

POPULATION BASED CANCER REGISTRY, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram

Dr Paul Sebastian

Director, Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram

Dr Aleyamma Mathew

Principal Investigator, Addl. Prof. in Stat & Epidemiology

The PBCR, Thiruvananthapuram taluk was established in 2006 under the NCRP (ICMR) with the objectives of assessing the magnitude and pattern of cancer incidence and mortality rates as well as estimating relative survival of various cancers. The taluk covers an area of 300 sq. km. with a population of 1.114 million (67% urban and 33% rural) as per 2001 census. Data collection was started retrospectively since 1st January 2005 and has completed 7 years in December 2011.

Data collection methodology is active and voluntary. The main sources of information for the incidence data are the Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram and the Medical College Hospital located in the same campus. Till November 2011, co-operation from other hospitals in Thiruvananthapuram was very poor. The number of other collaborating hospitals was only 7 and the proportion of source of registration from these hospitals was 2.4% in 2005. After the active involvement of the Govt. of Kerala, the number of collaborating hospitals increased to 83 and the source of registration from these hospitals increased to 14.1% in 2011. Currently PBCR endeavours to register every cancer case within the registry area.

All deaths except accidents/natural calamity are collected from the vital statistics offices and from all the above collaborating hospitals. Further, special effort is made for obtaining vital status of patients registered at RCC and this information is also updated to the mortality database.

The quality and completeness of coverage of the registry is reviewed through the various indicators provided in Table. During the past 7 years, number of cases reported in the PBCR increased to 32% in males and 36% in females and the age-adjusted incidence rate increased from 110 to 134 per 105 males and 103 to 128 per 105 females. Since the old age population proportion is higher than the world-standard population, the crude rates reported in Thiruvananthapuram are higher than the age-adjusted rates. The increase in the number of cases and rates are partly due to the improvement in the methodology.

Quality Indices of PBCR, Thiruvananthapuram

Quality Indices	Male			Female		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
Number	815	845	823	843	925	881
Source RCC (%)	52.6	48.8	43.4	65.1	56.1	54.4
Source Others (%)	36.7	39.7	47.4	29.0	34.8	38.7
MV (%)	72.1	78.0	75.7	82.3	84.8	82.5
DCO (%)	10.7	11.5	9.2	5.9	9.1	6.9
FR (%)	45.2	38.6	34.6	30.7	28.8	24.5
Unk (%)	14.4	15.9	13.6	9.5	10.9	10.9
AAIR*	132.6	135.8	129.4	119.2	129.1	121.2
AAMR [#]	60.1	51.4	45.1	36.4	37.6	29.1

RCC: Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, MV: Microscopic Verification, DCO: Death certificate only, FR: Fatality ratio, Unk: Unknown primary, AAIR: Age-adjusted incidence rate per 10⁵ population, AAMR: Age-adjusted mortality rates per 10⁵ population

Registry Staff, PBCR, Thiruvananthapuram

Smt Padmakumari Amma G.	:	Assistant Professor in Bio-statistics
Dr Kalavathy M.C.	:	Assistant Professor in Epidemiology
Dr Preethi Sara George	:	Co-Investigator, Asst. Prof. in Bio-statistics

Field Investigators

Mrs Shyma Chandrasekhar	Mrs. Aparna S.
Mrs Swapna Krishnankutty	Ms Sreelatha D.
Ms Shailaja Kumari S.S.	Ms. Priya K.L.
Ms Bindu R.R.	Ms Sunithakumari C.S.
Mr Ashok Kumar B.S.	Mr George C. Mathew

Main Sources of Registration of Incident Cases of Cancer: 2009-2011 - Thiruvananthapuram

Name of the Institution	Number	%
Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram	2745	53.5
Medical College Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram	1410	27.5
Unknown	431	8.4
KIMS, Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram	100	1.9
Cosmopolitan Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram	61	1.2
S.U.T. Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram	56	1.1
Others	329	6.4
Total	5132	100.0

1. Institutions listed have registered at least one percent of all cases in the registry for the combined years 2009-2011.
2. The numbers and proportion listed are the minimum number of cases. Institutions could have registered/ reported more cases, since duplicate registrations and non-resident/registry cases are not included.