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International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care Inc.

Meeting:

144th session of the Executive Board
24 January - 1 February 2019

Agenda Item:

5.7.2 Cancer medicines

Statement:

IAHPC thanks the Secretariat for the Report and would remind member states that there is a separate list of essential medicines for palliative care that are useful for easing the pain of cancer patients. These include internationally controlled essential medicines, unavailable in more than 70% of countries, according to a recent report prepared by the Lancet Commission on Palliative Care and Universal Health Coverage. IAHPC requests the Secretariat to prepare a similar Report on the unique issues of pricing and access to controlled medicines and will collaborate using our evidence base, the Opioid Price Watch, as well as input from our global membership.

Our global palliative care membership is requesting their delegations to instruct the Secretariat prepare this Report, in collaboration with International Narcotics Control Board and affiliated monitoring, analyzing pricing and availability of internationally controlled essential medicines for the treatment of pain, palliative care, anesthesia, obstetrics, mental health, substance use disorder, trauma, etc. This will be essential to implement Target 3.8 (SDGs), Astana Declaration, and WHA 67.19 inter alia.

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