

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

**National Cancer Control Programme
Ministry of Health
Sri Lanka**



Annual Report 2023



National Cancer Control Programme
Ministry of Health Sri Lanka



July 2024

National Cancer Control Programme,

Ministry of Health,

Public Health Complex,

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Narahenpita, Colombo 5.

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Message from the Deputy Director General Non-Communicable Diseases



I am delighted to submit this message for the Annual Report of National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) for the year 2023. As the focal point for cancer control Ministry of Health, the NCCP is leading in organizing and supporting initiatives focused on preventing, detecting early, diagnosing, treating, supporting survivors, and providing palliative care services for cancer in Sri Lanka.

The Annual Report of the National Cancer Control Programme 2023 is a comprehensive document summarizing all activities undertaken by the NCCP, overcoming various challenges throughout the year. I am pleased to witness the progress of activities aligned with National Strategic Plan on Prevention and Control of Cancers (2020-2024). The activities are aimed at achieving the desired outcomes outlined in the Results Framework of the Strategic Plan.

Leadership Dr. Eshani Fernando as the Director of NCCP, coupled with the dedicated efforts of the consultants overseeing the technical units, deserves commendation. Unwavering commitment of NCCP team to their work, despite numerous challenges, is deeply valued and recognized. I look forward to give my fullest partnership to continue achieving additional milestones in the prevention and control of cancers in Sri Lanka in the future.

Dr. Champika Wickramasinghe
MBBS, MSc, MD (Community Medicine)
Deputy Director General (Non-Communicable Diseases)

Message from Director



It gives me great pleasure to share my message for the National Cancer Control Programme's Annual Report for the year 2023. Despite facing numerous challenges, including economic and financial hardships, the annual action plan outlined in the National Strategic Plan on Prevention and Control of Cancers in Sri Lanka for the years 2020-2024 was prioritized, meticulously planned, and successfully implemented at both national and provincial levels.

The invaluable guidance provided by the National Advisory Committee on Prevention & Control of Cancers, the National Steering Committee on Palliative Care, and the Technical Advisory Committees on various aspects of cancer prevention and treatment (Detection of Cancers, Oral Cancer Prevention & Control, Diagnosis & Treatment, and Cancer Registration & Research) has played a crucial role.

Additionally, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for the administrative leadership and support extended by the Secretary, Additional Secretaries, Director General of Health Services, Deputy Director General (DDG) NCD, and all other DDGs. Their dedication and guidance have been pivotal in advancing our efforts. Furthermore, I acknowledge the collaborative efforts of other Directorates within the Ministry of Health, encompassing both curative and preventive healthcare institutions, along with their dedicated teams at all levels of care. I also extend my gratitude for the partnerships established with Development Partners such as the World Health Organization, World Bank, International Atomic Energy Agency, and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Regional Hub for Cancer Registration in Mumbai, India, among others. These collaborations have significantly contributed to our collective efforts.

Lastly, I extend sincere appreciation to the dedicated leadership of unit heads and the hard work of the entire staff for their commitment to achieving the objectives of NCCP.

Dr. Sudath Samaraweera
MBBS, MSc, MD (Community Medicine)
Director (Cover up) National Cancer Control Programme

Acknowledgement

Generating the Annual Report of the National Cancer Control Programme is identified as an annual activity of the National Strategic Plan (NSP) on Prevention and Control of Cancers in Sri Lanka Year 2020 – 2024 under 6.1.4. The year under review is the fourth year of the National Strategic Plan 2020-2024.

On behalf of the Editorial Committee of the Annual Report, I would like to thank Dr. Champika Wickramasingha, DDG (NCD), for her guidance in developing this publication and issuing a Message to the Annual Report. Also, I would like to thank Dr. Eshani Fernando, Director of the National Cancer Control Programme (2022-2023), for her leadership in the activities conducted during the respective year. Also, her guidance to generate this publication is also highly appreciated.

The activities conducted under the Annual Action Plan of the National Cancer Control Programme based on NSP 2020-2024 in the year 2023 were considered for this report. Since NCCP operates through 5 technical units, namely (i) Primary Prevention & Early Detection, (II) Oral Cancer Prevention & Control, (III) Diagnosis & Treatment, (IV) Palliative Care, (V) Strategic Information Management, the activities conducted in each unit were considered separately for the Annual Report. Therefore, I would like to thank all the Unit heads (Dr. Hasarali, Dr. Udaya, Dr.Muzrif/Dr.Yasoma, Dr. Irosha, Dr. Suraj) and their team members of each Technical Unit for the provision of the Unit Report. In addition, I would like to thank Dr. Dumidu for the performance report of the Cancer Early Detection Centre, Narahenpita.

The creative work of Dr. Nirma Alapitiarachchi of the Strategic Information Management Unit is highly appreciated for all the editorial work of this report despite her busy schedule in finalizing post-graduate research work.

Appreciate the feedback of readership about this report. It will be helpful for further improvement of Annual Report in next year.

Dr. Suraj Perera

**Consultant Community Physician
Strategic Information Management Unit
National Cancer Control Programme**

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Our Mission & Vision

Vision

A country with a low incidence of preventable cancers and high survival rates with good quality of life and minimal disabilities /suffering from effects of cancers

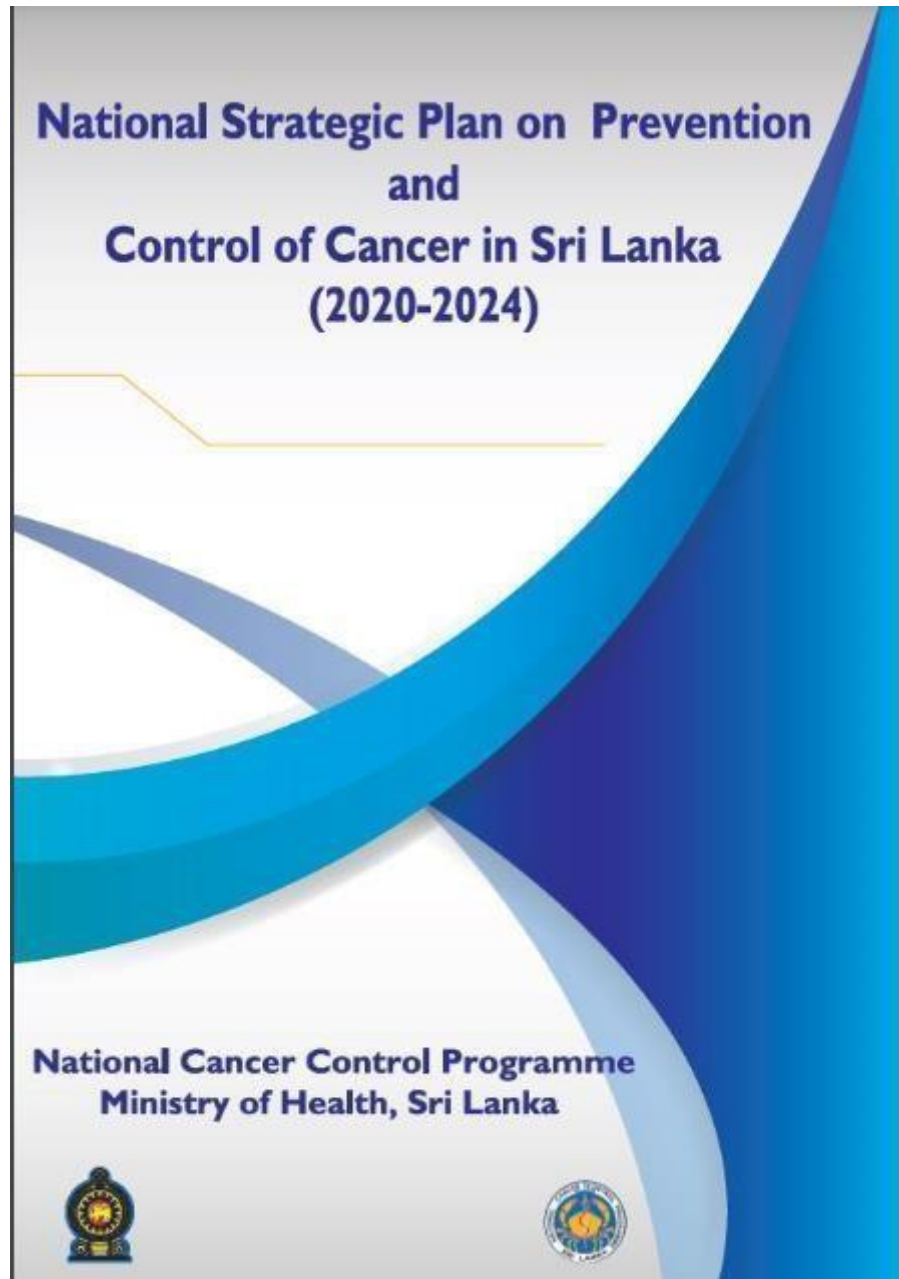
Mission

To reduce the incidence of cancers by controlling and combating determinants of cancers, ensuring early detection, and providing a holistic and accessible continuum of cancer care which addresses curative treatment options to end of life care through an evidence-based approach

National Cancer Control Programme



National Strategic Plan on Prevention & Control of cancer in Sri Lanka (2020 – 2024)





The National Cancer Control Programme is the country's focal point for cancer prevention and control. It is responsible for policy, advocacy, monitoring, and evaluation of cancer prevention and control, conducting surveillance of cancers, and facilitating research related to them.

The National Cancer Control Programme of the Ministry of Health is the main government organization that coordinates the national response to cancer control activities in Sri Lanka. National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) is a specialized public health programme. It is under the Non-Communicable Disease Bureau of the Ministry of Health and comes under the Deputy Director General of Non-Communicable Diseases of the Ministry of Health,

The National Cancer Control Programme aims to provide a comprehensive cancer control programme in Sri Lanka by integrating evidence-based strategies and improving health systems. It focuses on primary prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation, survivorship, and palliative care, taking into account the cancer morbidity and mortality pattern and the current healthcare infrastructure in the country.

