

Trend and pattern and the influence of socio demographic factors on the trend and pattern of cancers reported to Histopathology unit, Teaching Hospital Jaffna

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Introduction and Objectives: Cancer surveillance is an essential strategy to implement evidence- based cancer control programmes and is done by the National Cancer Control Programme in Sri Lanka. The main objective of this study is to describe\ the trend and pattern of cancer patients and the influence of socio demographic factors on the trend and pattern of cancers reported to Histopathology unit, Teaching Hospital Jaffna.

Methods: This study is a hospital-based descriptive cross -sectional study based on secondary data obtained from the records from 01st January 2015 to 31st December 2019 at the Histopathology lab, Teaching Hospital Jaffna.

Results: The study was done on a total of 3266 cancer incidence data which showed a male preponderance of 55% (n=1797). Oral cavity and the pharynx were the most common sites of occurrence with 22.75% (n=743). The highest incidence was in the age group 61-70 years with 33.60% (n=1098). Males were highly accounted with oral and pharyngeal cancers 33.56%. In female population, breast cancers took the highest position with 20.63%. According to our research results, 3266 cancer incidences had been reported to Histopathology unit throughout our study period. This cancer incidences vary with age and sex and deviate from national cancer incidences. Highest recorded cancer was Oro- pharyngeal carcinoma in the population of study which deviated very much from the Sri Lankan incidence in 2020 where it is breast carcinoma highest recorded. Rapid rise of the newly diagnosed cancers from 2015 to 2016 in both sexes noticed. A definitive cause cannot be said but it can be due to the opening of the Thellipallai trail Hospital in January 2014 and increased amount of public seeking therapy in the full equipped hospital. Highest reported cancers were in age group 61-70 years. Researchers found that DNA methylation may involve in the age-related rise of cancer.

Conclusion: Cancers were common among males than females and most common among 50-80 years of age irrespective of sex. Highest recorded cancers to THJ were oropharyngeal, oesophagus, breast, colorectal and lung, Oesophageal carcinomas had an increased predominance. Our study results used as surveillance of cancer for prevention and control of cancer incidence among northern population and provide the baseline knowledge for the practitioners to have a better understanding about the cancer incidence in their community.

Keywords: Cancer surveillance, Cancer control programme, Trend and pattern of cancer, Influence of socio-demographic factor on trend and pattern of cancer