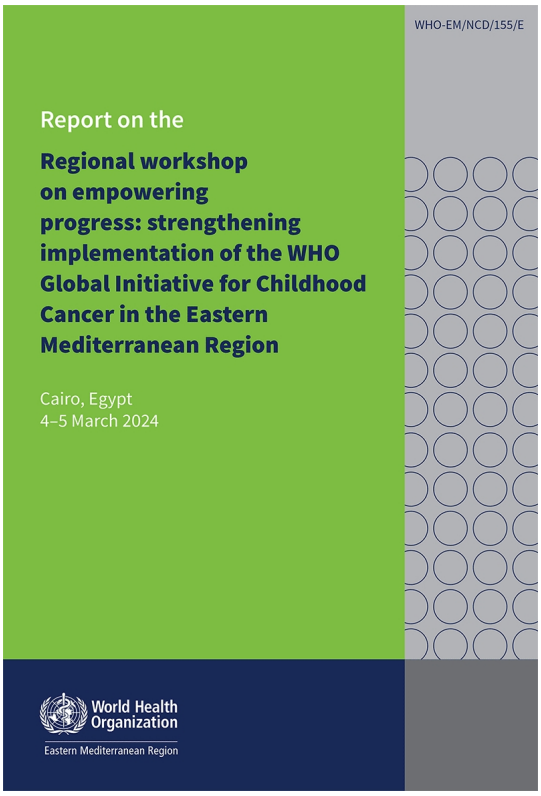


Report on the Regional workshop on empowering progress: strengthening implementation of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2024

A regional workshop on Empowering progress: strengthening implementation of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region was held in Cairo, Egypt on 4–5 March 2024, with the aim of accelerating action to fight childhood cancer in the Region. Medical advances have led to high survival rates for children with cancer in high-income countries, but low- and middle-income countries have significantly lower survival rates due to disparities in access to quality care. The Region is projected to see a substantial increase in paediatric cancer cases and mortality by 2050, driven by population growth rather than modifiable risk factors, emphasizing the reliance on health systems' capacity for timely diagnosis and treatment.

English

Regional cervical cancer elimination strategy

Publication date: 2023

Cervical cancer is a preventable and curable disease that disproportionately affects women in low- and middle-income countries. WHO aims to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health issue globally by 2120. To achieve this, WHO has set interim targets to be met by 2030, including vaccinating 90% of girls with the HPV vaccine, screening 70% of women with high-performance tests, and ensuring 90% of women with pre-cancer and invasive cancer receive treatment. To support this global effort, a regional strategy has been developed for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, taking into account its unique religious, cultural, social, economic and geographical contexts.

English

Arabic

French

Regional cervical cancer elimination strategy: Executive summary

Publication date: 2023

Cervical cancer is a preventable and curable disease that disproportionately affects women in low- and middle-income countries. WHO aims to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health issue globally by 2120. To achieve this, WHO has set interim targets to be met by 2030, including vaccinating 90% of girls with the HPV vaccine, screening 70% of women with high-performance tests, and ensuring 90% of women with pre-cancer and invasive cancer receive treatment. To support this global effort, a regional strategy has been developed for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, taking into account its unique religious, cultural, social, economic and geographical contexts.

English

Arabic

French

Cancer Control: Eastern Mediterranean Region Special Report

Publication date: 2022

This regional report on the 2017 noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) country capacity survey offers an overview of the current capacities of the countries of the Region to prevent and control NCDs, particularly in regard to the four key areas of: governance, prevention and reduction of risk factors, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation, and health care. The report aims to inform the work of decision-makers in ministries of health and other sectors related to health, NCD managers, physicians, clinicians, researchers, the media and others.

English

Global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem

Publication date: 2020

In August 2020, the World Health Assembly adopted the Global strategy for cervical cancer elimination. The strategy outlines a comprehensive approach that includes prevention, effective screening and treatment of pre-cancerous lesions, early cancer diagnosis and programmes for the management of invasive cervical cancer including palliative care. It proposes: a vision of a world where cervical cancer is eliminated as a public health problem; a threshold of 4 per 100 000 women-years for elimination as a public health problem; the 90-70-90 targets that must be met by 2030 for countries to be on the path towards cervical cancer elimination: and a mathematical model that illustrates the interim benefits of achieving the 90-70-90 targets by 2030 in low- and lower-middle-income countries.

