

Reducing the Burden of Non-communicable diseases by enhancing diabetes prevention and Management.

Intervention by Egypt at the 156th WHO Executive Board Meeting

Distinguished Chair, Honorable Members of the Executive Board, and Esteemed Colleagues,

In alignment with the objectives outlined in document EB156/7, which emphasizes the importance of strengthening prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), Egypt has implemented several initiatives to reduce the burden of NCDs, particularly focusing on diabetes prevention and management.

The **Presidential Initiative for Elderly Healthcare** initiative operates across 900 primary healthcare facilities, providing comprehensive health and psychological care to citizens aged 65 and above. Each beneficiary receives two annual visits, encompassing medical examinations, laboratory tests, psychological and nutritional evaluations, and health education sessions on proper nutrition and the risks of smoking. To date, 1.5 million citizens have benefited from this program.

Another campaign aimed at the early detection of heart diseases, **“Your Heart is Safe” Campaign** campaign is active in 401 primary healthcare facilities. Services include patient evaluations, electrocardiogram (ECG) services, blood pressure and glucose measurements, and referral pathways for detected cases.

As well, premarital Screening Initiative offers a comprehensive package of medical, psychological, and laboratory screenings for individuals planning to marry. The screenings detect non-communicable diseases, hereditary blood disorders such as sickle cell anemia and thalassemia, and specific viral and sexually transmitted infections, achieving 100% coverage.

In support of the "Diabetes Without Complications" campaign, 50 physicians across six governorates have been trained to enhance early detection and follow-up of diabetes cases within primary healthcare facilities. Furthermore, preparations are underway to launch initiatives addressing obesity treatment and mental health services through 50 clinics within primary healthcare facilities.

These initiatives reflect Egypt's commitment to the strategies highlighted in document EB156/7, focusing on the prevention and control of NCDs through comprehensive, community-based approaches. We remain dedicated to collaborating with WHO and member states to achieve our shared health objectives.

Thank you.