

Release date: 3 June 2016

Are we making the right investments for optimal cancer control? A global dialogue

The Sixty-ninth session of the World Health Assembly took place in Geneva from 23rd to 28th May 2016. On May 26th, the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) organized a Side Event “Are we making the right investments for optimal cancer control? A global dialogue” in collaboration with the WHO Department of Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, Disability, Violence and Injury Prevention, the Ministries of Health from eight Member States and four NGOs¹

The International Society of Radiology (ISR) as an NGO in Official Relations with the WHO is honored to be a co-host of this important event. The ISR is an advocator for and facilitator in actions to improve quality care, patient safety, procedure access and more appropriate use of radiology in the care of cancer and non-cancer patients.

Radiology is indispensable in cancer diagnosis, staging, treatment, and monitoring. Timely procedure access and appropriate use are important. ISR looks forward to collaborating with the UICC, WHO and other stakeholders in sustainable system- and facility-based actions to improve workforce capacity and capability and procedure access and use by fostering education, training, and retention; use of good practice tools; research to inform policies and outcome monitoring.

A justified and integrated globally developed and locally implemented work plan to strengthen cancer control by a multi-disciplinary approach is preferred. Coordination from WHO strengthens collaboration. Investment in a WHO radiologist to coordinate cancer control and the use of radiology is essential.

For further information, please visit our website <http://www.isradiology.org> or contact mhierath@isradiology.org.

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¹ The collaborating countries are Honduras, India, Jordan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Peru and Zambia; and the collaborating NGOs are the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO), International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP), International Society of Radiology (ISR), and Worldwide Hospital Palliative Care Alliance (WHPCA).