English

French

Framework for action on canc
Mediterranean Region
Updated June 2019, based on resolution EM
Strategic interventions
In the area of governance
» Develop a multisectoral st
prevention and control, as
disease response
» Establish a national multis
and control
» Ensure a sufficient nationa
efforts
» Define an essential cance
mechanisms to reduce ou
» Appoint a national cancer
Strategic interventions
In the area of prevention
» Implement healthy lifesty
control, physical activity, h
regional framework for ac
» Vaccinate against hepatiti
» Vaccinate girls between th
doses of human papilloma
» Eliminate or reduce expos

Framework for action on cancer prevention and control in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

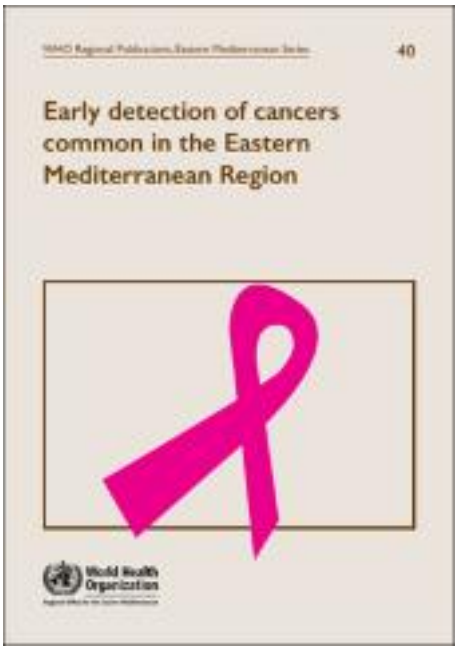
Publication date: 2019

In October 2019, the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean endorsed the updated regional framework to support countries scale up action on cancer prevention and control in the Region. The regional framework provides strategic interventions and indicators for countries to assess their progress in the six domains of: governance; prevention; early detection; management; palliative care; and surveillance and research.

English

Arabic

French



Early detection of cancers common in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2017

The impact of the growing burden of cancer in countries of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region is evident and necessitates implementation of suitable and effective cancer control policies. Cancer control programmes should primarily target those cancers most responsible for the high burden of disease, that have major public health implications, and for which there is robust evidence that the systematic application of interventions will lead to a reduction in mortality in a cost-effective manner, in the context of the available health care resources.

English

Policy statement and
early detection of bre
in the Eastern Medite

Policy goal

Implement an early detection programme to
stage when they are small and localized, thu

Background

Breast cancer is the most common cancer
Mediterranean Region, and its impact is gro
(IARC) estimates that 61 000 cases of breas
99 000 in 2012, with 31 000 deaths from the
to rise. IARC has projected that by 2030 th
Region will be around 169 100 and 74 200,

The risk of breast cancer is higher in wome
years. Breast cancer risk decreases with the

Policy statement and recommended actions for early detection of breast cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2016

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in all countries of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, and its impact is growing. This policy statement was published in 2016 with the goal of identifying the priority actions for Member States to Implement an early detection programme to detect breast cancer and precancerous lesions at an early stage when they are small and localized, thus reducing mortality from breast cancer.

English

Policy statement and
early detection of cer
Mediterranean Regio

Policy goal

Implement an early detection programme to
stage when they are small and localized, thus

Background

The International Agency for Research or
were diagnosed in the Eastern Mediterrane
Population-based cancer registry data from
incidence rates of less than 6 cases per 100
with successful screening programmes. Sign
100 000 women have been reported in Mor
mortality are generally low in the Region.