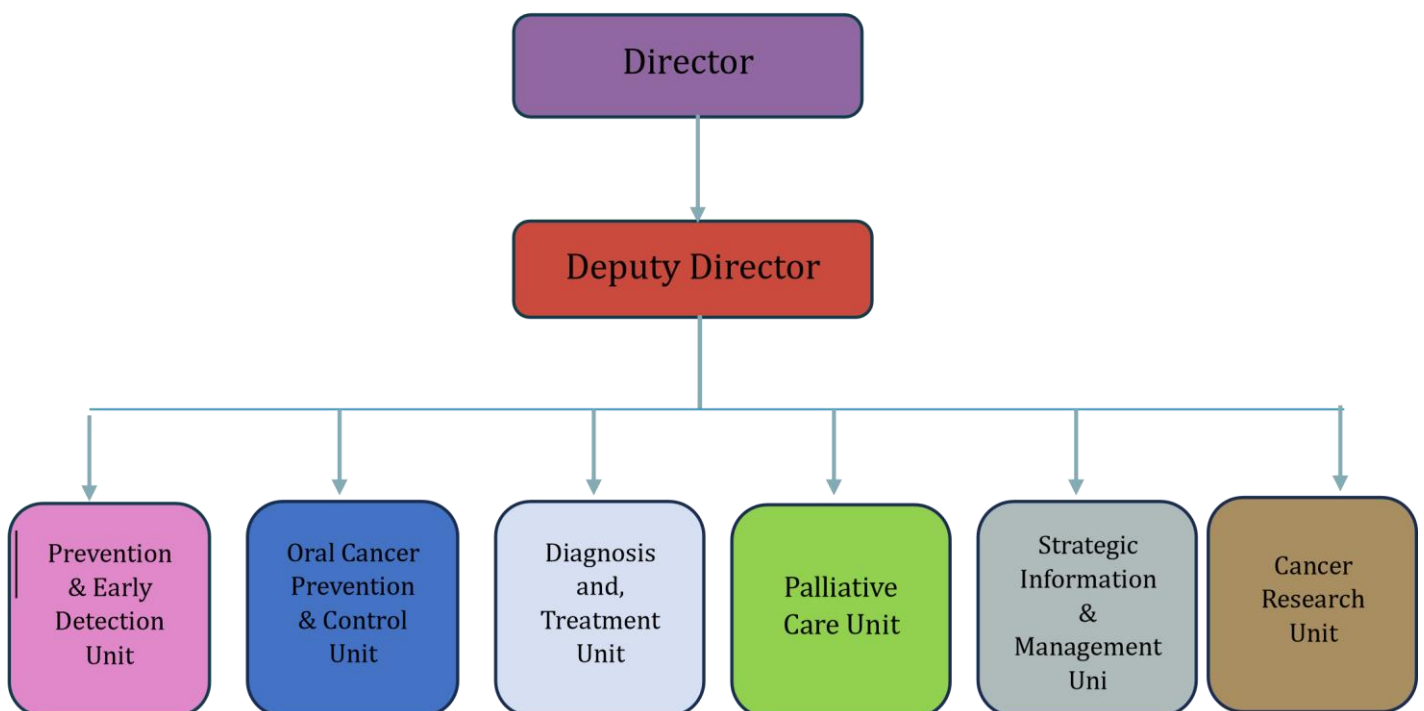
National Cancer Control Planning and Governance

The National Advisory Committee on Prevention and Control of Cancers (NAC) is the main platform within the Ministry of Health, where high-level decision-making regarding cancer control is done.

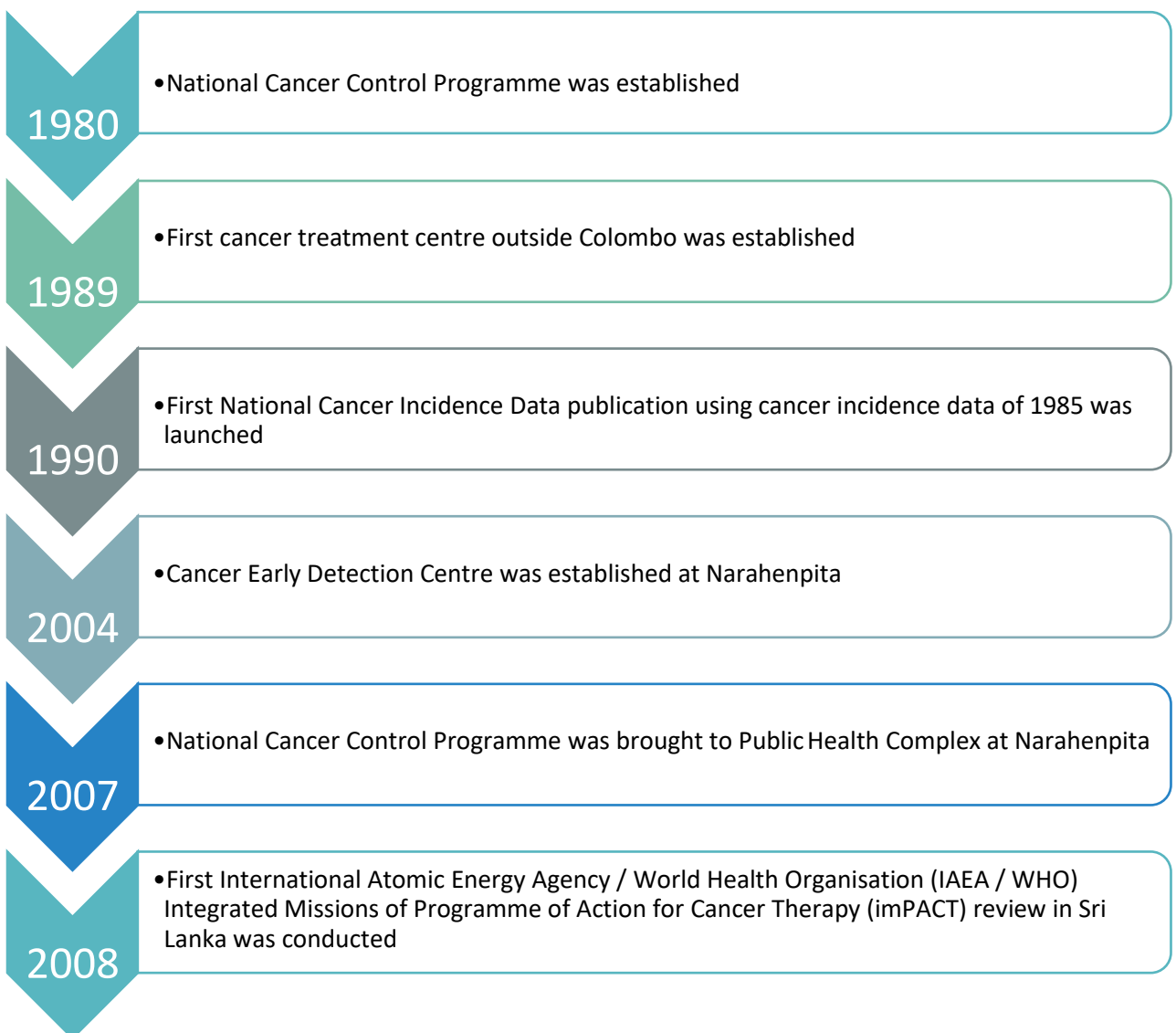
The Technical Advisory Committees (TAC), representing all areas of cancer, assist in developing plans in their respective areas and make recommendations for NAC. Each TAC has its own Terms of Reference approved by the Secretary of Health. It is ensured that TAC meetings are held quarterly with the participation of relevant specialties.

- National Steering Committee on Palliative Care
- Technical Advisory Committee on Prevention & Early Detection
- Technical Advisory Committee on Diagnosis & Treatment
- Technical Advisory Committee on Cancer Registration & Research
- Technical Advisory Committee on Oral Cancer Prevention
- Technical Advisory Committee on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care

Organogram of the National Cancer Control Programme



Road Map to 2023



2009

- National Advisory Committee for Cancer Prevention and Control was re-established

2010

- Commencement of the Commemoration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Sri Lanka

2011

- Commencement of the Commemoration of World Cancer Day in Sri Lanka – 4th February
- Introduce Palliative Care services in a structured manner

2012

A surveillance system for Oral cancer and Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders (OPMD) for Oral and Maxillo Facial units and Dental clinics in hospitals was introduced.
National Steering Committee for Palliative Care Services was established
Population-based cancer registry was initiated in Colombo District

2015

- National Policy and Strategic Framework on Cancer Prevention and Control in Sri Lanka was launched

2018

- Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative Care introduced

2019

- Restructured the unit system of National Cancer Control Programme
- Second International Atomic Energy Agency / World Health Organisation (IAEA / WHO) Integrated Missions of Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (imPACT) review in Sri Lanka was conducted
- National Strategic Framework for Palliative Care Development in Sri Lanka (2019 - 2023) was launched
- Technical Advisory Committees Established

2020

- National Strategic Plan on Cancer Prevention and Control 2020 -2024 was launched

2021

- National Strategic Plan to Reach the Interim Targets of Cervical Cancer Elimination in Sri Lanka 2021 – 2030 was launched
- National Strategic Plan on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care in Sri Lanka 2021 - 2025 was launched
- Social Behaviour Change Communication Strategy to support the prevention and control of common cancers in Sri Lanka was launched

2022

- Establishment of Cancer Early Detection Centres in Matara and Ratnapura districts
- Launching of Hospital-based Cancer Registries
- A guide for health care professionals ` Palliative Care for Cancer patients in Primary Health Care was published.
- Pilot project 'Integration of palliative care service at district level' was initiated in the Kandy district.
- A communication guide on Palliative Care for Health Care workers was developed

2023

- Printing of the Atlas on confirmed human carcinogens relevant to Sri Lanka in all three languages
- Launching of clinical record for all newly diagnosed patients with oral potentially malignant disorders (OPMD) for comprehensive follow up care.
- Conducting National workshop on palliative care with an international resource team to commemorate the World Palliative Care Day 2023
- Launching of guide book for healthcare professional on survivorship care for cancer patients

