WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer and how the Caribbean Subregion Fits In

Catherine Lam, MD, MPH, FRCPC, FAAP
Director, Health Systems Unit
Director, Asia Pacific Regional Program
Associate Professor, Faculty Pediatric Oncologist
Departments of Global Pediatric Medicine and Oncology
Co-Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Childhood Cancer
Background: WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

September 2011
UNGA High-Level Meeting on NCDs

May 2015
WHA Side Event

May 2017
WHA Resolution

August 2018
Stakeholder Meeting at WHO

September 2018
UNGA Launch
WHO announced the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer following the High-Level Meeting on NCDs
Mandate for Action from Member States
Cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach

URGES Member States,

1. To continue to implement the roadmap of national commitments (NCD) ...
2. To implement the four time-bound national commitments (NCD) ...
3. ...To develop and implement national cancer control plans that are inclusive of all age groups ...
4. ...To collect high-quality population-based incidence and mortality data on cancer, for all age groups by cancer ...
5. ...
6. ...
7. To develop and implement evidence-based protocols for cancer management, in children and adults, including palliative care ...
8. ...
9. ...
10. To collaborate by strengthening regional and subregional partnerships ...
11. To develop, implement, and monitor programmes for early diagnosis ...
12. To develop and implement evidence-based protocols for cancer management, in children and adults, including palliative care ...

http://www.who.int/iris/handle/10665/275676
WHO

Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

Setting a bold target for 2030

By 2030,

Double the cure rate, ensuring at least 60% survival for children with cancer globally, and reducing suffering for all

Saving one million more children
The Global Hearts Initiative
Working Together to Promote Cardiovascular Health

Technical packages to address these major risk factors are:

- **mpower**
  - To defeat the global tobacco epidemic

- **Active**
  - To increase physical activity

- **SHAKE**
  - To reduce salt consumption

- **REPLACE**
  - To eliminate industrially-produced trans-fatty acids

- **HEARTS**
  - To promote CVD management in primary health care

Healthy-lifestyle counselling
Evidence-based treatment protocols
Access to essential medicines and technology
Risk based charts (available soon)
Team-based care
Systems for monitoring
Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

By 2030, achieve at least a 60% survival rate for childhood cancer globally, and reduce suffering for all → Save one million additional lives

Objectives

(i) increase capacity of countries to provide quality services for children with cancer, and
(ii) increase prioritization of childhood cancer at the global, regional, and national levels

Implemented across 6-10 countries (by 1999-2020) and 18-25 countries (by 2021-2023)

Approach: Technical Package

CURE All Children with Cancer

- Centres of Excellence and Care Networks with sufficient competent workforce
- Universal Health Coverage with benefit packages and organizational models for quality services
- Regimens for Management with context-appropriate guidance, essential technologies & medicines
- Evaluation and Monitoring with quality assurance and information systems

Outputs & Activities

National
Country Assessments, Case Studies, Support and Implementation Plans

Regional
Regional Assessments and Dialogues, Snapshots, and Policy Briefs

Global
Global Framework, Technical Package, Dashboard, and Advocacy Materials

Supporting Coherent Comprehensive Policies, Access and Coverage of Services, and Quality Health Systems
WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer
Towards the Development of Global Technical Guidance

Overview of Working Groups

Coming soon in 2020: Phase 2 working groups based on CURE All framework (4 “CURE” pillars + Advocacy)
Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer: Index Cancers

- **Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia**: Common worldwide.
- **Burkitt Lymphoma**: Common in many low-income countries.
- **Hodgkin Lymphoma**: Common in adolescents.
- **Retinoblastoma**: Connecting communities for early diagnosis.
- **Wilms Tumor**: Connecting multidisciplinary services.
- **Low-Grade Glioma**: Connecting health systems.

