



The Trinidad & Tobago Cancer Society Education Policy

The Trinidad & Tobago Cancer Society (TTCS) serves as a cornerstone of national health, dedicated to reducing the cancer burden through robust education, proactive screening, and comprehensive patient support. This policy outlines our expanded commitment to fostering a health-literate society and ensuring that no individual navigates the complexities of a cancer journey alone.

1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PUBLIC LITERACY

We bridge the gap between medical knowledge and public action by bringing life-saving information directly to the people, with a dedicated focus on rural, underserved, and low-health-literacy communities.

- a. Outreach Initiatives:** Conducting community-based programs to raise awareness regarding cancer risks, prevention strategies, and the necessity of regular screening.
- b. Interactive Forums:** Participating in health fairs, workshops, and public forums to engage citizens in direct dialogue about their health.
- c. Empowerment:** Providing individuals with the practical tools and knowledge required to make informed, healthier lifestyle decisions.

2. CORPORATE WELLNESS & WORKFORCE PROTECTION

Recognizing that health is a professional asset, we partner with the corporate sector to protect Trinidad and Tobago's workforce.

- a. Workplace Seminars:** Delivering targeted lectures and seminars designed for corporate environments.
- b. Preventive Culture:** Promoting early detection and risk reduction while helping organizations build a sustainable culture of wellness.

3. COMPREHENSIVE PATIENT NAVIGATION & SUPPORT

Education does not end at a screening, it continues through the journey of care. We integrate Patient Navigation as a core educational facet to guide individuals from an "abnormal find" to "active treatment."

- a. Clinical Guidance:** Utilizing clinical consultations to explain diagnostic results, such as biopsies, mammograms, and PSA tests, in clear, accessible language.
- b. System Navigation:** Assisting patients in understanding the healthcare system, ensuring they know how to access follow-up services like specialized ultrasounds or blood tests.
- c. Survivorship Education:** Leveraging the Cancer Survivors Network and Volunteer Programme to provide peer-led education, helping newly diagnosed patients navigate the emotional and practical hurdles of recovery.

4. YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & EARLY INTERVENTION

To influence long-term behavior change, we prioritize educating the next generation through a progressive, school-based strategy.

- a. Primary School Foundation:** Introducing age-appropriate wellness concepts to younger students to instill healthy habits from the earliest possible stage.
- b. Curriculum Integration:** Collaborating with educational authorities to integrate cancer prevention and healthy lifestyle modules directly into the national school curriculum.
- c. Secondary School Lectures:** Implementing dynamic, interactive sessions in high schools nationwide to address immediate health risks.
- d. Risk Mitigation:** Placing a heavy emphasis on the immediate and long-term dangers of smoking and vaping.

5. MULTI-CHANNEL MEDIA & PUBLIC EDUCATION

We leverage modern communication to ensure accurate health information is omnipresent.

- a. Media Amplification:** Utilizing television, radio, and print to broadcast consistent awareness messages with an extra focus on digital to broadcast information snippets to reach the increasing digitally aware public.
- b. Expert Discourse:** Engaging in interviews, live shows, expert panel discussions, and published articles to provide deep-dive insights into cancer care.

SUMMARY OF CLINICAL EDUCATION & SCREENING SERVICES

Education is reinforced by our suite of accessible diagnostic services:

- a. Women's Health:** Pap Smears, HPV Reflex Testing, Clinical Breast Exams, and Mammograms.
- b. Men's Health:** Prostate Examinations including DRE (Digital Rectal Examination) and PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen).
- c. General Screening:** Biopsies, Fecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT), and a full range of Ultrasounds (Abdomen, Pelvic, Thyroid, etc.).
- d. Accessibility:** Mobile Clinic Services are available to ensure these educational and screening tools reach underserved areas across the country.