Former Directors of the National Cancer Control Programme



Dr. S. Sivayoham
1980 - 1983



Dr. Marcus Fernando
1983 - 1985



**Dr. B.D.P.
Gunawardana**
1985 - 1987



Dr. Bernard Randeniya
1988 - 1999



Dr. Y. Ariyaratne
1999 - 2007
2007 - 2008



Dr. N. Paranagama
2009 - 2014



Dr. Eshani Fernando
2014 - 2015



Dr. D.S.D. Samaraweera
2015 - 2019

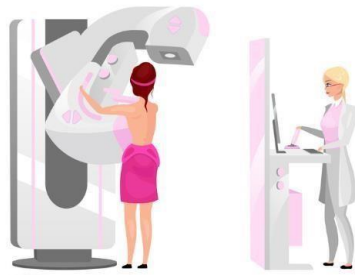


**Dr. Janaki
Vidanapathirana**
2019 - 2021



Dr. Eshani Fernando
2021 - 2024

Cancer Prevention & Early Detection



The Cancer Prevention & Early Detection Unit:

- Ensure implementation and appropriate extension and be accountable for prevention, & early detection as per national level protocols and provide technical guidance
- Coordinate and work in partnership with public, private, civil society organizations, and development partners at local, national and international levels to improve prevention & early detection services
- Training and capacity building of individuals/institutions in the public, private and civil society organizations on prevention & early detection services
- Manage the Cancer Early Detection Centre at Narahenpita as the National Centre of excellence and provide guidance, support and monitor the regional Cancer Early Detection Centres



Introduction

Based on the National Strategic Plan (2020 - 2024), Cancer Prevention and Early Detection (CPED) Unit carried out many activities to prevent and detect cancer early through an organized action plan for 2023. In the shadow of the socio-economic crisis of the previous year, the unit was able to achieve its targets.

Programme Strengthening

Capacity Building on Cancer Prevention and Early Detection

☑ District level TOT programmes on cancer prevention and early detection

Continuing from the previous year, the CPED Unit addressed the gaps in knowledge on cancer prevention and early detection among the health staff. The NCCP has continued to train the regional level health staff as master trainers. This programme was aimed at training CCPs, MO NCDs, MO MCHs, RDSs, and MOOH at the district level. The programmes were carried out in,

- Galle



- Rathnapura



- For the General Practitioners of the Colombo district



These programmes were designed innovatively to enhance the participants' involvement with WHO funding and were very well received by all the participants. The learning activities were perceived as “informative and challenging yet interesting.”

▪ Colombo 20/07



▪ Gampaha 26/07



The same innovative design from the WHO programmes was tried in these programmes. However, the inability to afford the necessary equipment and infrastructure was a major barrier. Despite this, the programmes were accepted as interesting and informative by all the participants.



2 Capacity building of different target groups (community leaders, beauticians, police) on cancer early detection and prevention

The importance of recruiting different professionals who have community engagement and a community following their work has been understood. Potential community leaders like Girl Guides/ Scouts and St. Jones Ambulance service were recruited to promote the worthy cause of cancer prevention, and a permanent communication portal was arranged via WhatsApp. This continuous communication has built into a good relationship now with the target groups adopting the promotion of cancer prevention into their routines. The beauticians were also recruited to educate their clients on self-breast examination and early detection of breast cancer.

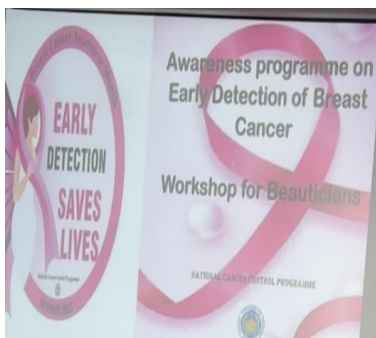
1. Girl Guides, Scouts & St. Jones Ambulance 03.03.2023

The leaders and mentors of the Girl Guides/ Scouts and the St. Jones Ambulance service were called in for a sensitization meeting on cancer prevention and early detection. They were recruited with a WhatsApp group in which the NCCP – CPED unit will share the latest health education material and events.



2. Meeting with beauticians on activities for breast cancer awareness month – 06.04.2023

The leaders of the beauticians' associations and societies were called for a meeting to sensitize them on "Early detection and prevention of breast cancer". A major workshop was planned for the community of beauticians.



3. Beautician awareness 19.09.2023



As decided at the above meeting, 25 beauticians attended an awareness meeting to educate them on early detection of breast cancer and the technique of selfbreast examination. They were supposed to promote the above to their clients.

4. Continuation of the awareness programmes for Police

The awareness programmes planned for the police continued throughout the year.



5. Vocational Training University 17.08.2023

The annual awareness programme was carried out for the students of the new batch.



Stakeholder engagement

1. Stakeholder meeting with Rotary Club 12.06.2023

A meeting was held to review the progress and shortcomings of the CEDC. The Rotary Club delivered a replacement mammography machine to the CEDC, which was received by the Secretary of Health and the Director of NCCP.



2. Technical Advisory Committee meeting for Cancer Prevention and Early Detection 06.11.2023

For the year 2023, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on cancer prevention and early detection was held in November. The issue with the lack of cancer staging data was discussed, and the need to improve reporting on this was highlighted. It was emphasized that this data should be recorded by a medical person. Further, the importance of collecting data from the private sector was mentioned, and a meeting with the Director of Private Health Sector Development to strengthen this process was suggested.

The problem of underutilization of mammography centres was discussed, and the need to have a permanent female radiographer was highlighted. The fact that performing selfbreast examination can only identify breast cancers that are palpable and not in the earliest stages was discussed, and the need to introduce a guideline for scanning mammography to screen people, at least those at high risk, was discussed.

The need to start health education on breast cancer at the school-going age and the possibility of incorporating this into the school curriculum was emphasized.

The need to prepare a colposcopy register for colposcopy centers was highlighted.

Teaching activities

1. Awareness of prevention and early detection for Medical Officers 15.05.2023

A programme was conducted for the Senior Registrars in Community Medicine to introduce the scope of the NCCP and how they can incorporate these activities in their future careers.



2. Continuation of the Clerkship programmes for medical students at Sri Jayewardenepura University

Medical undergraduates of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, were given a one-day session of lectures and practical exposure at the Cancer Early Detection Centre (CEDC), Narahenpita, on cancer prevention and early detection activities. This was a golden opportunity to empower budding healthcare providers in cancer prevention and control.

3. Conducting lectures for the PHI students



PHI students were also offered a lecture discussion based on the manual on Cancer Prevention and Control for Primary Health Care Staff.

4. Training for Public Health Nursing Officers

Post basic nursing students were also offered a lecture discussion based on the manual on Cancer Prevention and Control for Primary Health Care Staff.



❑ Printing of the Atlas on confirmed human carcinogens relevant to Sri Lanka

One of the main reasons for the increasing trend of cancers is long-term exposure to carcinogens through diet, environment, and occupations. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has published 127 such confirmed human carcinogens. Yet this is not being properly disseminated among the public in Sri Lanka due to the fact that it is printed in English. This has led to many challenges in the prevention of cancer since there are ample of misconceptions and incorrect information among the public as well as healthcare workers.

Therefore, the NCCP identified the importance of having a standard and reader-friendly publication in the form of an 'Atlas' on confirmed carcinogens as a strategy to prevent cancers in Sri Lanka. This project required the involvement of many experts in different fields and an array of expert meetings.

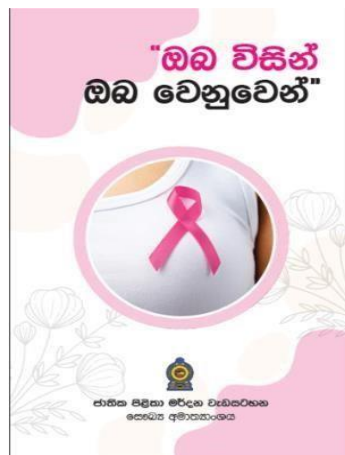
The initial technical working group comprised of experts from the fields of toxicology, chemistry, occupational and environmental health, public health, food, and nutrition. The first meeting, with the participation of all the experts, was held virtually on 05th June 2022. Based on the inputs received at the initial meeting, the 127 confirmed carcinogens published by IARC were grouped into four categories for the convenience of the process (Category A - Food/habits, Category B - Occupational/Chemical, Category C - Medical and Category D - General). Furthermore, four different expert panels were identified to work on the four categories of carcinogens separately.

Finally, Sinhala, English and Tamil versions of the Atlas was printed and disseminated among the primary health-care staff.



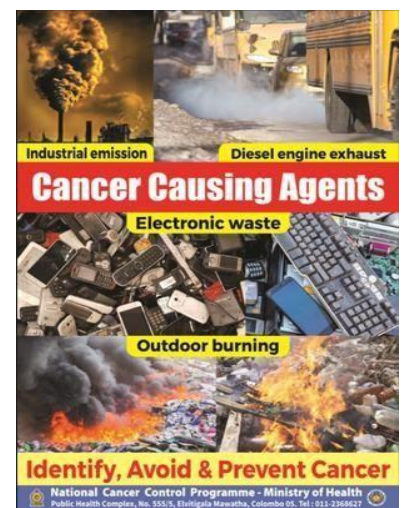
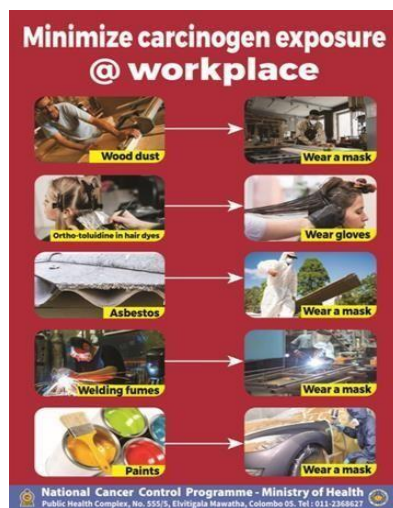
Conducting Public Awareness on Cancer Prevention and Early Detection

☐ **Editing and reprinting of the booklet on Self Breast Examination (SBE)** The already published booklet named “Self-Breast Examination” was edited, re-designed, and re-named. The contents were simplified into simple language; the illustrations were also made simple and multiple. The name change was done to make it more appealing to be used in public.



