ministry of Health (SVS / MS) who coordinates the plan's monitoring process.

The priorities established in the plan include the four major chronic diseases (cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, cancer, diabetes mellitus) and the four modifiable risk factors (smoking, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet and alcohol consumption).

The main goals include:

1. Obesity: reduce the prevalence of obesity in children 5-9 years; reducing the prevalence of obesity in adolescents 10-19 years; and stop the growth of obesity in adults (18 and over).
2. Alcohol: 10% reduction in the prevalence of abuse of alcohol in adults, four or more doses in women and five drinks or more in men in the last 30 days.
3. Smoking: reduce the prevalence of smoking among adults by 30%.
4. Physical activity: increase prevalence of physical activity in leisure by 10%.
5. Power: increase prevalence of recommended intake of fruits and vegetables or eating five daily servings by 10%.
6. Salt: reduction in the average daily consumption of 12 grams of salt (2010) to 5 grams (2022).
7. Early diagnosis of breast cancer and cervical: increase of mammography coverage in women between 50 and 69 years to 70% in the last two years; and expansion of preventive screening coverage of cervical cancer in women 25-64 years to 85% in the last three years.

For monitoring these goals, monitoring of the plan is carried out through preparatory regular meetings culminating in the annual Forums for the balance of the NCD Plan. These meetings involve several areas of MS, state and municipal departments of health, education and research institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). They are also



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held ministerial meetings organized by the Executive Secretariat of the MS (SE / MS) and SVS / MS, which involves twenty Ministries that develop actions under the Plan, highlighting: Ministry of Sports (ME), Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Supply (MAPA), Ministry of Culture (MC), Ministry of Education (MEC), Ministry of Social Development (MDS), Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), Ministry of Tourism (MTUR), Ministry of Science and Technology (MCTI), Public Ministry (MP), Ministry of Social Security (MPS), Ministry of Defence (MD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRE). They are also carried out searches of publications and legislation Government sites about the actions monitored by the respective plan.