

A summary of WHNCD

Proposer – International Federation of Head Neck Oncologic Society (<http://www.ifhnos.org/home>)

Executive Summary of the Proposal –

Head Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) is the leading cause of death and disability in most parts of the world. The burden of HNSCC is putting a strain on the national health care systems and impoverishing individuals, families and society. Fortunately, vast majority of the HNSCC can be prevented or can be cured if detected early. However, millions of people suffer from delayed diagnosis, inadequate treatment, inappropriate rehabilitation and palliation. HNSCC control requires a multi-sectoral response from the Government, Non Government Organizations, health care professionals, civil society, academia, and industry. To draw the world's attention on effective care and control of HNSCC, IFHNOS has proposed 27th July as the World Head Neck Cancer Day. We seek your support and active participation to reduce the burden of HNSCC.

<http://www.ahns2014.org/petition/>

Contact details –

Jatin P Shah Founder and CEO, IFHNOS
Head and Neck Service, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
1275 York Avenue, New York NY 10065 USA
Phone: 212 639 7233
Fax: 212 717 3302
Email: shahj@mskcc.org

Ashok R Shaha Director, IFHNOS
Head and Neck Service, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
1275 York Avenue, New York NY 10065 USA
Phone: 212 639 7649
Fax: 212 717 3302
Email: shahaa@mskcc.org

Pankaj Chaturvedi Coordinator, World Head Neck Cancer Day, IFHNOS
Head Neck Service, Tata Memorial Hospital
1227, Homi Bhabha Block, Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel, Mumbai India
Phone - +912224177189
Fax - +912224146937
Cell no - +919869486912
Email – chaturvedi.pankaj@gmail.com

Brief about IFHNOS –

It is an international body bringing together all specialists involved in the care of patients with Head and Neck Cancer worldwide. It established the channel of communication to enhance exchange of information and improving knowledge as well as exploring new directions in the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with head and neck cancer. The Federation has grown with a membership of 43 Head and Neck oncologic organizations, representing 65 countries, from every part of the world. The Federation is able to reach over 5000 specialists, located in nearly every corner of the world, providing care to patients with head and neck cancer through membership of its component societies. The Federation has successfully attained its initial goal and mission of establishing channels of communication to foster camaraderie amongst professionals involved in the care of patients with head and neck cancer. Quadrennial World congresses of the Federation have been held since 1998, starting with the first World Congress in Mumbai, India in December 1997. Subsequently, the second World Congress were held in Brazil (2002), Czech Republic (2006), Korea (2010) and USA (2014).

An innovative Global Continuing Medical Education program, “The IFHNOS World Tour”, was introduced in 2008, offering a two and half day conference conducted by World leaders in the Head and Neck specialties, over five weeks. This program was offered in eleven countries around the world, beginning with London, Barcelona, Rome, Athens, Warsaw, Moscow, Mumbai, Beijing, Bangkok, Buenos Aires, and ending in Bogota. This highly successful education program was repeated in October 2010, with conferences in, Frankfurt, Antalya, St. Petersburg, Bangalore, Manila, Shanghai and Mexico City. The World Tour 2012 program was offered in Kiev, Amsterdam, Cairo, Ahmedabad, Guangzhou, Jakarta, Brisbane and Sao Paulo. This program will be repeated every two years, in the month of October, at different destinations worldwide. Future programs of the Federation include standardization of training of specialists in the field of Surgical Oncology, radiation oncology, medical oncology and other allied specialties in the field of head and neck cancer. This will lead to development of IFHNOS sponsored International Head and Neck Fellowships in various parts of the world offered by International and National leaders in several regions. In addition a web based self education program, is planned for the very near future.