☐ **Designing and printing posters on carcinogens based on the Atlas on Carcinogens**

Three types of posters were designed and printed based on the Atlas. Posters were done in all three languages.



2 Designing and printing of car and mirror stickers for breast cancer awareness

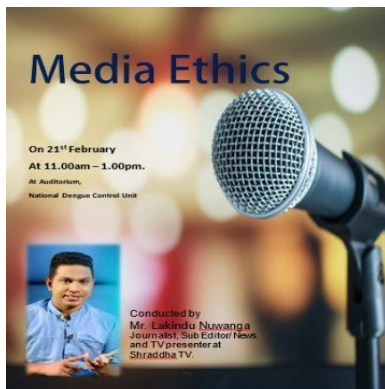
Car and mirror stickers were designed to deliver the message of self-breast examination. The mirror stickers were dispatched to beauticians to paste in their salons, while the car stickers were distributed to the community.



Awareness raising programmes for the NCCP staff - four workshops on timely topics relevant to cancer to update knowledge among NCCP staff

The CPED endeavored to educate the staff on the most timely topics to improve personal and work efficiency.

**Media Ethics 21.02.2023
01.03.2023**



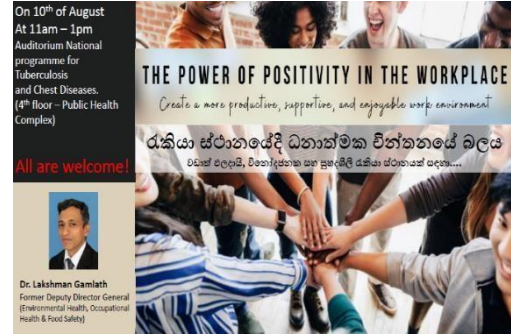
Sustainable Energy Consumption



✚ **Do we eat right 14.06.2023**



Attitudes in government service 10.08.202



Activities for World Cancer Day and Breast Cancer Awareness Month

World Cancer Day is commemorated worldwide on February 4th. As the focal point to prevent and control cancers in Sri Lanka, the CPED Unit conducted the following activities.

- A circular was developed and issued in all three languages to all healthcare institutions, including Medical Officers of Health, Regional Directors of Health Services, Provincial Directors of Health Services, Base Hospitals, District General Hospitals, Teaching Hospitals, National level programmes and campaigns, Heads of departments of the Ministry of Health. The aim of the circular was to create awareness among the public and healthcare workers on the current local and international burden of cancer. The need to conduct various activities to strengthen cancer prevention and control to commemorate World Cancer Day 2023 was emphasized.



☑ Special programmes carried out on cancer prevention and control for the breast cancer awareness month

The NCCP carried out several awareness programmes in October 2023 to effectively reach the public.

1. At HUWAWEI head office



2. Exhibition at Yasodhara Girl's College



3. Screening programme at Ananda College, Colombo 10



4. Screening programme at Royal College, Colombo 07.



5. Airtel Head Office



6. Exhibition at Bodyline Garment, Pimbura



7. Breast awareness walk at Kurunegala



8. Screening programme at Holy Family Convent, Colombo 04.



9. SL institute of Hotel Management and Tourism



10. Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Colombo 08



11. Media briefing for Breast Cancer Awareness Month



12. Sri Lanka Navy Headquarters



13. Screening programme PSSP



14. At TANTRI Trailers Pvt Ltd.



15. At Domino's Pizza Head Office



16. At Lions Club, Colombo



17. At JafferJee Brothers Tea Factory



18. Nursing Officers at Colombo South Teaching Hospital



19. At MAS Holdings Pvt Ltd.



20. Screening programme at Welikada Prison



Media Programmes

1. Shraddha TV



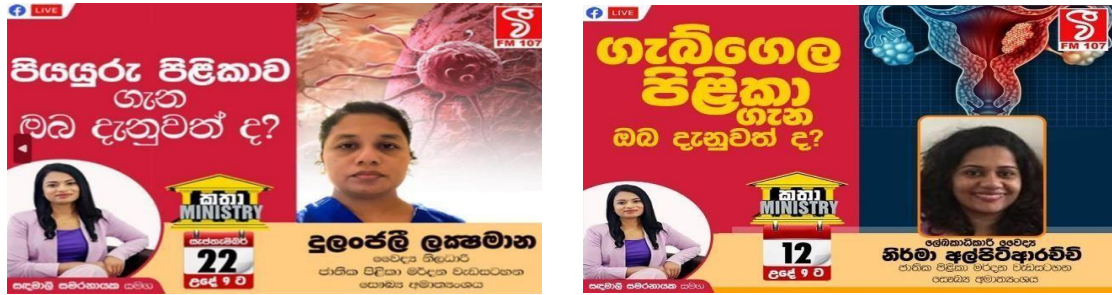
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2. Siyatha TV



3. V FM



4. Lakviru FM



5. President's Media Division 101 programme



Paper articles in Sunday Observer

1. Breast cancer: Understanding risk factors, early detection, treatment, crucial to prevent negative impacts by Dr. Dumindu Wijewardena



2. Cervical cancer: the commonest among females and a leading cause of cancer deaths in the world by Dr. Hasarali Fernando
3. Thyroid cancer: Thyroid cancer has a very good prognosis with early detection and treatment by Dr. Saddharma Weerakoon
4. Colorectal cancers: Colorectal cancer has a very good prognosis with early detection and treatment by Dr. Thusitha Kahaduwa
5. Also participated for Lighting of town hall and the advocacy programme at ShangriLa hotel with the first lady.

Pink day celebration of National Cancer Control Programme



Supervision visits to CEDC Jaffna, Rathnapura and Matara

Supervision visits to CEDC Rathnapura



Supervision visits to CEDC Matara



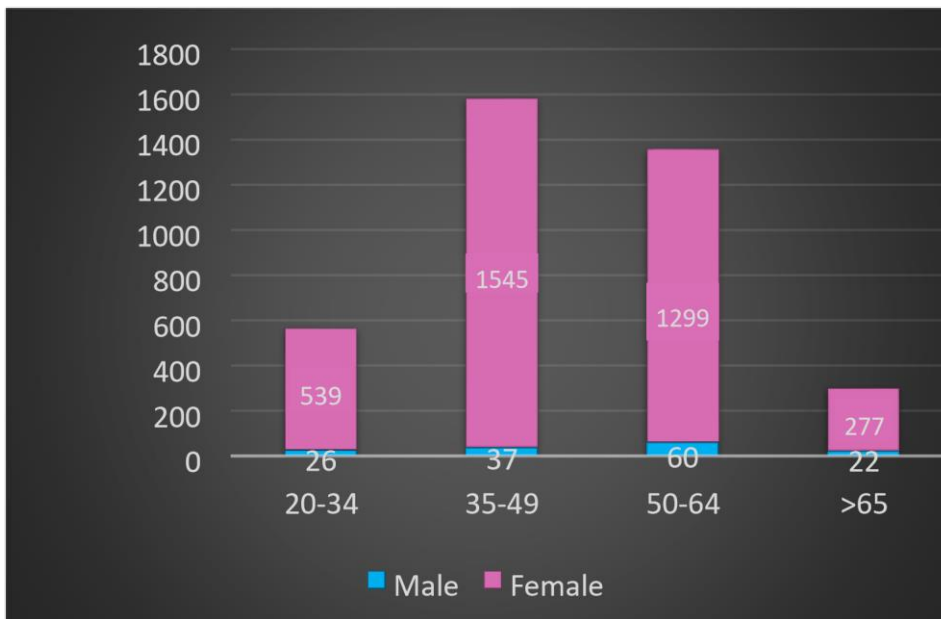
Supervision visits to CEDC Jaffna



Performance of the Cancer Early Detection Centre (CEDC), Narahenpita

2023 was a monumental year for the CEDC movement, considering the growth of the physical resources. The facilities of the CEDC Narahenpita were increased while two new CEDCs were established at Polonnaruwa and Batticaloa.

In 2024, 3915 clients were seen, with the majority being females (3771, 96%) and 144 males (4%). Attendance to the clinic according to age group is shown in graph 1.



Graph 1: Attendance to the clinic according to the age group

A total of 1071 PAP smears were taken and reported in 2023 (Table 1). One cervical cancer was diagnosed in this year.

Table 1: PAP smears taken in the CEDC

Age	<35y	35y	36-44y	45y	>45y
Number	11	23	248	44	745

Since the mammography machine was installed in June 2023, 313 screening mammograms have been conducted. A total of 55 breast malignancies were detected from screening, with an incidence of 1.5% (55/3771). All the patients have been referred for further management. Simultaneously, 286 cases (8.9%, 3222) with abnormal RBS levels and 164 (4.6%, 3536) with high BP levels were identified and referred for further management.

Other activities and achievements

1. Leema Creations (Pvt) Ltd generously contributed to printing the necessary leaflets and forms



2. Past Director and Past Vice President of Rotary International Valarie Wafer and Rtn Mark Wafer visited the Cancer Early Detection Center – in a visit for a Conference in Sri Lanka.



3. An awareness session on "Infection control" was conducted by Public Health Nursing Sister, Mrs. Inoka Dissanayake for the Cancer Early Detection Center staff
4. The official handing over of a new digital mammography machine to the CEDC - from the Rotary Club of Colombo



5. Video production in collaboration with Art of Ranga Creation studio

- බහුලව දක්නට ලබන පිළිකානු ඔබ දන ගත යුතුම බේවල්!



- පිළිකම් කලින් හඳුනාගමු - ජීවිතය ජය ගමු!



