

Women's Cancers in the English Caribbean:

A regional multi-sector discussion to define feasible strategies to improve the effectiveness of breast and cervical cancer programs

May 11-12, 2016
University of Miami, Casa Bacardí
1531 Brescia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida, USA

AGENDA

BACKGROUND:

In the English Caribbean, breast and cervical cancer are the leading cancers among women, with more than 16,000 women diagnosed and more than 6,000 women dying from this disease each year. Bahamas and Barbados have the highest incidence rates from breast and cervical cancer, of over 100/100,000 women. If the status quo is maintained, breast and cervical cancer incidence in the Caribbean is expected to increase by almost 40% by 2030.

Through the PAHO Plan of Action for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) in the Americas 2013-2019, Ministries of Health have recognized the need to improve the situation for women's cancer and other NCDs. Among the commitments, is to increase breast cancer screening to at least 50% coverage in women ages 50-69 years and to increase cervical cancer screening to at least 70% in women aged 30-49 years, while ensuring effective and timely cancer treatment and palliative care. Because of the challenges associated with cancer prevention and control, very few countries in the English Caribbean have reached the screening coverage indicators and face numerous challenges to improve cancer treatment and palliative care services.

Collaboration among governments, civil society and academia, including international cooperation and South-South collaboration can accelerate the number of countries that achieve a high screening coverage, and improve access and quality of their breast and cervical cancer programs to improve outcomes for women.

Therefore, PAHO, with the support of the PAHO Foundation and together with the Miami Institute for the Americas and the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami and the Breast Cancer Initiative 2.5, are cohosting a sub-regional forum to identify potential areas of collaboration to support countries in the Caribbean to improve the effectiveness of women's cancer programs.

PURPOSE:

1. To present the currently available knowledge, evidence and scientific gaps on breast and cervical cancer prevention, screening, early detection, treatment and palliative care.
2. To discuss strategies, successful experiences and challenges in implementing breast and cervical cancer programs in the Caribbean.
3. To exchange ideas and identify opportunities for evidence-based approaches to improve financing, access, quality and utilization of women's cancer services.
4. To define an operational research agenda for breast and cervical cancer in the region.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

1. Report on country situation assessment that describes: the breast and cervical cancer situation, program status, health system gaps and barriers, and potential areas for international collaboration to improve women's cancer outcomes.
2. Draft country plans for advancing international cooperation vis-à-vis women's cancer control.
3. Expanded network and increased collaboration and engagement of governments, civil society and international organizations to improve women's cancers in the Caribbean.
4. Report and manuscript describing the proceedings and outcomes of the meeting.

MEETING SCHEDULE:**Wednesday, May 11, 2016**

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| 7:20am | meet in lobby of the Biltmore hotel |
| 7:30am | shuttle transfer from Biltmore hotel to Casa Bacardi for breakfast |
| 8:00am | breakfast and networking at Casa Bacardi |
| 9:00am | meeting begins |
| 6:15pm | meeting ends |
| 6:30pm | transfer from Casa Bacardi to IBIS House for UM dinner reception |
| 7:00pm | dinner reception at IBIS House |

Thursday, May 12, 2016

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| 7:20am | meet in lobby of the Biltmore hotel |
| 7:30am | shuttle transfer from Biltmore hotel to Casa Bacardi for breakfast |
| 8:00am | breakfast and networking at Casa Bacardi |
| 9:00am | meeting begins |
| 5:00pm | meeting ends |
| 5:30pm | shuttle transfer from Casa Bacardi to Biltmore hotel |

Wednesday May 11, 2016

9:00am **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS:** *Representatives from PAHO,UM, and BCI2.5*

9:15am **KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** *Dr. Julio Frenk, President, University of Miami*

