

ACT TO END SKIN CANCER DEATHS IN PERSONS WITH ALBINISM



Batrída, 8 years old
Tanzania

OCULOCUTANEOUS ALBINISM IS AN INHERITED CONDITION CHARACTERIZED BY A REDUCTION IN PIGMENTATION OF HAIR, SKIN AND EYES.

PREVALENCE

1: 12 000 - 15 000
EUROPE & NORTH AMERICA



ALBINISM IMPACTS EVERY REGION EVERY GENDER EVERY ETHNIC GROUP

1: 4 000 - 7 000
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

IN AFRICA, PERSONS WITH ALBINISM ARE



MORE LIKELY TO DEVELOP SKIN CANCER (BASAL OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA) THAN THE GENERAL POPULATION.

SKIN CANCER IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR PWA IN LOW-AND-MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES IN TROPICAL REGIONS.

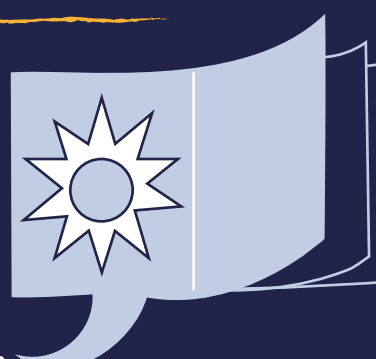


GOOD NEWS
skin cancer in PWA is ...

PREVENTABLE



RISK FACTORS



Insufficient ACCESS TO SUNSCREEN that is affordable and appropriate.

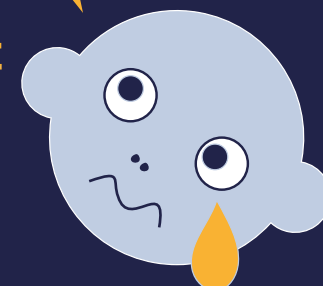


A lack of AWARENESS & EDUCATION on photo-protection and the risk of skin cancer due to sun exposure.



REGULAR SUN EXPOSURE

which is unavoidable when accessing work, education and engaging social life.



Too few POLICIES & ADVOCACY GROUPS

developing programmes and supporting action to address skin cancer in Persons with Albinism.



Inequitable and limited ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

particularly dermatological and screening services to support early detection and treatment.



ACT NOW!

WHO MUST LEAD

- 1 The World Health Assembly should recognize the skin cancer crisis in PWA and address it through an ad hoc program implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO).



MAKE SUNSCREEN AN ESSENTIAL MEDICINE

- 2 The WHO must add broad-spectrum sunscreen for PWA to the WHO Essential Medicines List. National ministries of health must add sunscreen to their respective national lists of essential medicines made accessible to all

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

- 3 Governments and pharmaceutical companies should work together to make sunscreen universally accessible for Persons with Albinism, no matter where they live.

TRACK TO PROTECT

- 4 Governments must establish patient registries to improve monitoring of skin cancer in PWA.

RESEARCH & INNOVATE TO SAVE LIVES

- 5 Researchers should work on developing new treatments to facilitate skin cancer management in PWA in low-resource settings.

FUND LIFESAVING INITIATIVES

- 6 Philanthropists, foundations, and development agencies should provide critical funding to support skin cancer programs for PWA in all affected countries.