- ගණේගල පිළිකානු ඔබ දනගත යුතු බේ.



- පියයුරු පිළිකානු ඔබ දනගත යුතු බේ සහ සවි යං පියයුරු පරීක්ෂණ කරන්නන් බකබස්ද?



6. Visit from Rotary International, including RI President Nominee Mario de Camargo and Denise, RI Director Jeremy Hurst and Michelle, Past RI Director C Basker as well as PDG Ashish Ghosh, Sharmila & members from Rotary Club



Oral Cancer Prevention & Control



The Oral Cancer Prevention and Control Unit:

- Provide technical support, assistance, and guidance to provinces, districts and other organizations and agencies in improving quality, supply and access to prevention, early detection & diagnostic services for oral cancers
- Conduct training and capacity building of individuals/institutions in the public, private and civil society organizations
- Conduct surveillance of data related to oral cancer
- Promote and conduct epidemiological and clinical research related to oral cancer and Oral

Potentially Malignant Disorders (OPMD) with the collaboration of academic and other relevant research organizations on prevention, early detection and management of oral cancer



The following is a brief description of the activities carried out by the oral cancer prevention and control unit of the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) in 2023

1.0 Capacity building programmes

1.1 Capacity building programmes for dental and medical practitioners at district levels

Hands-on capacity-building programmes using clinic patients were conducted to enhance clinical skills for the early detection of Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders (OPMD) and Oral Cancer (OC) among medical and dental practitioners. The programmes were mainly targeted to the medical officers at Healthy Lifestyle Centers (HLC) where dental surgeons are not available. Local oral and Maxillo-Facial (OMF) surgeons and the Consultant in Community Dentistry at NCCP conducted the programmes.

During the year 2023, 22 capacity-building programmes were conducted around the country at district levels through World Bank funding. There were 720 medical officers and dental surgeons participated in these programmes.



1.2 Capacity building of medical faculty students

Considering the importance of medical officers' role in oral cancer/OPMD prevention and control activities, five sessions were conducted for third-year medical faculty students at the Faculty of Sri Jayewardenepura. The programme consisted of a lecture and a clinical session focusing on oral examination, which was conducted at the Cancer Early Detection Centre of NCCP.



2.0 Strengthen information system for OPMD/oral cancer management

2.1 E-based oral cancer surveillance system for oral cancer

Two hands-on training programmes were conducted on 23/10/2023 and 30/10/2023 for dental surgeons attached to OMF clinics on using CanReg software to enter oral cancer data from OMF units. All participants were instructed to bring oral cancer data from their respective units to enter and analyze at NCCP.



2.2 Surveillance system for OPMD

Standard clinical record was developed with the collaboration of Oral Maxilla Facial Surgeons with the funding of World Health Organization for all newly diagnosed patients with OPMDs to provide a comprehensive clinical picture of OPMD highlighting the treatment already provided as well as the follow up instructions to both patients and clinician, as most oral cancer cases develop from OPMDs. Therefore, early identification, routine follow-up and proper management of OPMDs would drastically reduce the malignant transformation rate and improve treatment outcomes of oral cancer. It will further allow patients to obtain treatment not only from OMF units but also from dental clinics and satellite OMF clinics.



The launching of the clinical record was held at Waters Edge Hotel on 21/09/2023. There were around 100 participants including Additional Secretaries of Health, Oral Maxillo Facial Surgeons and Regional Dental Surgeons. There were 30,000 copies printed and they were distributed to all OMF clinics.



3.0 Media-related activities related to oral cancer

3.1 World Head and Neck Cancer Day - 2023

World Head and Neck Cancer Day (27.07.2023) were celebrated under the theme of “Get your mouth checked and stay healthy.” A circular was issued to all health institutions to carry out activities at the regional level. A media seminar was conducted in collaboration with the Health Promotion Bureau to sensitize media personnel to the above-mentioned theme. In addition, television and radio programmes were conducted on the prevention, early identification and management of OPMD and oral cancer.



4.0 Strengthen public awareness on OPMD/ oral cancer

Several OPMD/ cancer awareness programmes have been conducted with the collaboration of the Screening and Early Detection Unit of NCCP for different population categories to increase their awareness on OPMD/oral cancer control.



5.0 Monitoring and evaluation of oral cancer prevention and control activities

5.1 National reviews of oral cancer prevention and control activities

Two National reviews of oral cancer prevention and control activities were conducted on 30/03/2023, and 21/09/2023. All RDSs presented the district OPMD/oral cancer control activities for the year using the given format by NCCP.



The midyear review for the oral cancer prevention and control activities for the initial two quarters for the year 2023 was held on 20/09/2023. The activities done by Regional Dental Surgeons done during the initial two quarters for the year 2023 were presented in the given format by NCCP and further activities for the next two quarters of 2023 were discussed.



5.2 Summary of oral cancer prevention and control activities in 2022 is given below:

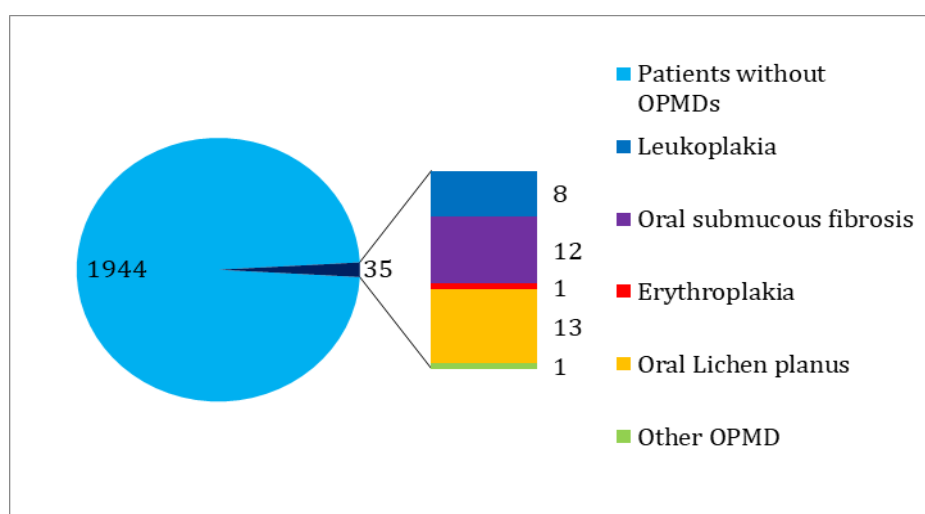
Basic data		
Total no. of dental clinics providing routine services; including Adolescent Dental Clinics and Community Dental Clinics*		762
Total no. of Dental Surgeons*		998
Total no. of institutions with OMF clinics (including line-Ministry and Faculty of Dental Sciences University of Peradeniya) *		33
Total no. of OMF surgeons (including line-Ministry and Faculty of Dental Sciences University of Peradeniya) *		38
Total number of Oral Pathology Units*		04
Total number of Oral Pathologists*		07
Clinical services		
Total no. of visits to dental clinics*		3,418,415
No. of OPMDs detected reported at OPD dental clinics*		8,147
Percentage of type of OPMD detected	Leukoplakia	33%
	Erythroplakia	06%
	Oral sub-mucous fibrosis	32%
	Oral lichen-planus	22%
	Other	07%
No. of suspected oral malignancies detected at dental clinics		440
No. of OPMDs reported from OMF units*		5,767
No. of confirmed oral malignancies reported from OMF units*		1,883
Awareness, capacity building and active screening - excluding line-Ministry intuitions		
No. of oral cancer awareness programmes conducted for the public (other than screening)		320
No. participated		21,164
No. of oral cancer in-service programmes conducted		105
No. participated		4,077
No. of active Oral cancer screening programmes		731
No. participated		42,739
No. of OPMD patients detected		752
Percentage of type of OPMD detected	Leukoplakia	34%
	Erythroplakia	7%
	Oral sub-mucous fibrosis	45%
	Oral lichen-planus	11%
	Other	03%
No. of suspected oral malignancies patients detected		22

*Data received from Research and Surveillance unit – Institute of Oral Health, Maharagam

6.0 Strengthen screening at Cancer Early Detection Center at Narahenpita

6.1 Oral screening at the Cancer Early Detection Centre (CEDC), Narahenpita

Oral screening for OPMD and oral cancer was carried out throughout the year in the cancer early detection centre, Narahenpita. Suspected cases were referred to the nearest OMF clinic and habit intervention was done for every patient at the clinical centre. In the year 2023, there were 1,979 patients screened and 35 OPMD cases were identified. The types of OPMDs identified are given below in the pie chart.



7.0 Governance and service development

7.1 Technical advisory meetings for oral cancer prevention and control

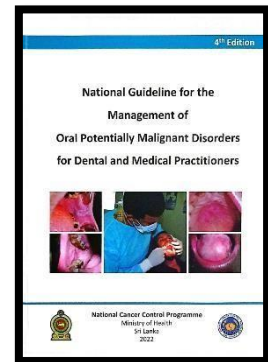
New members for the Technical Advisory Committee were nominated and one Technical Advisory Committee meeting on oral cancer prevention and control (TAC-OC) was conducted on 21/08/2023. Issues related to the following areas were discussed:

- Strengthen risk-group screening for OPMD/oral cancer
- Strengthen regulations on areca-nut use
- Development of capacities of OMF and Oncosurgeons in reconstructive care
- Strengthen E-based surveillance on OPMD/oral cancer
- Minimize loss to follow-up of OPMD/ oral cancer patients
- Improve knowledge sharing with Ayurveda practitioners.

