Building synergies between diseases as well as health systems improves cancer prevention and treatment.

In 2013, the global community adopted the Global Action Plan (GAP) for the prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs). The GAP urged countries to set national targets to address premature death from four major NCDs (cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and respiratory disease). Built into the GAP is the opportunity to address various risk factors across NCDs that contribute to premature mortality, known as “best buys.” 

In addition to focusing on these four major NCDs, countries can turn to successful programs in maternal and child health and HIV prevention and control, among others, to reach the target population to promote cancer prevention.

Addressing multiple risk factors can reduce the overall NCD burden and premature mortality. “Best buys” are a set of affordable, feasible and cost-effective intervention strategies to achieve these goals.

**GOAL 3.4**
By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.

### Building synergies

#### FIGURE 36.1

Cervical cancer incidence, age-standardized rate (world per 100,000, 2018)

#### FIGURE 36.2

Countries with national cancer control and noncommunicable disease (NCD) plans (%), 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF PLAN</th>
<th>National cancer control plan + NCD plan</th>
<th>Only NCD plan</th>
<th>Only national cancer control plan</th>
<th>No national cancer control plan or NCD plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>2.6–5%</td>
<td>1.1–2.5%</td>
<td>10%–40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.9–9.6%</td>
<td>2.9–5.9%</td>
<td>1.1–2.5%</td>
<td>10%–40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.9–9.6%</td>
<td>2.9–5.9%</td>
<td>1.1–2.5%</td>
<td>10%–40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.1–2.5%</td>
<td>1.9–9.6%</td>
<td>1.1–2.5%</td>
<td>10%–40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No data</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FIGURE 36.3

“Best buy” interventions to reduce NCDs and contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 3.4

- Reduce Tobacco Use
- Reduce harmful use of alcohol
- Reduce unhealthy diet
- Reduce physical inactivity
- Manage cardiovascular disease and diabetes
- Prevent and manage cancer

*https://www.asco.org/international-programs/international-meetings-educational-opportunities/cancer-control-primary-care

*Addressing multiple risk factors can reduce the overall NCD burden and premature mortality. “Best buys” are a set of affordable, feasible and cost-effective intervention strategies to achieve these goals.*

*The transformed health systems established through investment in HIV programming in sub-Saharan Africa present a unique opportunity for countries to tackle the rapidly rising burden of NCDs.*

— Wafaa M. El-Sadr, Director, International Programs; and Eric Goosby, UN Special Envoy on Tuberculosis and former Director of Health Information, Research, and Development at the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Special Programme on AIDS and the Union for International Cancer Control to support country development of national cancer plans or to encourage countries to include cancer control activities within their NCD plan. The International Cancer Control Partnership portal (https://www.top-portal.org) contains resources for plan development, including examples of plans that integrate across the health system. Essentially, cancer cannot be addressed alone. There are many parallels between these two diseases can be leveraged to effectively incorporate cancer control.*

*Because there are many parallels between the burdens of HIV and cervical cancer, and women with HIV are at increased risk of cervical cancer, an opportunity exists to integrate cervical cancer screening into existing HIV care services.*