

OUR GOAL IS TO STOP THE WORLD'S BIGGEST KILLER

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the world's number one killer. Combined, conditions affecting the heart or blood vessels – such as heart attack, stroke and heart failure – kill 20.5 million every year. The majority of these deaths happen in low- and middle-income countries.

We want to bring this number down – way down. And there's hope: 80% of premature deaths from CVD are preventable. By making small changes to our lifestyle – what we eat and drink, how much we exercise, and how we manage stress – we can better manage our heart health and beat CVD.

THIS YEAR ON WORLD HEART DAY

USE ♥ KNOW ♥

World Heart Day is a reminder to everyone around the world to take care of their hearts. This year's campaign focuses on the essential step of knowing our hearts first.

BECAUSE WE LOVE AND PROTECT ONLY WHAT WE KNOW.

In a world where knowledge about heart health is limited and policies are insufficient or lacking, we aim to shatter barriers and empower individuals to take control of their well-being.

BECAUSE WHEN WE KNOW MORE, WE CAN TAKE BETTER CARE.



The World Heart Federation (WHF) is an umbrella organisation representing the global cardiovascular community, uniting more than 200 patient, scientific and civil society groups. Together with its Members, WHF influences policies, shares knowledge, and inspires behaviour change to achieve heart health for everyone.



World Heart Day on 29 September is a global, multi-lingual celebration.

Spanning six continents, our hundreds of World Heart Federation (WHF) member organizations, the countless schools, universities, sports clubs and the vibrant cardiology community make World Heart Day (WHD) a truly global celebration.

Visit worldheartday.org and follow us on social media to find out how you can get involved – we'll be adding lots of resources, tips and info in the run up to 29 September.

FOLLOW US ON

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH









USE ♥ KNOW ♥



WORLD HEART DAY
29 SEP



USE TO EAT WELL






-  Cut down on sugary beverages and fruit juices – choose water or unsweetened juices instead.
-  Swap sweet, sugary treats for fresh fruit as a healthy alternative.
-  Try to eat 5 portions (about a handful each) of fruit and veg a day – they can be fresh, frozen, tinned or dried.
-  Keep the amount of alcohol you drink within recommended guidelines.
-  Limit processed foods that are often high in salt, sugar and fat - unpack and unwrap less, peel and cook more!
-  Search online or download an app and get lots of heart-healthy recipe tips.

DID YOU KNOW?

High blood glucose (blood sugar) can be indicative of diabetes. CVD accounts for the majority of deaths in people with diabetes so if it's left undiagnosed and untreated it can put you at increased risk of heart disease and stroke.



USE TO GET MORE ACTIVE







-  Aim for at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity 5 times a week.
-  Or at least 75 minutes spread throughout the week of vigorous-intensity activity.
-  Playing, walking, housework, dancing – they all count!
-  Be more active every day – take the stairs, walk or cycle instead of driving.
-  Download an app or use a wearable device to keep track of your steps and progress.

DID YOU KNOW?

High blood pressure is one of the main risk factors for CVD. It's called the 'silent killer' because it usually has no warning signs or symptoms, and many people don't realise they have it.



USE TO SAY NO TO TOBACCO

-  It's the single best thing you can do to improve your heart health.
-  Within 2 years of quitting, the risk of coronary heart disease is substantially reduced.
-  Within 15 years the risk of CVD returns to that of a non-smoker.
-  Exposure to secondhand smoke is also a cause of heart disease in non-smokers.
-  By quitting/not smoking you'll improve both your health and the health of those around you.
-  If you're having trouble stopping, seek professional advice and ask your employer if they provide smoking-cessation services.

DID YOU KNOW?

Cholesterol is associated with around 4 million deaths per year, so visit your healthcare professional and ask them to measure your levels, as well as your weight and body mass index (BMI). They'll then be able to advise on your CVD risk so you can take action to improve your heart health.