7.2 Revision of National Guideline for the Management of Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders for Dental and Medical Practitioners

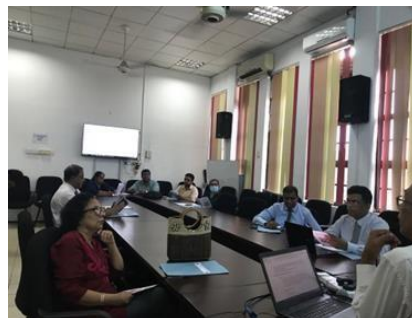
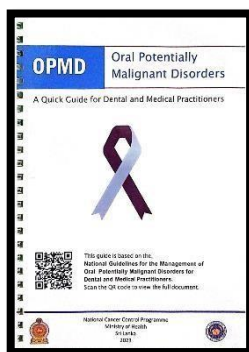
The National Guideline for the Management of Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders for Dental and Medical Practitioners

was revised during the year 2022 after multiple consultative meetings and finalized during the year 2022. Two thousand copies were printed and distributed among the dental clinics and well-functioning HLC clinics during the year 2023.



7.3 OPMD - A Quick Guide for Dental and Medical Practitioners

'OPMD - A quick guide for Dental and Medical Practitioners' was developed based on the National Guideline for the Management of Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders for Dental and Medical Practitioners. With the World Health Organization (WHO) funding, 12,000 copies were printed and distributed among medical officers attached to line ministry health institutions those attached to well-functioning Healthy Lifestyle Centers.



Diagnosis & Treatment



The Diagnosis and Treatment Unit

- Facilitates implementation of diagnostic and treatment services as per national policies and supports infrastructure development
- Facilitates capacity building and training of individuals and health institutions in association with relevant technical authorities
- Coordinates the development and updating of clinical guidelines and management protocols in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer
- Facilitate the development and updating of radiation safety guidelines, monitoring of radiation safety of workers and patients
- Coordinates the activities of the Diagnosis and Treatment Technical Committee, provides necessary recommendations to the National Advisory Committee, and facilitates these activities



Strengthening of services

Diagnosis and Treatment Unit is engaged in strengthening following aspects of cancer diagnosis and treatment:

- Implementation of services
- Infrastructure development
- Capacity Building
- Monitoring and evaluation

Implementation of services

Establishment of breast care clinics in secondary and tertiary hospitals.

Following the suggestions from the 2019 ImpACT review and the decision made by the National Advisory Committee led by the Secretary of Health, a total of 6 breast care clinics have been established in secondary and tertiary hospitals within the year 2023. The ongoing initiative involves the extension of breast clinics to base hospitals and other higher-tier medical facilities.



Figure 2: Establishment of breast care clinic at DGH, Chilaw



Figure 3: Establishment of breast care clinic at B.H. Horana



Figure 4: Training Public Health staff at B.H.Horana

Infrastructure development

Distribution of equipment

The diagnosis and treatment unit has provided necessary equipment to enhance diagnostic and treatment capabilities in cancer treatment hospitals. Additionally, the Manual Method Immunostaining Procedure has been implemented at the Histopathology Laboratory in the Teaching Hospital Batticaloa.

The Diagnosis & Treatment unit conducted an in-depth survey to assess the availability of cytotoxic isolators in cancer treatment centers. The survey identified the necessity of cytotoxic isolators in the following cancer treatment centers: TH Kurunegala, BH Thellippalai, TH Rathnapura, DGH Gampaha, and DGH Kegalle. A proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Health to initiate the procurement process for these identified needs.

Multiple discussions were taking place with senior officials at the Ministry of Health to commence phase 2 of the project for procurement of the LINAC machines for cancer treatment centers where they are required.

Radiation Safety activities

This year, we are actively involved in international projects, particularly SRL 9012 “Supporting Prerequisites for Quality Cancer Diagnosis & Treatment,” in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board (SLAEB) and the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA). The focus of this project is to provide training for radiographers and physicists on radiation protection guidelines, along with training radiation safety officers on the 'Terms of Reference for Radiation Safety Officers.' The overarching goal is to enhance radiation safety practices, particularly in cancer treatment centers within the health sector. As part of this initiative, two expert missions have been conducted, leading to the identification of equipment requirements to ensure radiation safety in cancer care centers. Currently, the procurement process is underway, and the Diagnosis and Treatment (D&T) unit is closely monitoring the progress.

Furthermore, the D&T unit is actively coordinating with various stakeholders to nominate members for upcoming projects slated for implementation during the 2024-2025 cycle by the IAEA. This collaborative effort aims to contribute to the advancement of radiation safety activities in healthcare settings.



Figure 5: Second expert missions IAEA

Capacity Building

Breast cancer care training for public health staff

Two PHNS/SPHM from each MOH area in Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa districts of the North Central Province were selected for the training. Two-day training workshop on breast cancer care was conducted on 08th and 09th of June 2023 with the help of local resource persons and resources from the national level. PDHS North Central province and the RDHS Anuradhapura also attended the programme. Training consisted of lectures by consultants in different fields on various aspects of breast cancer care.

The lecture topics covered on the first day were, epidemiology of breast and other cancers in Sri Lanka, changes in normal breast (non-cancerous and cancerous), clinical breast examination, dealing with breast cancer patients' psychological aspects, treatment options for different stages of breast cancer and overcoming the side effects, breast cancer during pregnancy and breast feeding.

On the second day, the topics covered were the concept of breast clinics, the self-breast examination procedure, what to look for in a self-breast examination, palliative care aspects for patients with breast cancer, available services in Sri Lanka, and the referral pathway.

Hands-on practical training sessions were also conducted on clinical breast examination and self-breast examination. At the end of the programme, a group activity was given to the participants regarding community-level interventions that they could do after this training for early detection of breast cancer. Educational materials in both audio and visual formats, including guideline books on self and clinical breast examination, were distributed to all participants to increase awareness of breast cancer.



Figure 6: Comprehensive Breast care training PHNS/SPHM/PHMs of North Central Province



Figure 7: Comprehensive Breast care training for PHNS/SPHM/PHMs of North Central Province

Monitoring and evaluation

Strengthen breast clinic in Sri Lanka.

Assessment of preparedness to conduct breast clinics in a sustainable manner in the National Hospital Sri Lanka and Colombo South Teaching Hospital

Strengths and Weaknesses identified

The clinic demonstrated notable strengths in its well-established system, with the lead consultant surgeons displaying exceptional interest in the Breast clinic concept. Additionally, the clinic benefited from excellent administrative support, a proficient supporting staff, and a strong health education system for both breast clinic patients and those in the general clinic.

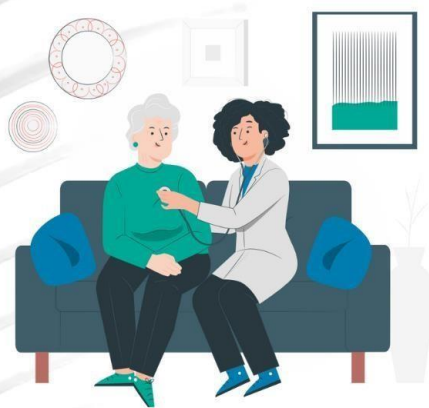
The clinic faced challenges stemming from an increased workload and a shortage of nursing staff, leading to difficulties in submitting monthly returns for the breast clinic. Despite having a dedicated register for the breast clinic, some patients preferred to go directly to the surgical clinic, making it challenging to accurately track the number of affected patients and follow up on the investigations and outcomes.

Gap analysis of cancer care in Centers of Excellence and Cancer treatment centers.

There are nine Centre of excellence (CoE) cancer treatment centres available in Sri Lanka. The main objective of establishing a CoE at the provincial level is to provide a continuum of cancer care for all those who need it closer to their homes. Each CoE is expected to have a range of comprehensive diagnostic and treatment facilities.

An initial gap analysis was done at Apeksha Hospital Maharagama in the western province. The process involved in-depth interviews with the director, MO /Planning, Consultant Pathologists, pediatric oncologists, Chief physicists, Chief Pharmacists, and Chief radiographers to identify the current status of cancer care and the challenges encountered. Afterward, members of the unit visited a male and female ward, a Radiotherapy unit, a chemotherapy dissolving unit, a histopathology laboratory, a day chemotherapy unit, and a health education unit.

Palliative Care



Palliative Care Unit:

- Work within and support the relevant national committees and technical working groups to develop and regularly update national policies, strategies, guidelines, protocols and frameworks for implementation of palliative care services in Sri Lanka.
- Conduct capacity building of individuals/institutions in the public, private and civil society organizations on palliative care
- Work in partnership with public, private, civil society organizations, and development partners at local, national and international level to improve palliative care services
- Monitor and evaluate palliative care services with the Strategic Information Management Unit



Strengthening of Services in Palliative Care

National Steering Committee Meeting on Palliative Care

Three meetings were conducted under the chairmanship of the Director General of Health Services. Resource persons representing different fields of palliative care including health, non-health and NGOs participated in the meeting. Key areas addressed during the meetings were:

- Strengthening palliative care services in the country
- Capacity building on palliative care
- Availability of Morphine for palliative care and planning subcutaneous morphine delivery • Social services for palliative care



Provision of funds to procure necessary equipment for Palliative Care Consult Services in selected Hospitals



With the aim of strengthening functions of Palliative Care Consult Services in cancer treatment hospitals, NCCP provided funds to Palliative Care Units at National Hospital Kandy, TH Karapitiya, and TH Kalutara to procure necessary equipment.

Capacity Building on Palliative Care

Training of trainers' programmes conducted on home based palliative care

Four training of trainers (ToT) programmes were conducted for PHNOs and Nursing officers from primary healthcare institutions in Kandy and Western Province. The aim of these training programmes was to empower informal caregivers through the trainers. The programmes were conducted through lectures, presentations as well as practical demonstrations to improve hands on skills. Holistic care in community based palliative care (psychological, social and spiritual care), end of life care and strengthening nursing skills for primary care and home-based care were covered through these programmes.



