

Case Report
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Public Policies on Cancer

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Introduction

According to the World Health Organization's (WHO) latest global cancer data from 2020, an estimated 19.3 million new cancer cases were diagnosed worldwide and 10 million people died from cancer that year. This means that cancer was responsible for about 1 in 6 deaths globally.

The number of new cancer cases and cancer deaths is projected to continue rising in the coming years due to population growth and aging, as well as changing lifestyles and environmental factors that increase the risk of cancer. (Photo 1)

It's important to note that the incidence and mortality rates of cancer can vary widely across different regions and countries, and they can also be influenced by factors such as access to healthcare, lifestyle factors, and exposure to carcinogens [1,2].

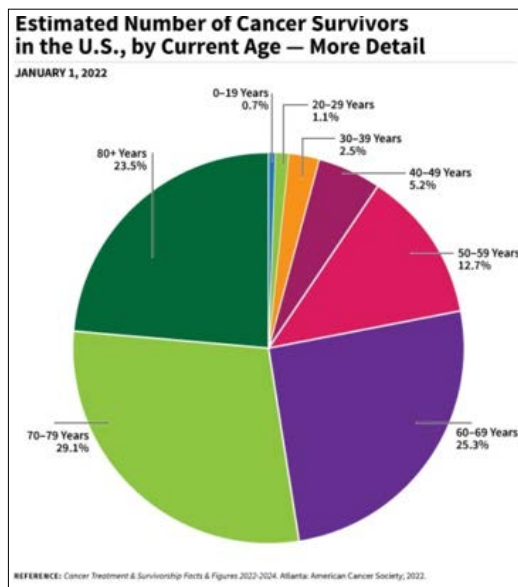


Figure 1

Statistics and Graphs | Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS)
cancercontrol.cancer.gov

Public policies

Public policies on cancer (PPOC) refer to the set of actions, laws, regulations, and initiatives developed by governments and other stakeholders to address the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and management of cancer.

The scope of public policies on cancer is broad and encompasses various aspects of the disease, including cancer research, screening, early detection, treatment, palliative care, survivorship, and support for cancer patients and their families. Public policies on cancer also address the social and economic impact of cancer, including the cost of cancer care, the impact on the workforce, and the psychological and emotional effects on patients and their families.

Implementation of public policies on cancer involves a multi-sectoral approach that engages various stakeholders, including governments, healthcare providers, patient advocacy groups, researchers, and the private sector. Implementation of public policies on cancer requires the allocation of resources, including financial, human, and technological resources, to ensure that the policies are effectively implemented and their goals are achieved.

Some examples of public policies on cancer include public awareness campaigns to encourage cancer prevention and early detection, government-funded cancer research programs, legislation to regulate the use and sale of tobacco products, and initiatives to improve access to cancer treatments and care. Public policies on cancer play a critical role in reducing the burden of cancer on individuals, families, and society as a whole [4-6].

Countries with PPOC programs

Many countries have public policies on cancer that are implemented through their healthcare systems and government agencies. Here are five examples of countries that have implemented public policies on cancer:

1. United States: The U.S. government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Act of 1971, which established the National Cancer Institute and allocated funding for cancer research. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also implements public policies related to cancer prevention and control. (Photo 2)

