

## **CANCER AND ITS ECONOMIC IMPACT ON HOUSEHOLDS IN THE ASEAN COUNTRIES**

The ACTION (Asean CosTs In ONcology) study is conducted by ASEAN country-investigators and study sites together with the George Institute for Global Health and funded through an unrestricted educational grant from the Roche Asia Pacific Regional Office. The study will be conducted in multiple sites from eight countries [Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam].

The ACTION study will examine such economic impact of cancer on households across the ASEAN countries and assess the incidence of financial catastrophe and economic hardship associated with the illness. In addition it will examine the impact of cancer on quality of life of these patients, and the variations in the way in which patients within and across these countries are managed to assess the impact of different cancer types on quality of life, household income and social outcomes across ASEAN countries.

### **Inclusion criteria:**

- 18 years and older
- With a first time cancer diagnosis received in the last 6 weeks
- Aware of their new cancer diagnosis
- Conscious and with sufficient cognitive capacity to give consent and complete an interview
- Willing to participate in the baseline and two follow-up interviews

### **Exclusion criteria**

- Participating in a clinical trial

Data management will be provided by the George Institute and the principal means of data collection and data processing will be electronic, via Internet connection with the George Institute for Global Health. All forms will be entered locally in an online data base by the authorized study staff (Research Officer @ Nurse)

### **Roles of Study Sites**

#### **Physician:**

- Will identify the potential and eligible patients for this study based on the inclusion criteria.
- Inform the patient about the ACTION study and if patient is keen to be interviewed, channel them to RO/Nurse in charge

#### **Research Officer/Nurse:**

- Attend training or meeting about this study
- Explain briefly to patient about ACTION study.
- Distribute to patient these forms:
  - a) Patient Information Sheet (Form A)
  - b) Patient eligibility and consent form (Form B)
  - c) Patient consent form (Form C)
- Get consent from patient

- Conduct interview
- Fill in the questionnaire in hardcopy CRF
- Enter data in e-CRF
- Follow up with patient
- Update weekly to central (CRC) on number of patients
- Ensure completeness of data that has been entered into database

### **Remuneration**

- a) Patients: RM 20 per visit  
Each patient has to make 3 visits (baseline interview and 2 follow up interviews)  
RM 20 X3= RM60
- b) Research Officers/Nurses: RM 20 per questionnaire filled in