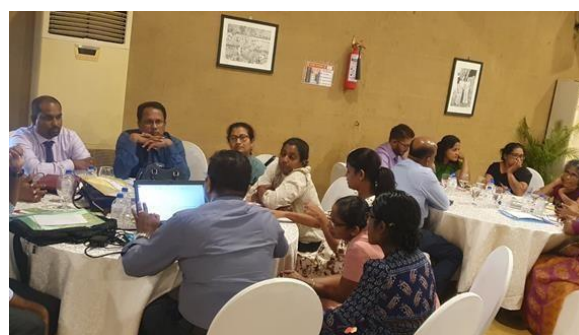
Survivorship Workshop

Health-care professionals (Medical Officers and Nursing Officers), working in Oncology units in cancer treatment hospitals island wide participated in this capacity building programme. This programme focused on addressing the knowledge gap on concepts of cancer survivorship care services. It was conducted using lectures, and group discussions. The topics discussed in the programme were: Introduction to cancer survivorship care, components of survivorship care, managing late and longterm side effects, challenges faced by survivors and support for coping survivorship care for selected cancers. The programme was conducted using lectures presentations and publications developed by the NCCP.



Sharing experience event on promoting high quality palliative care services

An event on sharing experiences on promoting palliative care services was conducted with the WHO funds, to provide a platform to showcase the best practices in palliative care all over the country. Experts in the field of palliative care including health and non-health sector officials participated in this event. Representatives from selected districts who have initiated palliative care services, shared their experiences. The event was conducted through lectures, presentations, group discussions and Q&A sessions.



National workshop on palliative care with an international resource team to commemorate the World Palliative Care Day, 2023

A national workshop with the participation of international experts in palliative care was conducted in October, 2023 to commemorate World Palliative Care Day. The workshop was held in parallel to the WHO South-East Asia Regional workshop on expanding availability and access to palliative care conducted in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Palliative care service providers from primary, secondary and tertiary health care levels as well as representatives from professional colleges, associations and hospices participated at this workshop. All 9 provinces of the country were represented by them. Experience sharing from the international experts through lectures and panel discussions took place. At the end of the workshop, through group activities provincial plans to expand the availability and access to palliative care were developed where strengths, limitations and strategies for way forward were identified.





South-East Asia Regional Workshop on expanding availability and access to Palliative Care held from 11th to 13th October, 2023

At the South-East Asia Regional workshop on expanding availability and access to Palliative Care held from 11th to 13th October, 2023 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, representatives from NCCP and the Palliative Care unit participated. New knowledge was acquired through the experience of sharing events, panel discussions, field visits, and group activities. Road maps to expand palliative care services in the southeast Asian countries were presented and the road map developed by the Sri Lankan team became the most popular, creating a guide for the development of the updated 'National Strategic Framework for Palliative care' for the upcoming 5-year period.



Review of Palliative Care Nursing Officers

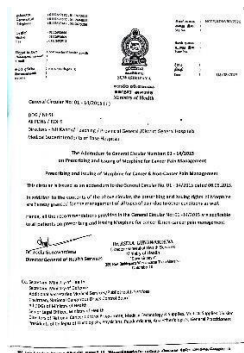
A review was done with the aim of providing orientation for the first batch of Palliative Care Nursing Officers following completion of the Post Basic Diploma in Palliative Medicine in 2023. Experts from the field of Palliative Care participated in this review, and the topics discussed were commencing Palliative care services at Tertiary Care & Secondary Care Services for Cancer and Non-Cancer Patients, Palliative care Nurses' role in establishing palliative care services, Palliative Care service development at Tertiary Care/ Secondary Care Hospitals and Job description for Palliative Care Nursing Officer.



Circulars, Guidelines & Communication Materials for Healthcare Staff and Other Key Categories

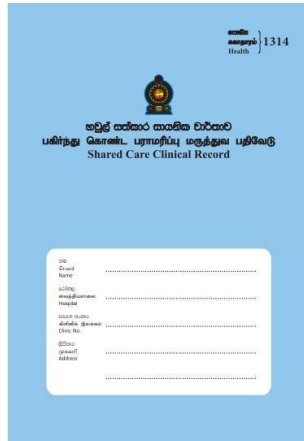
Addendum to Morphine Circular

The circular on 'Prescribing and issuing of Morphine for Cancer Pain Management' under the general circular number 01-14/2015 dated 06.05.2015 was revised with the addition of prescribing and issuing Morphine for Non-Cancer pain management as well as cancer pain management.



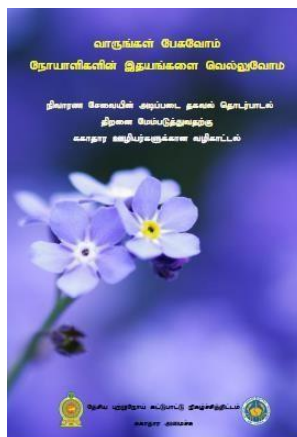
'Shared Care Clinical Record – H1314'

The updated third edition of the Shared Care Clinical Record – H1314 was reprinted and is being distributed among the tertiary and secondary care level healthcare institutions where there are Oncology Units and patients needing palliative care are followed up. The aim of this book is to practically implement the 'Shared Care Model' for palliative care services by facilitating the linkage between primary healthcare institutions and secondary, tertiary healthcare institutions to provide the best care for patients and their caregivers.



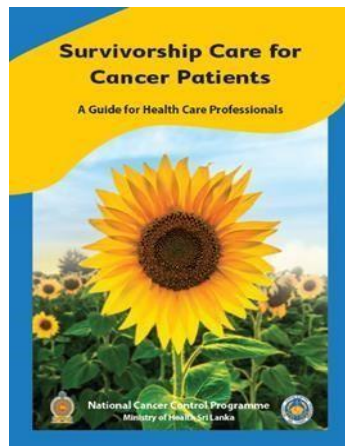
'Api katha karamu, Gilan Sith Jaya Ganimu' – Communication Guide for healthcare professionals

The communication guide for healthcare professionals involved in palliative care services was developed under WHO funds for the biennium 2022/2023 last year. The first edition of this guide was successfully completed in 2023. It was printed in both Sinhala and Tamil and is being distributed among all hospitals with oncology units. It helps to empower healthcare professionals involved in palliative care services to develop the basic communication skills expected of them.



'Survivorship Care for Cancer Patients'

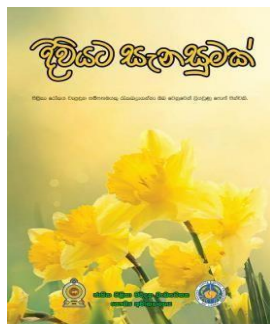
The first edition of the Survivorship Guide was printed and is planned for distribution among the healthcare professionals involved in palliative care service provision at all levels of care. The guide is aimed at empowering healthcare professionals to provide care for cancer survivors. The chapters cover an introduction to cancer survivorship care, components of survivorship care, managing late and longterm side effects, challenges faced by survivors, and support for coping and survivorship care for selected cancers. Provision of palliative care, survivorship and rehabilitation care with interlinkage between all levels of healthcare is encouraged through this.



Creating Public Awareness

"Diviyata Sanasumak" Awareness booklet for Caregivers of Adult Palliative Cancer Patients

The fourth edition of the "Diviyata Sanasumak" awareness booklet for caregivers of adult palliative cancer patients was reprinted with updated information that will empower family caregivers in the community. It is being distributed in Sinhala and Tamil and is available to family caregivers through cancer treatment hospitals island-wide.



Activities to Commemorate World Hospice and Palliative Care Day 2023

A media seminar was conducted on 14 October 2023 with the collaboration of the Health Promotion Bureau. The theme was “Compassionate Communities together for Palliative Care.” Resource persons representing health, non-health, and NGOs providing Palliative Care, as well as media personnel, attended this event.



The consultant in charge of the Palliative Unit, National Cancer Control Programme, gave a media briefing commemorating World Palliative Care Day 2023. During this briefing, the importance of the community's togetherness in providing palliative care services for patients in need was discussed.



Monitoring and Evaluation

Field visit to Kandy District to review palliative care services at primary level healthcare institutions

A field visit was conducted in Kandy District with a team of healthcare professionals who were actively involved in palliative care service provision. Several primary health care institutions in Kandy District where patients with palliative care needs receive services within their community, were reviewed. The strengths, limitations were discussed and suggestions for way forward were obtained. Advocacy on maintaining records, registers and returns to strengthen the information management system was done and best practices were appreciated.