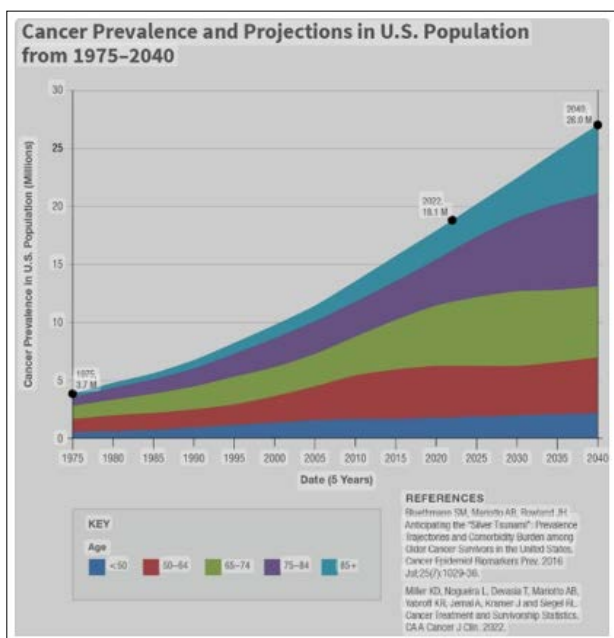


Figure 2

1. Canada: The Canadian government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control, which is a national framework for cancer control that aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment.
2. United Kingdom: The UK government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the Cancer Reform Strategy, which aims to improve cancer services and outcomes for patients. The UK also has a National Cancer Action Team that works to implement cancer policies and initiatives.
3. Australia: The Australian government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Control Initiative, which is a national framework for cancer control that aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment [3,8,15].
4. Brazil: The Brazilian government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Control Plan, which is a national framework for cancer control that aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment. Brazil also has a National Cancer Institute that works to implement cancer policies and initiatives.

These are just a few examples of countries that have implemented public policies on cancer. Many other countries around the world have also developed policies and initiatives to address the prevention, detection, treatment, and management of cancer [7].

What is the situation in Latin America?

Latin American countries have public policies on cancer. While the specifics of these policies may vary from country to country, most focus on improving cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and survivorship.

Here are a few examples of Latin American countries and their public policies on cancer:

1. Mexico: The Mexican government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Prevention and Control Program, which aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment. Mexico also has a National Cancer Institute that conducts cancer research and works to improve cancer care.
2. Argentina: The Argentine government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Institute, which is a national research institute that conducts cancer research and works to improve cancer care. Argentina also has a national cancer control plan that aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment.
3. Colombia: The Colombian government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Control Plan, which is a national framework for cancer control that aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment. Colombia also has a National Cancer Institute that conducts cancer research and works to improve cancer care.
4. Chile: The Chilean government has implemented several public policies on cancer, including the National Cancer Plan, which is a national framework for cancer control that aims to reduce the burden of cancer through prevention, early detection, and treatment. Chile also has a National Cancer Institute that conducts cancer research and works to improve cancer care.

These are just a few examples of Latin American countries that have implemented public policies on cancer. Many other countries in the region also have policies and initiatives in place to address cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and survivorship [7,9,10,21].

The role of public political programs against cancer

The role of public political programs against cancer is to develop and implement policies and initiatives aimed at reducing the burden of cancer on individuals, families, and society as a whole. These programs are designed to address various aspects of cancer, including prevention, early detection, treatment, survivorship, and palliative care.

Some of the key roles of public political programs against cancer include:

1. Cancer prevention: Public policies can be implemented to promote healthy behaviors that reduce the risk of cancer, such as tobacco control policies, healthy diet and physical activity policies, and environmental policies to reduce exposure to carcinogens.
2. Cancer screening and early detection: Public policies can be implemented to increase access to cancer screening programs and encourage early detection of cancer, which can lead to earlier treatment and better outcomes.
3. Cancer treatment and care: Public policies can be implemented to ensure that cancer patients have access to high-quality and affordable cancer treatment and care, including through funding for cancer research, improving access to cancer medications, and increasing the availability of cancer treatment services.

4. Support for cancer patients and their families: Public policies can be implemented to provide support for cancer patients and their families, including through programs that provide information and resources on cancer, psychological and emotional support services, and financial assistance for cancer-related expenses [11,12].

