



IGCS Statement in Support of the

WHO Initiative for the Elimination of Cervical Cancer:

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable and treatable forms of cancer. It can be prevented through HPV vaccination as well as screening with diagnosis and treatment of pre-invasive disease. Worldwide however, cervical cancer remains one of the gravest threats to women's lives. Over 85% of cervical cancer cases and related deaths occur in low and middle-income countries (LMIC), resulting in unnecessary suffering among the most vulnerable women around the world.

The International Gynecologic Cancer Society (IGCS) is rapidly expanding its global footprint through our unique membership Strategic Alliance Partner model. Together we feel a responsibility to help reduce mortality from cervical cancer worldwide and to help raise awareness about the importance of HPV vaccination and cervical cancer screening along with adequate treatment for women with invasive disease.

In May of 2018, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) made a global call for action towards the elimination of cervical cancer. This includes ensuring that all girls globally are vaccinated against HPV and that every woman over 30 is screened and treated for pre-cancerous lesions. Dr. Tedros emphasized that we must improve access to diagnosis and treatment of invasive cancers at their earliest stages and ensure the availability of palliative care for women who need it.

The IGCS, along with our Strategic Alliance Partners strongly endorse Dr. Tedros' call for action towards the elimination of cervical cancer and have committed to collaborate with the WHO on this important initiative. As a leading global professional society in gynecologic oncology, the IGCS has members and partners around the world poised to make significant contributions towards the elimination of cervical cancer. We will share our collective and global expertise in advocacy, screening, treatment of invasive cancer, pathology and palliative care. We will strengthen and expand our training and education programs to help provide better screening, diagnosis and treatment of cervical cancer, particularly in LMICs where the burden is highest. The IGCS along with our Strategic Alliance Partners is fully committed to collaborate with the WHO and partners on this global effort towards eliminating suffering and death from cervical cancer.

International Gynecologic Cancer Society and Strategic Alliance Partners:

- Argentinian Association of Gynecologic Oncology
- Asociación Colombiana de Ginecólogos Oncólogos
- Association of Oncologists of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Association of Oncologists of Uzbekistan
- Belarusian Society of Oncologists (Gyn Oncology Branch)
- Chinese Gynecologic Cancer Society
- Indonesian Society of Gynecologic Oncology
- Israeli Society of Gynecological Oncology
- Mexican College of Gynecologic Oncologists
- Middle East and Mediterranean Association of Gynecologic Oncologists
- Pan-Arabian Research Society of Gynecologic Oncology
- Thai Gynecologic Cancer Society
- The International Society of Gynecological Pathologists
- The Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of the Philippines