



## CANCER – IT'S EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

With the world's governments setting ambitious targets to reduce the human and economic cost of cancer, it is now imperative that the energy and expertise of all key stakeholders, from governments to NGOs and businesses, are harnessed to make a lasting impact.



### So why is combating cancer an important priority for business?

Because cancer and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) exact a huge cost for individuals, businesses and economies - not just in healthcare but also in productivity. Every year, the world's 14 million new cases of cancer have a total economic cost of USD 1.16 trillion.

Employers have a critical role to play in the fight against cancer. People spend such a big proportion of their lives at work that supporting employees in the adaption of behaviours to improve their health is one of the most important investments a business can make. In turn, businesses will benefit through avoiding lost productivity, reducing medical costs and improving competitiveness. There are also immeasurable personal benefits for the health of their employees and their families.

## So what support can UICC members give to businesses in prioritising cancer prevention and early detection?

Many UICC members worldwide are uniquely placed to help and can share resources that assist businesses to inform employees about the lifestyle changes that will reduce their risk of cancer, promote detecting cancer at its earliest stages and improve an individual's quality of life. In turn, more businesses can be engaged to take on best practice solutions to support their employees to adopt healthy behaviours. All of which can together prevent at least one in three cancers.



With over 3 billion people in employment, if all businesses engaged their own employees in improving their health, the impact would be enormous. Reaching out to employers will have a ripple effect upon families and the wider community so that together businesses could act as a catalyst for positive, long-lasting change on the whole of society.

Cary Adams, Chief Executive Officer, UICC



#### PFIZER – Commitment To Creating A Tobacco-Free Workforce

Pfizer is committed to help address the global tobacco epidemic by supporting multi-faceted and comprehensive tobacco control measures to prevent the development of future generations of smokers, encouraging and enabling smokers to quit smoking, and helping ex-smokers remain smokefree. To that end, measures to limit smoking in the workplace along with programmes to support Pfizer employees in their smoking cessation efforts are implemented in Pfizer facilities around the globe.

More information about businesses' efforts to create a tobacco-free workforce and guidance on a number of effective approaches to support employees quit smoking are available in the new publication, 'Less Smoking, Better Business', a practical quide produced by UICC in partnership with Bupa.

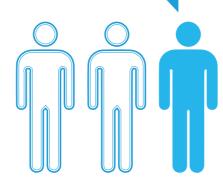
### **CANCER: IT'S EVERYONE'S BUSINESS**

# **2012 CANCER CAUSED**

**MILLION DEATHS** 

Around half of those who die from cancer are aged 30 to 69 in the peak of their productive years

1 in 3 cancer cases is preventable



#### THE COST OF CANCER



#### **GOOD HEALTH MAKES GOOD BUSINESS SENSE**

Wellness programmes are associated with a

**INCREASE IN EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION** and a reduction in staff turnover



Operating margin can be 4% higher in organisations with high employee engagement and 2% lower in those with low employee engagement

#### WHY WORKPLACE HEALTH IS A BUSINESS ISSUE

#### WHAT CAN EMPLOYERS DO?

Employers should:



cancer





**REDUCE PROMOTE** risk factors

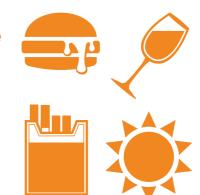
early detection people living and screening

**SUPPORT** with cancer

#### **CANCER RISK FACTORS**

#### **Common cancer** risk factors include

tobacco, alcohol, lack of exercise, obesity, unhealthy diet, sun exposure, occupational carcinogens





**QUIT SMOKING PROGRAMMES:** WHAT'S IN IT FOR **EMPLOYERS?** 

33%

Smokers are 33% more likely to miss work than non-smokers and are absent for longer





#### **BREAST CANCER**

Breast cancer is the leading cancer killer among working age women aged 20 to 59 years

Employers can:

**REDUCE** breast cancer risk factors

**PROMOTE** awareness of signs and symptoms

**ENCOURAGE** take up of screening

**SUPPORT** 

employees living with breast cancer

employers could save

\$2,035

PER YEAR PER PATIENT

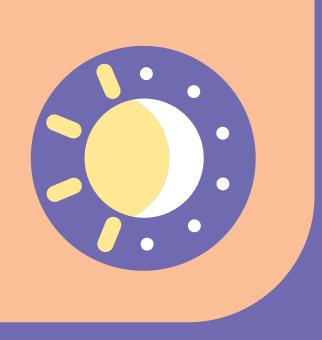
if breast cancer is diagnosed through early screenings rather than in an advanced stage of the disease

Cancer – It's Everyone's Business Cancer – It's Everyone's Business

#### How is UICC working to support members in these efforts?

UICC is working with Bupa to connect the many efforts of cancer and other civil society organisations and businesses worldwide, and to inspire new, innovative partnerships between the public and private sectors. Together, our goal is to establish a broad commitment for collective action against cancer through the workplace and support businesses globally as catalysts for change.

Through the new Healthy Workplaces website, UICC and Bupa have launched a series of resources including the report, 'Cancer - it's everyone's business', that explores how businesses and cancer organisations can work together to take a positive and proactive approach to the fight against cancer. The reports provides a snapshot of the current global evidence base on the costs of cancer to business and their employees as well as the case for investment. Additionally, a series of practical resources including toolkits to help support employers set up breast cancer and guit smoking initiatives, are now available online.



## World Cancer Quality of life Day 2015 Not Beyond Us

For World Cancer Day 2015, as we joined forces to show that cancer is 'Not Beyond Us', understanding and responding to the need to create a supportive workplace for people living with cancer, is a pivotal way for employers to maximise the quality of life of their employees, their families and carers.



Supporting women with a breast cancer diagnosis to return to work is a key element of delivering a breast cancer workplace initiative. For many women living with breast cancer, ensuring a smooth transition back into the workplace can be a significant factor both from a personal and a practical standpoint. A job can restore normality, routine, stability, social contact and income. Women living with breast cancer can be encouraged to know that when they return to work they are likely to find a workplace environment that is willing to help them adapt to the challenges they face from their illness.

More information on supporting employers to implement a breast cancer workplace initiative as part of a wider employee health programme is available in the new publication, 'Tackling breast cancer in the workplace - a win for everyone', a practical guide produced by UICC in partnership with Bupa.



bupa.com/cancer uicc.org