The implementation of a public policy plan against cancer

The implementation of a public policy plan against cancer can involve multiple steps and stakeholders, and may vary depending on the specific policy and context. However, here are some general steps that can be involved in the implementation of a public policy plan against cancer:

1. Develop a comprehensive policy plan: A policy plan against cancer should be developed based on the best available evidence and the input of relevant stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, patient groups, cancer survivors, policymakers, and other experts. The policy plan should set out clear objectives, targets, and strategies for addressing cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, survivorship, and palliative care.
2. Allocate resources and establish partnerships: The implementation of a policy plan against cancer will require the allocation of resources, including funding, staff, and infrastructure. Partnerships may also need to be established with relevant stakeholders, including healthcare providers, patient groups, and other organizations that can help support the implementation of the policy plan.
3. Establish a governance structure: A governance structure should be established to oversee the implementation of the policy plan. This may involve the creation of a dedicated cancer control agency or the establishment of a cancer control unit within an existing health agency. The governance structure should have clear lines of authority and accountability, and should be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the policy plan.
4. Implement targeted interventions: The policy plan should include targeted interventions to address specific aspects of cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, survivorship, and palliative care. These interventions may include public education campaigns, screening programs, access to high-quality cancer treatment and care, and support for cancer survivors and their families.
5. Monitor and evaluate progress: The implementation of a policy plan against cancer should be monitored and evaluated to assess progress towards meeting the policy objectives and targets. This may involve the collection and analysis of data on cancer incidence, mortality, and survival rates, as well as feedback from stakeholders and the public. The results of the monitoring and evaluation should be used to inform ongoing improvements to the policy plan and its implementation [13,14].

Countries with successful PPOC

Here are three examples of countries where public policy against cancer has been successful and has managed to lower the incidence of the disease and achieve more cured patients:

A) Australia has a comprehensive national cancer control strategy that focuses on cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and support for cancer patients and survivors. The country has

implemented several successful initiatives, including a national screening program for breast, cervical, and bowel cancer, a national tobacco control program, and a comprehensive cancer research and clinical trials program. As a result, Australia has seen a decline in cancer incidence rates and an increase in cancer survival rates over the past several decades [3,8,14].

B) South Korea has implemented a national cancer screening program that provides free or low-cost screening for several types of cancer, including breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer. The country has also invested heavily in cancer research and treatment, and has established several specialized cancer centers across the country. As a result, South Korea has seen a significant increase in cancer survival rates, and the incidence of some types of cancer, such as stomach cancer, has declined [16].

C) Canada has a national cancer control strategy that focuses on cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and support for cancer patients and survivors. The country has implemented several successful initiatives, including a national cancer screening program, a national tobacco control program, and a comprehensive cancer research and clinical trials program. As a result, Canada has seen a decline in cancer incidence rates and an increase in cancer survival rates over the past several decades.

It's important to note that the success of public policy against cancer in these countries is due to a combination of factors, including political commitment, investment in cancer prevention and research, and collaboration between stakeholders, including government, healthcare providers, patient groups, and the public [17].

Conclusion

In conclusion, public policy against cancer is critical for reducing the incidence of cancer, improving cancer survival rates, and supporting cancer patients and survivors. A comprehensive approach that focuses on cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and support is essential for successful public policy against cancer.

Successful public policy against cancer requires political commitment, investment in cancer prevention and research, and collaboration between stakeholders. Examples of successful public policy against cancer can be found in countries such as Australia, South Korea, and Canada.

In the future, continued investment in cancer prevention, research, and treatment, as well as continued collaboration between stakeholders, will be essential for reducing the burden of cancer and improving the lives of cancer patients and survivors [18].

Guidelines for future public policy against cancer should include:

1. Increased investment in cancer prevention, research, and treatment.
2. Development of comprehensive cancer control plans.
3. Implementation of evidence-based interventions for cancer prevention and treatment.
4. Collaboration between stakeholders, including governments, healthcare providers, and patient advocacy groups.
5. Regular monitoring and evaluation of progress to identify areas for improvement.

By implementing these guidelines, public policy against cancer can continue to make progress in reducing the incidence of cancer,

improving cancer survival rates, and supporting cancer patients and survivors [19-22].

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