



HEARTS IN THE AMERICAS

Regional Workshop

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
May 14-17, 2019





HEARTS

IN THE AMERICAS
Regional Workshop

LINKS

A global community for
cardiovascular health

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Disclosures

I have no disclosures to report.

I am an employee of Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of Vital Strategies, a not-for-profit organization based in New York City, USA. The initiative received \$225 million in funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

LINKS A global community for cardiovascular health

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An online community and resource center for people working to improve cardiovascular health across the globe



Five Principles

- **L**earning and capacity building: Monthly webinars, meetings, technical resources and annotated bibliographies
- **I**mplementation advice and tools: Access programmatic mentors and standardized tools for cardiovascular health and related monitoring, surveillance and training
- **N**etwork: Meetings and contact with other LINKS members
- **K**nowledge exchange: Receive and share advice and consultation from/with content experts via peer-to-peer exchange
- **S**upport for eligible organizations in low- and middle-income countries: Limited technical assistance or one-time grants to improve country progress toward improving cardiovascular health

A Resource for the Cardiovascular Health Community

The publicly-accessible LINKS site (www.linkscommunity.org) provides:

- Basic overviews of cardiovascular health, hypertension control, salt reduction and elimination of artificial trans fat
- Toolkit of technical resources, including:
 - Fact sheets
 - WHO technical packages
 - Journal articles
 - Annotated bibliographies
 - Hypertension protocols
 - Recordings and materials from monthly LINKS webinars
 - **Training materials**

New training resources from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health



Osmosis Videos

1. Why hypertension is an important issue
2. Preparing an individual for blood pressure measurement
3. How to diagnose hypertension
4. What to do after a diagnosis of hypertension

The videos have been endorsed by ISH and announced by several professional organizations; are under evaluation in Tanzania; and are being adapted for the PAHO, India and Thailand contexts.

Forthcoming online training course from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Modules

1. Fundamentals of HTN
2. Basics of HTN diagnosis and management
3. Clinic-based HTN management
4. Community-based HTN management/Task Sharing
5. Medication & Device Supply
6. Improving operational effectiveness



Targeted launch: End of 2019!

LINKS membership

Membership is **free** and open to professionals associated with government, academic institutions, civil society organizations or the private sector.* **Benefits** to membership include:

- Events/activities/opportunities
- Networking
- Participation in webinars and other forums
- Application for support
 - Technical assistance from a roster of global experts
 - One-time, catalytic grant support of up to 200,000 USD

**>600 members
and counting!**

*Restrictions to membership include affiliation with or support from tobacco, weapons, sugary drinks or alcoholic beverages

LINKS support

Grants

- 1st round (closed in Nov, 2018): Programs in 11 countries were awarded grants totaling \$1.25m
- 2nd round is currently open with an application **deadline of 15 Jun**

Technical assistance

- Applications may be submitted at any time
- Support from the roster of experts may be virtual or in-person

May LINKS webinar: “The Chilean regulatory experience making healthier food environments”

To be presented by Dr. Marcela Reyes

- Asst Prof, Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology, Univ. of Chile
- Co-investigator of a grant evaluating new Chilean labelling and marketing regulation, and PI of a grant studying the influence of dietary patterns on weight gain and metabolic status in sensitive periods of childhood

This webinar will showcase Chile as an inspiring example of a comprehensive and innovative nutrition policy to include significant progress with front-of-pack warning labels, as well as highlight some challenges encountered along the way.

LINKS members can tune in Thurs, 23 May at 0900 EDT

**We hope you will consider
joining or promoting the
LINKS community!**

www.linkscommunity.org