To know more about IFHNOS please visit the official website - <http://www.ifhnos.org/home>

World Head Neck Cancer Day proclamation for 27th July -

<http://www.ahns2014.org/petition/>

- Note with great concern that Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) is the leading cause of death and disability in many parts of the world. It affects people in the productive age-group. Most of this mortality and morbidity are preventable.
- Recognize that treatment related toxicities, distress, deformities, and disabilities add significantly to the disease burden
- Express concern that the burden of HNSCC is putting a strain on national health care systems and impoverishing individuals, families and society.
- Understand that the causes of HNSCC (mainly tobacco, alcohol, areca nut, Human Papilloma Viruses) have economic, social, political ramifications. Therefore, HNSCC control requires a multi-sectoral response. The participation by Government, civil society, academia, industry and the private sector is crucial to the control of HNSCC.
- Note with concern that millions of people suffer from delayed diagnosis, inadequate treatment, inappropriate rehabilitation and palliation.

We, the members of the IFHNOS, therefore pledge to motivate our governments in reducing the burden of HNSCC by:

- Providing affordable facilities for prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, surveillance and palliative care;
- Synergizing multiple sectors to plan, execute, monitor and evaluate national HNSCC control activities. Synchronize HNSCC control efforts with a broader national cancer control program
- Strengthening primary health care system and introduce community-based approaches for awareness, prevention and early detection of HNSCC.
- Enhancing expertise of Physicians (Oncologists, Otolaryngologists, Dentists, General Physicians) by upgrading their knowledge and skills through continuous medical education.
- Establishing an environment that reduces the risk factors (tobacco, alcohol, areca nut, alcohol abuse etc) using options including legislation, policies, taxation, and public awareness.
- Strengthening National cancer registry and surveillance systems, with emphasis on monitoring HNSCC and the related risk factors
- Promoting research on HNSCC with regards to low cost alternatives, prevention, early detection, management, and quality of life.

Support Letter from Dr Harshvardhan, Union Health Minister, India



डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन
Dr. Harsh Vardhan



स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री
भारत सरकार
Minister of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

Message

I am happy to learn that the International Federation of Head and Neck Societies is organising the world's largest ever gathering of Specialists in Head and Neck Cancer in New York, USA, from 26th to 30th July, 2014 under the leadership of Dr. Jatin P. Shah. This historic conclave would be attended by the Presidents of all Head and Neck Societies from all over the world.

2. In India, Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) is the leading cause of death and disability and it affects people in the most productive age-group. We all know that a vast majority of Head and Neck Cancers are caused by consumption of tobacco, alcohol, areca nut, etc.. As the Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, I am taking all steps to control tobacco consumption in India so that the prevalence of Head and Neck cancers in India decreases proportionately in the years to come.

3. Prevention is better than cure. I would urge every Head and Neck Cancer Specialist to work with their respective Governments to reduce the burden of tobacco consumption by effective legislations, taxation and mass awareness. Towards that, I wholeheartedly support the idea of 'World Head and Neck Cancer Day' that has already been endorsed by several International Head and Neck Societies.

4. I have no doubt that the deliberations at this unprecedented gathering of Head and Neck Specialists across the world would come up with solutions for ending the menace of Head and Neck Cancer in the near future.

5. While taking this opportunity to congratulate the organisers for organising such a historic event, I convey my greetings to the participants and best wishes for the success of the International Federation of Head and Neck Societies.


(Dr. Harsh Vardhan)

348, ए-स्कंध, निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011

348, A-Wing, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

Tele : (O) : +91-11-23061647, 23061661, 23061751, Telefax : 23062358, 23061648


E-mail : drhrshvardhan@gmail.com, dr.harshvardhan@nic.in : Website : drharshvardhan.com

Support letter from UICC, Geneva -

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Please contact UICC for any questions

Sign up to proclaim 27th July as Head Neck Cancer Day

UICC signs proclamation to declare 27th July as Head Neck Cancer Day.

Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) is the leading cause of death and disability in many parts of the world, affecting people in the productive age-group, yet most of this mortality and morbidity is preventable.

