

After cardiovascular disease, globally, cancer is the 2nd leading cause of death. In low and middle income countries, which includes India due to a relatively low awareness of cancer, delay in diagnosis and lack of access to treatment, patients with cancer generally have a poorer prognosis.

What are the global trends in Cancer?

Globally the cancer burden is estimated to have risen to 18.1 million new cases and 9.6 million deaths in 2018. One in 5 men and one in 6 women worldwide develop cancer during their lifetime, and one in 8 men and one in 11 women die from the disease.

Europe - 23.4% The Americas - 21.0% Asia - 48.4% Africa - 5.8%

Which are the most commonly seen cancers?

Cancer of the lung, breast and colo rectum are the most common cancers.

Lung cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in men (14.5% of total cases) and is also the leading cause of cancer death in men. This is followed by prostate cancer (13.5%) and colorectal cancer (10.9%). In women, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer (24.2%) followed by lung cancer (13.8%), colorectal cancer (9.5%) and then cervical cancer (6.6%).

What are the cancer trends in India?

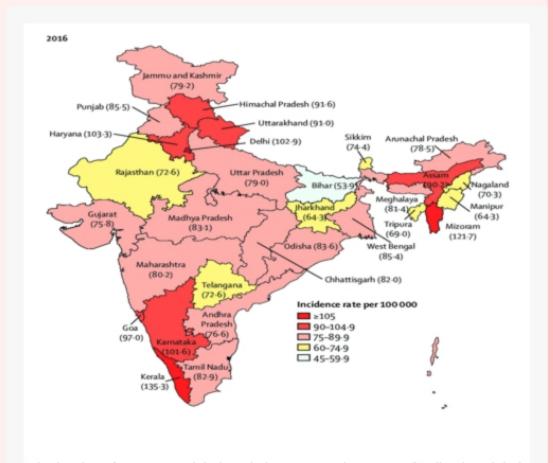
During the last 20 years, India has emerged as a fast growing economy with changes in lifestyle-related behavior partially responsible for the increasing incidence of cancer. The disease is among the top 3 killers among adults in rural and urban India.



According to the ICMR Registry data, India sees 1.45 million new cases each year. The most common cancer in females are cancers of breast and cervical while the most common cancer in the males are cancers of prostate, rectum and colon. Breast cancer, which has the highest incidence of all cancers in females, has also become frequent in a population younger than 50 years, while cervical cancer rates have been uniformly decreasing in all urban and rural registries.

Some facts: (India)

- Overall, the cancer prevalence is estimated to be 83 per 100,000 persons (110 per 100,000 persons in urban population)
- The burden of cancer among elderly is significantly higher at 385 per 100,000 persons
- Significant prevalence of cancer among reproductive age group (15 to 49 years) is also noted (62 per 100,000 persons). Cancer incidence is this age group (15 to 49 years) is three times higher in females (96 per 100,000 persons) than males (30 per 100,000 persons)
- Most common childhood cancers leukemia & lymphomas
- More than 1,40,000 cancer patients are diagnosed in their reproductive year.



The burden of cancers and their variations across the states of India: the Global Burden of Disease Study 1990–2016. India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative Cancer Collaborators.Lancet Oncol 2018; 19: 1289–306.

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