

NCD Alliance Statement at UHC HLM Interactive Hearing

29 April 2019, New York

The NCD Alliance and the Union for International Cancer Control urge Member States to ensure the outcome of the HLM on UHC adopts a lifecourse approach to health that spans the continuum of care, strengthens health systems and helps reduce inequities and catastrophic financial expenditure on health.

We urge Member States to:

1. **Prioritise prevention as essential for UHC**, as it is crucial for improving health outcomes and more cost effective than focusing solely on treatment and care.
2. **Ensure primary health care is the foundation of UHC**, supported by strong referral networks to specialised care, as it offers the greatest potential to detect high-risk individuals and improve health.
3. **Save lives by improving equitable access to quality, affordable essential medicines and products.**
4. **Increase sustainable financing for health and improve efficiency in investments**, by increasing domestic investment, allocating more public financing for health, and aligning investments with the burden of disease.

Enable meaningful community engagement and empowerment in UHC design, development and accountability. The lived experiences of people who interact with the health system, and especially of those people living with multiple conditions, must shape UHC systems to meet the needs of people and populations.