To draw the world's attention on effective care and control of HNSCC, the **International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies (IFHNOS)** proposes to declare the 27th July as Head Neck Cancer Day on the occasion of its **5th World Congress**, in New York 27th July 2014, the largest gathering of Head and Neck Cancer specialists in history.

"Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) is pleased to sign the 2014 proclamation and lend its support to the IFHNOS campaign to raise awareness and motivate national action against head and neck cancer - an imminently preventable cancer - through a call to mark 27 July as head and neck cancers day" Professor Anil D'Cruz, Chief, Department Head and Neck Cancer, Tata Memorial Hospital and member of the UICC Board of Directors.



Help us make HNSCC history

Michael Douglas and Katherine Zeta-Jones Supported WHNCD declaration-

News On Cancer

Michael Douglas opens up on cancer battle at New York event with wife Catherine Zeta-Jones by his side

News On Cancer | Treatments | Jul 28, 2014



The actor address 3,000 doctors at the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies' 5th World Congress opening ceremony in New York City on Sunday where he shared his story battling the life threatening disease. "In every sense of the word, I'm very fortunate to be here today," he said.

Michael Douglas compared his crusade with cancer to being "like a soldier that prepared for battle."

The 69-year-old actor spoke candidly about his journey at the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies 5th World Congress opening ceremony on Sunday where it was proclaimed "I wholeheartedly support this proclamation," Douglas said to an audience of 3,000 doctors at the Marriott Marquis in New York City.

With his wife, Catherine Zeta-Jones – who he recently reunited with after a temporary separation – by his side, Douglas shared his story battling the life threatening disease and being misdiagnosed with tongue cancer before it was determined to be cancer of the throat. [...]

Source: www.nydailynews.com

If you also suffer from cancer or know some close relatives/friends suffering from cancer, please join our **evergrowing community** and make a difference.

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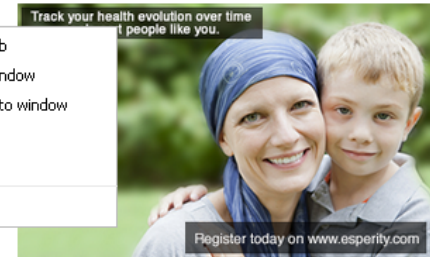
JOIN US!

Help us extend a hand to those in need by joining our evergrowing community.

Meet people like yourself, ask for advice or simply provide a good thought. You can make a difference!

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Media coverage –

<http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/gossip/michael-douglas-talks-cancer-battle-wife-catherine-zeta-jones-side-article-1.1881831>

International Head Neck Societies supporting the declaration –

- American Head and Neck Society
- Argentina: Asociacion Argentina de Cirugia
- Asian Society of Head and Neck Oncology
- Australian and New Zealand Head & Neck Cancer Society
- Australian Society of Otolaryngology/Head Neck Surgery.
- Belgian Head and Neck Oncologic
- Brazilian Society of Head and Neck Society.
- British Association of Head and Neck Oncology
- Canadian Society of Otolaryngology/Head Neck Surgery
- Danish Society for Head and Neck Oncology
- Egyptian Organization for Head and Neck Oncology
- EORTC Head and Neck Group
- European Head and Neck Society
- European Laryngological Society
- Head and Neck Tumors Study Group
- Hong Kong Head and Neck Society
- Indian Society of Head and Neck Oncology
- Israeli Society for Head and Neck Oncology
- Italy: Societa Italiana di Chirurgia Oncologica
- Japan Society for Head and Neck Cancer
- Korean Society for Head and Neck Oncology
- Mexican Society of Oncology
- Pakistan: The Head and Neck Oncology Society
- Polish Head and Neck Oncological Society
- Scandinavian Society for Head and Neck Oncology
- South African Society for Head and Neck Oncology
- South American Head and Neck Society
- Taiwan Otolaryngological Society
- Thai Head and Neck Society