

Welcome to Cancer Control 2019

This is the sixth edition of our annual publication *Cancer Control*. This edition, *Cancer Control 2019*, happily coincides with the twentieth anniversary of our partners, the International Network for Cancer Treatment and Research (INCTR). The Network was founded in Brussels and is dedicated to helping to build capacity for cancer control in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) to diagnose and treat cancer promptly, with the ultimate goal of improving survival rates and quality of life of all cancer patients. It is still headquartered in Brussels today, but now has branches all over the World and operates programmes in nearly 31 countries. To mark this anniversary, we have a specially expanded INCTR section, which details INCTR's mission and achievements over the last 20 years, and carries special in-depth reports from four of its branches including Brussels, Brazil, Canada and France, who work in a broad range of LMICs.

We are also pleased to have a foreword from Dr Tedros, the Director-General of the World Health Organization who introduces the importance of universal health coverage to cancer control; how this approach can be an enabling one. In fact, we carry a case study from one of our sponsors whose programme seeks to widen access for those suffering with cancer to treatment in Dubai through alliances with an insurance company and the health authority. The subject of universal health coverage is bound to enter into cancer control more and more.

There are other new initiatives which we follow in this edition. The Economist Intelligence Unit has produced a Cancer Preparedness Index, to which the Head of INCTR's Canadian branch offers some accompanying thoughts. HRH Princess Dina Mired of Jordan, newly installed as President

of the UICC, calls for greater action post the UN High-Level Meeting she addressed and we cover the UICC's "City Cancer Challenge" and "Treatment for All" initiatives. The International Agency for research on Cancer (IARC) describes the progress made on its Cancer Screening Five Continents (CanScreen5) programme to improve screening in LMICs and the International Atomic Energy Agency charts the future for its important role. A smaller initiative in Uganda shows how safety can be improved in Chemotherapy treatment even in a low-resource setting.

Education and training is never far from our agenda and in this edition we look at cascaded training in East Africa carried out under the guidance of the Royal College of Physicians in the UK; how the US National Cancer Institute is using telemonitoring to advance cancer control in Africa and how the European School of Oncology aims to even up the disparities between Western and Central/Eastern Europe via its educational programmes.

Therefore, we very much hope you will find this edition of *Cancer Control* useful in your work. We would be delighted to have your feedback and suggestions. *Cancer Control 2019* can be accessed online at www.cancercontrol.info together with the five previous editions. You can also find information about INCTR and its programmes, as well as details on how to join. ■

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