Screening is highly effective in the preventio

Policy statement and recommended actions for early detection of cervical cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2016

The International Agency for Research on Cancer estimates that 15 000 cases of cervical cancer were diagnosed in the Eastern Mediterranean Region in 2012, with 8000 deaths due to the disease. This policy statement was published in 2016 with the goal of identifying the priority actions for Member States to implement an early detection programme to detect cervical cancer and precancerous lesions at an early stage when they are small and localized, thus reducing cervical cancer mortality rates.

English

Policy statement and
for early detection of
Eastern Mediterranea

Policy goal

Implement an early detection programme t
early stage when they are small and localize

Background

Despite comparatively lower incidence rate
rising trend in the incidence of colorectal ca
Mediterranean Region.It has been estimate
in men and 15 000 in women in 2012 in t
countries of the Region are diagnosed in adv
survival rate of colorectal cancer patients w
metastases.[2] Early diagnosis in symptomati
outcome of colorectal cancer. Primary preve

Policy statement and recommended actions for early detection of colorectal cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2016

Despite comparatively lower incidence rates of colorectal cancer than in industrialized countries, a rising trend in the incidence of colorectal cancer has been observed in some countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region. It has been estimated that 18 000 cases of colorectal cancer were diagnosed in men and 15 000 in women in 2012 in the Region. This policy statement was published in 2016 with the goal of identifying the priority actions for Member States to implement an early detection programme to detect colorectal cancer and precancerous lesions, at an early stage when they are small and localized, thus reducing colorectal cancer mortality rates.

English

Policy statement and
early detection of bre
oral and prostate can
Mediterranean Regio

Policy goal

Implement early detection programmes fo
detect the cancer when it is small and loca

Background

The impact of the growing burden of can
evident, and necessitates implementation of
component of cancer control is the early de
treatment.

Early detection of cancer aims to detect th
affordable, resulting in higher cure rates. H

Policy statement and recommended actions for early detection of breast, cervical, colorectal, oral and prostate cancers in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2016

The impact of the growing burden of cancer in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region is evident, and necessitates implementation of suitable and effective cancer control policies. An important component of cancer control is the early detection of major types of cancer that benefit from effective treatment. This policy statement was published in 2016 with the goal of identifying the priority actions for Member States to implement early detection programmes for breast, cervical, colorectal, oral and prostate cancer to detect the cancer when it is small and localized, thus reducing cancer mortality rates.

English

Policy statement and
for early detection of
Mediterranean Regio

Policy goal

Implement an early detection programme t
and localized, thus reducing mortality from

Background

The incidence and frequency of oral canc
Mediterranean Region with the exception
Yemen.[1] A high risk of oral precancerous les
(e.g. in Yemen)[2] and toombak (e.g. in Sud

Early diagnosis of oral cancer is feasible, as t
health professionals or individuals. Cases of
with advanced disease.

Policy statement and recommended actions for early detection of oral cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2016

The incidence and frequency of oral cancer are low in almost all countries of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region with the exception of Pakistan, southern Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. This policy statement was published in 2016 with the goal of identifying the priority actions for Member States to implement an early detection programme to detect oral cancers at an early stage when they are small and localized, thus reducing mortality from oral cancer.

English

Policy statement and
early detection of pro
Mediterranean Regio

Policy goal

Implement an early detection programme
early stage when they are small and localiz

Background

Although the age-standardized incidence of
Region is lower than that in the high-in
increasing in those countries of the Region w
a challenge to the existing cancer health c
proportion of men with prostate cancer, the
patient's lifetime. Therefore, although early
persons will receive little or no benefit fro
which, if treated, might result in substanti

Policy statement and recommended actions for early detection of prostate cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Publication date: 2016

Although the age-standardized incidence of prostate cancer in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region is lower than that in the high-income industrialized countries, the incidence is steadily increasing in those countries of the Region where data are available. This policy statement was published in 2016 with the goal of identifying the priority actions for Member States to implement an early detection programme to detect prostate cancer and precancerous lesions, at an early stage when they are small and localized; thus reducing prostate cancer mortality rates.

English

Related resources

Cervical cancer elimination initiative

Global breast cancer initiative

Global initiative for childhood cancer

World Cancer Reports (International Agency for Research on Cancer)

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