



# Comprehensive Cancer Control (CCC) on a National Level

## Why CCC Was Developed

Cancer was a death sentence only a short time ago. This began to change with passage of the 1971 National Cancer Act, which established the government's commitment to cancer research. The resulting research, which focused on particular cancer sites (breast, lung, prostate, etc.), led to a greater understanding of how cancer works, tests for detecting cancer earlier, and better treatments. While this "site-specific" approach is necessary for success, it is not sufficient to address the nation's cancer burden. Many Americans with cancer:

- Are diagnosed with cancers that could have been prevented
- Are diagnosed with late-stage disease
- Have limited access to recommended treatment
- Experience a lower quality of life

For these reasons, state and national organizations began a decade ago linking cancer prevention and control programs to fight cancer more effectively.

## The Benefits of CCC

**Collaboration.** Comprehensive Cancer Control offers the power of collaboration. The result is a powerful network of groups that speaks with one voice about reducing cancer risk, detecting cancers earlier, improving access to quality cancer treatment, and improving quality of life for cancer survivors.

**Working together is more efficient.** By having Comprehensive Cancer Control plans and putting them into action, coalitions prevent overlap and direct resources to where they matter most in every state, and in many tribes and U.S. territories.

**Collective action creates new allies.** People from all corners of the cancer community are gaining new allies by participating in Comprehensive Cancer Control. This allows them to pool resources, share expertise, and gain new insights into better ways to get the job done.

**Coalitions can tackle cross-cutting issues.** A united front against cancer can tackle major issues—like better access to quality care, survivorship, health disparities, and quality of life—that are too broad and cross-cutting for any one organization to confront alone.

## How CCC works

CDC's National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCP) provides initial funds to states, tribes, and territories:

- ◆ Establish CCC coalitions
- ◆ Assess the burden of cancer
- ◆ Determine priorities
- ◆ Develop and implement CCC plans

## Comprehensive Cancer Control helps communities across the nation through:

### Risk Reduction

Reduce cancer risk by encouraging people to:

- Avoid Tobacco use
- Eat a healthy balanced diet
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Exercise regularly
- Limit alcohol consumption
- Protect themselves from environmental risks (i.e. sun exposure)

### Health Disparities

Decrease health disparities by closing gaps in screening use for:

- Individuals with no usual source for care
- Uninsured people
- Recent immigrants
- Racial and ethnic minorities
- People with limited income
- Rural populations

### Early Detection

Detect cancers earlier by:

- Promoting recommended cancer screening guidelines and tests
- Educating people about possible cancer signs and symptoms

### Better Treatment

Improve treatment by:

- Increasing access to quality cancer care
- Increasing participation in clinical trials

### Enhanced Survivorship

Enhance quality of life for cancer survivors:

- Physical
- Psychological
- Practical (e.g. financial and legal issues, health insurance, long-term planning)



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do something about cancer

Utah Cancer Action Network