From addressing common challenges... ...to connecting vital partners

- Highly curable, with proven therapies
- Prevalent in all countries
- Represents 50-60% of all childhood cancers (age 0-19)
- Helps to advance comprehensive childhood cancer services and systems strengthening
Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer: Focus Countries

At least one focus country will be initially identified from each of the six WHO regions during Year 1-2 of the Global Initiative.

Engagement of all countries and regions vital

A focus country is identified as a site that is:

Anticipated to demonstrate early measurable progress (including progress within the Global Initiative’s first two years); and

Suitable to illustrate actions advancing one or more pillars of CURE All, while providing feedback for the refinement of tools as part of broader global initiative.
WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer: Initial Focus Countries

WHO Workshops held in 2019:
- Myanmar
- Peru
- Philippines
- Uzbekistan
- Ghana

Workshops in planning for 2020:
- Zambia
- Morocco
- Ukraine (to be confirmed)

Engaging 200+ working group experts from 90+ organizations
Using the **CURE All** framework or approach, 10 core projects have been identified as part of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer, as starting points from which local leaders can choose and prioritize next steps and resource needs (technical, financial and other).
### CURE All Core Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Analysis of cancer health system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>National Cancer Control strategy development / implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Implementation of cancer workforce training packages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>National network and referral pathway strengthening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Defining national standards and guidelines for index cancers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Essential medicines and technologies strengthening, including via UN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Economic analysis and benefit packages review of cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Strengthening &amp; linking cancer registries (population- &amp; hospital-based)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Country dashboard for childhood cancer monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Local/regional advocacy portfolios: case studies, awareness campaigns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Uzbekistan: Ranked Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>National Cancer Control strategy development / implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Implementation of cancer workforce training packages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Analysis of cancer health system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>National network and referral pathway strengthening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Essential medicines and technologies strengthening, including via UN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Economic analysis and benefit packages review of cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Strengthening &amp; linking cancer registries (population- &amp; hospital-based)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Country dashboard for childhood cancer monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Local/regional advocacy portfolios: case studies, awareness campaigns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps to Achieve CURE All Goals for Children and Adolescents with Cancer in Uzbekistan

- Forming working groups with pediatric hematologists & pediatric oncologists
- Drafting National Cancer Control Plan – engaging pediatric hematology & oncology & WHO/IARC/IAEA/St. Jude experts
- Defining national needs for cancer workforce training & unifying subspecialty of pediatric hematology/oncology with national association
- Organizing comprehensive cancer care for children
  - Pediatric brain tumor
  - Pediatric hematology
  - General & specialty pediatrics
  - Medical, surgical & radiation oncology
  - Primary health care
**Who Toolkit to Support Implementation of CURE All Across Country Action Phases**

**Areas of Support Available**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assess</td>
<td>Stakeholder map</td>
<td>National and facility rapid assessment tool (cancer)</td>
<td>Country profiles (cancer; childhood cancer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan, Cost &amp; Finance</td>
<td>National workshop templates</td>
<td>Tool to support priority setting, budgeting and health system planning</td>
<td>Sample inputs for country-level investment case for childhood cancer</td>
<td>Workforce planning tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implement</td>
<td>WHO guidance for management and supportive care for six index childhood cancers</td>
<td>Programme on access to cancer medicines and technologies (diagnostics, medicines, devices)</td>
<td>Sample strategies for workforce scale-up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor &amp; Modify</td>
<td>Core dataset for cancer registries and programme monitoring</td>
<td>Framework for research priorities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Tools and Resources**
Including devices and supplies necessary to diagnose and manage cancers...

Including labs to help diagnose and guide management, encompassing tests to differentiate cancer subtypes and mutations that dictate different treatment...