9:45am Questions and answers

10:00am **COFFEE BREAK**

10:15am **SESSION 1: OVERVIEW OF WOMEN'S CANCERS AND INTEGRATING SERVICES INTO HEALTH SYSTEMS**

10:20am Closing divides: health system responses to the challenge of breast and cervical cancer. *Dr. Felicia Knaul, University of Miami*

10:40am Breast and cervical cancer in the Caribbean and PAHO/WHO recommendations. *Ms. Silvana Luciani, PAHO*

10:50am Discussion

11:15am Breast cancer: Services and resources needed for improved outcomes. *Dr. Ben Anderson, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Centre*

11:30am Cervical cancer: evidence based approaches. *Dr. Erin Kobetz, University of Miami*

11:45am Palliative care: how to expand access in the Caribbean. *Dr. Dingle Spence, Hope Institute, Jamaica*

12:00pm Remarks from conversation catalysts – *Dr. Judith Hurley, Dr. Gilberto Lopes, and Dr. Ramon Figueroa*

12:30pm Discussion

1:00pm **LUNCH and Luncheon speaker: Dr. Donette Francis, University of Miami**

2:00pm **Free time**

2:30pm **SESSION 2: COUNTRY EXPERIENCES ON IMPROVING WOMEN'S CANCERS: Government perspectives**

Brief introduction of the panel of Ministry of Health representatives who will discuss experiences and challenges in reducing the burden of women's cancers in their country.

2:35pm **Bahamas** – Dr. Raleigh Butler

2:50pm **Barbados** – Dr. Heather Armstrong

3:05pm **Puerto Rico** – Dr. Guillermo Tortolero-Luna

3:20pm **Trinidad and Tobago** – Dr. Dylan Narinesingh

3:35pm Discussion: this will be an opportunity for all other government representatives to provide brief remarks

4:00pm **COFFEE BREAK**

4:15pm **SESSION 3: CIVIL SOCIETY EXPERIENCES IN IMPROVING WOMEN'S CANCER IN THE CARIBBEAN**

Brief introduction of the panel of civil society representatives who will discuss experiences in mobilizing communities and improving cancer outcomes.

4:20pm **Susan G. Komen Foundation** – Dr. Anna Cabanes

4:35pm **Healthy Caribbean Coalition** – Mrs. Maisha Hutton

4:50pm **Belize Cancer Society** – Mrs. Laura Longsworth

5:05pm **Jamaica Cancer Society** – Mrs. Yulit Gordon

5:20pm Discussion: this will be an opportunity for all other civil society representatives to provide brief remarks

6:00pm	Wrap up of Day 1
6:15pm	Adjourn and transfer to Ibis House for dinner reception

Thursday May 12, 2016

9:00am	REVIEW of the discussions and results of the first day
9:10am	Comprehensive cancer centers: minimum requirements and considerations for limited resource settings. <i>Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz, Princess Margaret Hospital, Canada</i>
9:40am	Role of the IGCS in global gynecologic cancer prevention and treatment <i>Dr. Linus Chuang, International Gynecologic Cancer Society</i>
9:50am	Discussion
10:00am	SESSION 4: WORK GROUP SESSIONS TO DEVELOP COUNTRY ACTION PLANS: Participants will break out into smaller work groups to discuss a set of questions to define in more depth, the situation, challenges, strategies and country action plans to improve women’s cancer programs in the Caribbean. Each group will be composed of a mix of representatives from government, civil society and academia (see attached list of working group composition). Coffee provided in the work group rooms
1:00pm	LUNCH and brief overview of mapping and other survey tools
2:00pm	SESSION 4 cont’d: finalize country plans in work groups
3:00pm	SESSION 5: Brief report back from each country on action plans and commitments for next steps.
3:45pm	COFFEE BREAK
4:00pm	SESSION 6: IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES AND WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PAHO, U. Miami, Fred Hutch/BCI2.5, Susan G. Komen, and ULACCAM
4.30pm	Final agreements: Priorities and recommendations
4:45pm	Conclusions and next steps
5.00pm	Adjourn