To enable safe and appropriate use of medicines
Making an Investment Case

Investments in health systems could prevent
97 million premature deaths by 2030

‘Best buys’ and other recommended interventions for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

TACKLING NCDs

SDG HEALTH PRICE TAG
www.who.int

World Health Organization

World Health Organization

Sustainable Development Goals
EURO High-Level Meeting on NCDs Apr 2019: Turkmenistan: 44 governments

UN High-Level Meeting on UHC – New York Sep 2019

WHO Global Meeting on Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Dec 2019: Oman

SEAR Regional Workshop on Cancer Jun 2019

Engaging with other United Nations agencies (UNDP, UNICEF)
Regional workshop to accelerate cancer prevention and control in the South-East Asia Region

A Brief Report
New Delhi, India, 25-26 June 2019

Programs for special populations, such as childhood cancer, should be prioritized as a core response of national cancer control plans.

Make the childhood cancer control initiative an integral component of national cancer control

Since childhood cancers, including the most common diagnosis of acute lymphoblastic leukemia, are highly curable we should aim to ensure that all children with cancers are diagnosed early and receive prompt treatment without any delay or financial hardship.

Survival rates of children with cancer are lower in SEA Region as compared to high-income countries; this inequality has to be recognized by governments. Although numbers of childhood cancers are fewer, they account for a high burden in terms of DALYs.

If in developed countries, survival rates for childhood cancer can be as high as 90%, if we know so much about how to cure and care for cancer, then WHY should we be denied simply because of where we were born?

- Ms Ritu Bhalia childhood cancer survivor
Regional workshop to accelerate cancer prevention and control in the South-East Asia Region

A Brief Report
New Delhi, India, 25-26 June 2019

Childhood Cancer in Key Message & Country Commitments

Myanmar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Green</th>
<th>4.4 Strengthen childhood cancer network and interlink with NCCP, including 6 index cancer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.1 Set up NCCP with full-time programme manager and team and regional level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>3.1, 3.3, 4.1 Develop and implement evidence based national guidelines for early diagnosis, proper referral, management of priority cases and engage the academia to formulate updated evidence-based guideline for cancer management and palliative care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.2 Engage medical and health academia to formulate updated evidence-based, nationally approved protocols for cancer management and palliative care as a core learning competency for pre-service trainees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.2 Identify and equip health facilities for cancer diagnosis and treatment at appropriate level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>1.3, 1.7 Allocate funds for NCCP and create mechanism for financial protection for cancer patients including palliative care (e.g. social security scheme)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.1 Review and revise quantification of health workforce needs for cancer control</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Personal Commitments

- Develop the national cancer programme with full staffs at national and provincial levels and need funds to fulfill the roadmap – Lay Aung
- Convey key message and roadmap to Ministry of Health and Sports
- To link NCD Action Plan for 2020-21 - Kyaw Kan Kaung
- Promote community awareness and that of priority health care workers. Knowledge about the early symptoms of priority cancers – Hnin Hnin Aung
- To support National Cancer Control Programme for operationalizing national action plan and facilitate coordination of partners – My Paing
CURE All

WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer
WHO Non-communicable Diseases and Mental Health Global Meeting, Muscat, Oman Dec 2019

Solutions for non-communicable disease prevention and control

https://www.bmj.com/NCD-solutions
Although many proven interventions for NCDs exist, many countries are lagging behind in implementing them. The Commission identified the following challenges to implementation:

- Lack of political will, commitment, capacity, and action
- **Lack of policies and plans for NCDs.**
- Difficulty in priority-setting.
- Impact of economic, commercial, and market factors.
- Insufficient (domestic and international) financing to scale up national NCD responses.
- Lack of accountability.
Background: St. Jude as first WHO Collaborating Centre for Childhood Cancer (2018)

WHO Collaborating Centres are institutions designated by the WHO Director-General to carry out activities to strengthen institutional capacity and support implementation of the WHO’s programmes

Terms of Reference 1: National Cancer Control Plans (NCCPs)
Tools for prioritization, costing, and framework for monitoring & evaluation

Terms of Reference 2: Platforms to Foster and Engage Leadership & Communities of Practice
Tools for health system innovation diffusion

Terms of Reference 3: In-Country Support and Workshops, with Global Stakeholder Engagement
Highlight region- and country-sensitive needs for scaling up childhood cancer control
St. Jude National Cancer Control Plan (NCCP) Analytic Program (2014-Present)

Cancer Plan...

- Exists
- Operational
- Now, past or planned

- Review of WHO Country Capacity Surveys

- Detailed Analyses
- Snapshot Analyses

In SJ Core Policy Bank

SJCARES Systems

PI: Catherine Lam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Not in effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, under development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenada</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Not in effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Not in effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Lucia</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, under development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, being updated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
St. Jude Core Bank for Latin America & Caribbean:
100+ Plans Screened across 30+ countries/areas
Spanning 2005-2030
> 7000 text pages

healthsystems@STJUDE.ORG
WHO outlines steps to save 7 million lives from cancer

“At least 7 million lives could be saved over the next decade, by identifying the most appropriate science for each country situation, by basing strong cancer responses on universal health coverage, and by mobilizing different stakeholders to work together”, said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO.
Countries passed a resolution at the World Health Assembly in 2017 committing themselves to cancer prevention and control through an integrated approach, and asking WHO to provide guidance. Now is the time to convert political commitments into action. In 2018 WHO launched an initiative to save the lives of millions of children from cancer, and in 2019 we prequalified a biosimilar medicine for the first time, trastuzumab, paving the way for more women to have access to one of the most effective but most expensive breast cancer treatments. In 2020 WHO will present countries with a global strategy towards the elimination of cervical cancer, which kills one woman every two minutes, but is largely preventable.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization
WHO Cancer Profiles 2020

GLOBAL

Have early detection programme/guidelines for childhood cancer (2019) **20%** of countries

Have defined referral system for children with cancer (2019) **33%** of countries

JAMAICA

Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

- Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old): 2020 - 100
- Early detection programme/guidelines: 2019 - no
- Defined referral system: 2019 - no

Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)

- Acute lymphoid leukaemia: 55
- Hodgkin lymphoma: 28
- Burkitt lymphoma: 2
- CNS, low grade tumours: 3
- Retinoblastoma: 4
- Wilms tumour: 1
- Other childhood cancer: 1
WHO Cancer Profiles 2020

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old) 2020 42
Early detection programme/guidelines 2019 don't know
Defined referral system 2019 don't know

Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)

- Acute lymphoid leukaemia 11
- Hodgkin lymphoma 24
- Burkitt lymphoma 1
- CNS, low grade tumours 3
- Retinoblastoma 1
- Wilms tumour 2
- Other childhood cancer

BAHAMAS

Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old) 2020 14
Early detection programme/guidelines 2019 no
Defined referral system 2019 no

Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)

- Acute lymphoid leukaemia 4
- Hodgkin lymphoma 8
- Burkitt lymphoma 1
- CNS, low grade tumours 1
- Retinoblastoma 1
- Wilms tumour 1
- Other childhood cancer
## SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early detection programme/guidelines</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defined referral system</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BARBADOS

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early detection programme/guidelines</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defined referral system</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SAINT LUCIA

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early detection programme/guidelines</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defined referral system</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Achieving the Global Initiative Targets in the Caribbean

- **C:** ...
- **U:** ...
- **R:** ...
- **E:** Enriched baseline and follow-up data, expanded to children 0-19 years
- **A:** ...
- **L:** ...
- **L:** Aligned integration of childhood cancer in national and regional policies
  - Understanding and addressing bottlenecks to development and effective implementation
Towards Care, Cure, and Health for All

• **Avoidable deaths from childhood cancers** in low- and middle-income countries result from:
  • lack of diagnosis, misdiagnosis or delayed diagnosis, obstacles to accessing care, abandonment of treatment, death from toxicity, and higher rates of relapse.

https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cancer-in-children

Lam CG, Howard SC, Bouffet E, Pritchard-Jones K. *Science* 2019
WHO’s Triple Billion Targets by 2023