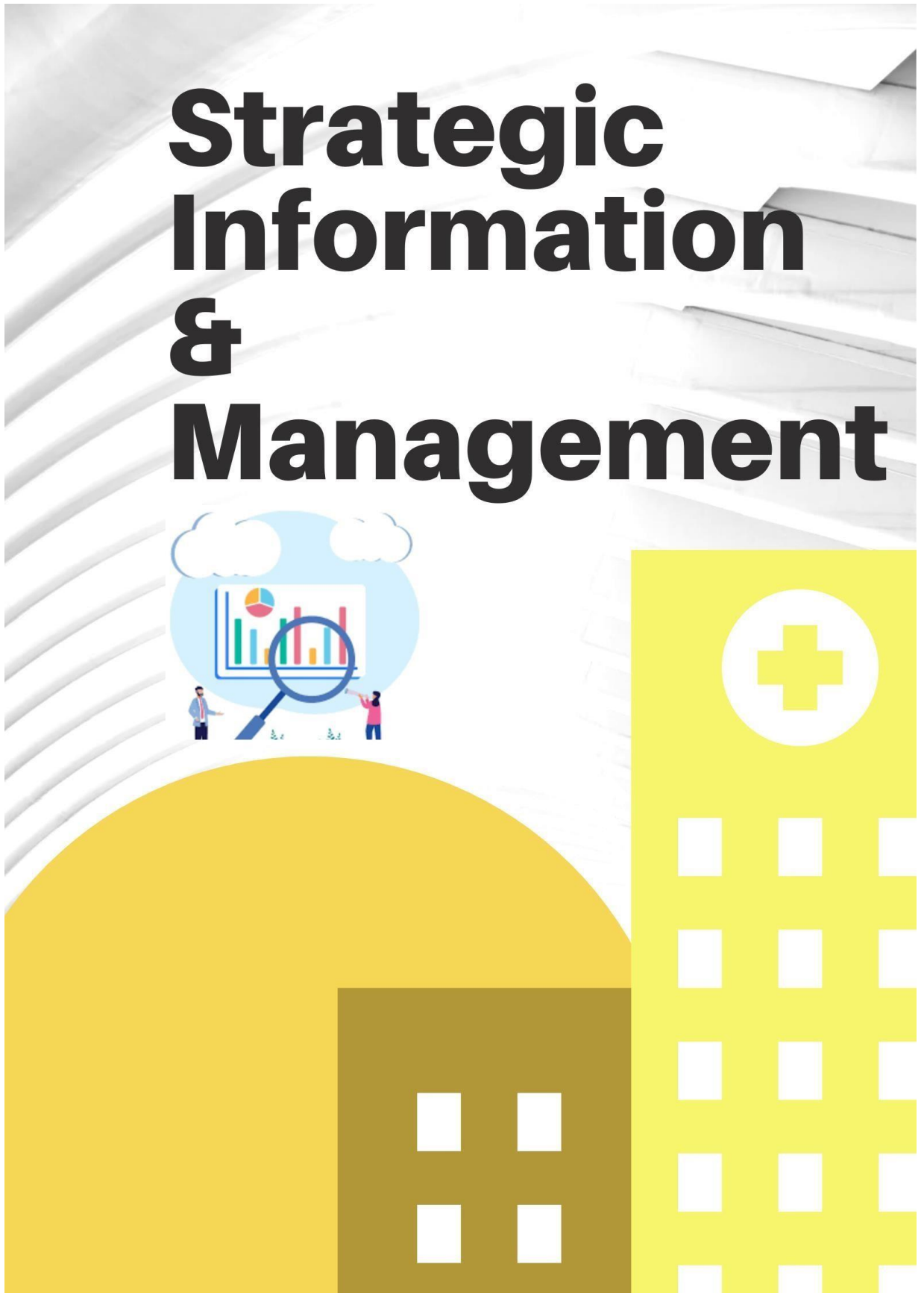


Field visit to hospices

A team of reviewers from NCCP reviewed the Cane Hospice, Jaffna. The objective of the visit was to identify strengths and weaknesses of the institution when providing hospice care. Team had discussions with hospice management representatives and staff members to identify the strengths and weaknesses in providing services.



Strategic Information & Management



The Strategic Information Management (SIM) Unit

- Coordination of surveillance of cancers at the national level - National Cancer Registry & Population-based cancer registries in selected districts, hospital-based cancer registries, Pathology laboratory-based cancer registries.
- Development of Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks, coordination of monitoring & evaluation of prevention & control of cancers at provincial & district levels in liaising with other technical units of the NCCP
- Coordination of health information management at the NCCP level, including updating the website of NCCP
- Coordinate with other technical units for cross-cutting issues (e.g., Global Initiative of Childhood Cancers - 'GICC')

In addition, the cancer research unit is not established yet as an independent technical unit, and activities related to cancer research are also coordinated.

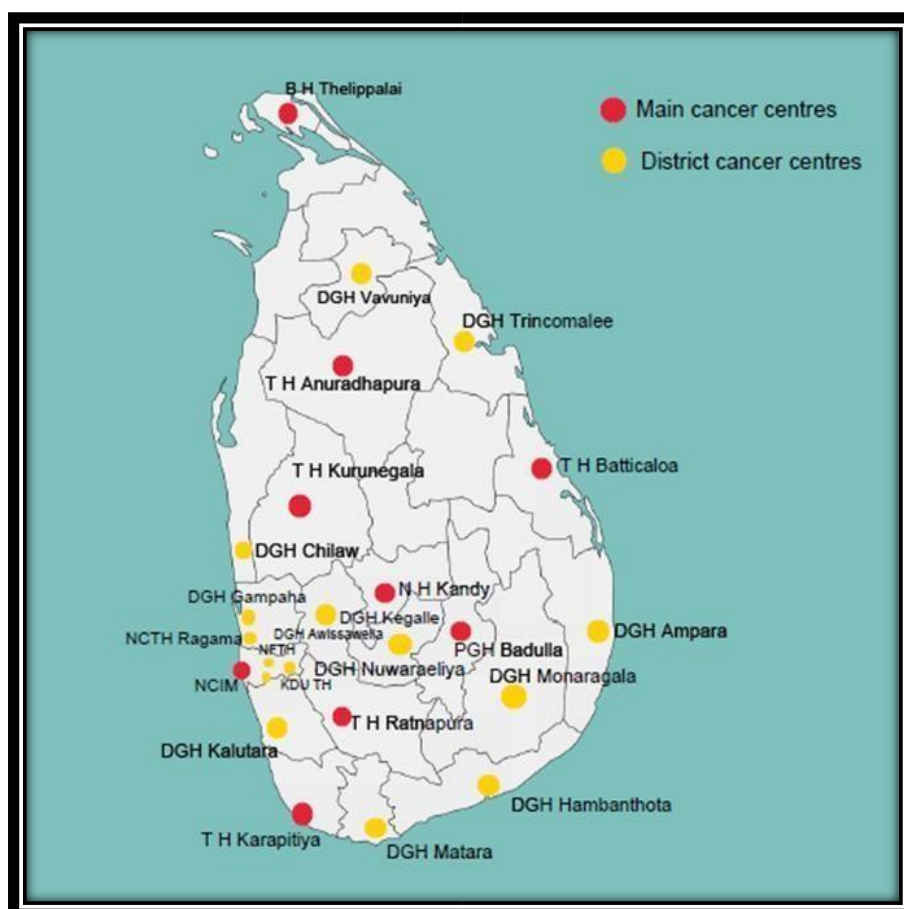


Surveillance of cancer

One of the main functions of the Strategic Information Management (SIM) Unit of the National Cancer Control Programme is coordination of surveillance of cancers in Sri Lanka with the active participation of the hospital network including cancer treatment centres, pathology laboratories, Oral and Maxillo Facial (OMF) units and medical record departments of government and private sector hospitals. In addition, works with Registrar General's Department for cancer mortality information including direct cancer mortality surveillance at Colombo district through the death registrars. Since cancer surveillance is the key function of the unit, up to 2020 this unit was called as Cancer registry unit /cancer surveillance unit.

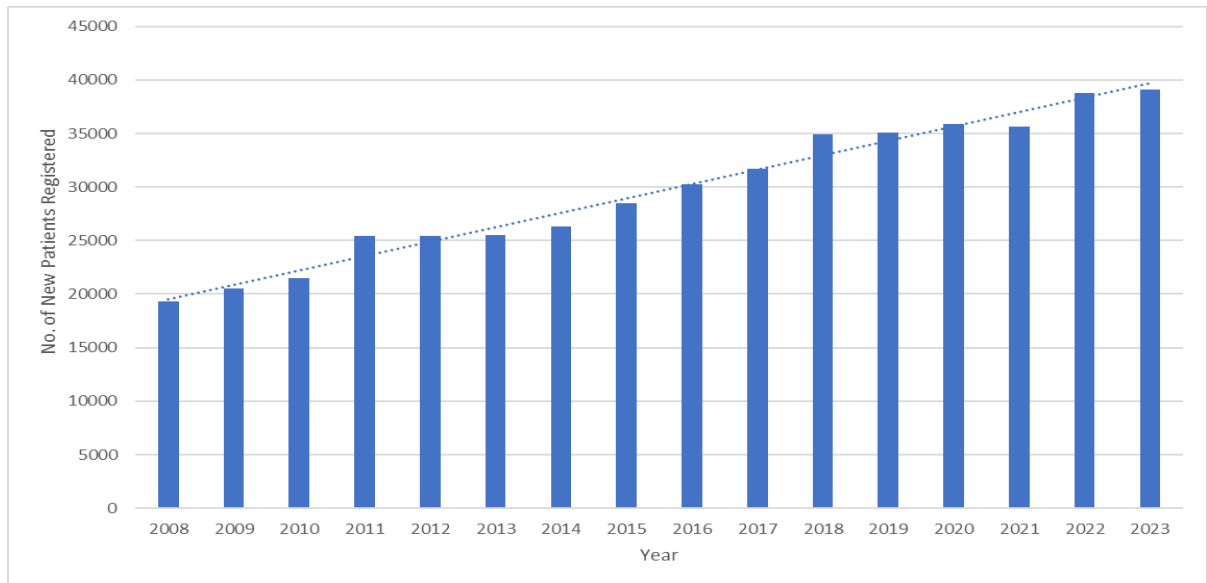
The summary details related to new patient registration at cancer treatment centres is the latest information available in relation to cancer surveillance.

Distribution of Government Cancer Centres



New Patient Registration at Government Cancer Treatment Centres 2008 – 2023

Cancer Centre	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
NCI Maharagama	11163	11756	11513	12403	12550	12689	13247	13890	14248	13651	14171	13928	11864	11686	13113	13711
NH Kandy	3648	3634	4046	5042	3717	3516	4000	4023	3877	4150	4042	3882	3889	3619	4386	4940
TH Karapitiya	1764	1866	1793	2193	2158	2455	2479	2394	2595	2585	2652	2473	2442	2372	2548	2763
TH Jaffna / BH Tellippalai	412	479	659	1055	1048	1061	1032	1100	1099	1103	1186	1198	1304	1615	1257	1344
TH Anuradhapura	712	551	641	698	803	850	1114	1300	1131	1214	1483	1429	1542	1621	1632	1621
PGH Badulla	753	794	858	1430	2152	2203	1527	2285	2225	2015	2151	2591	2552	2220	2365	2079
TH Batticaloa		169	565	727	1094	932	897	900	1325	1048	876	699	924	1076	1235	1146
TH Kurunegala	538	804	806	1174	1122	1042	1238	1680	1863	2062	2206	2177	2091	2103	2277	1988
TH Rathnapura	319	485	636	735	808	767	807	902	1094	1103	1076	1098	1152	1016	970	1022
NCTH Ragama											747	648	819	1020	1408	1649
DGH Gampaha										153	580	776	673	602	846	725
DGH Avisawella											76	294	274	313	334	313
DGH Kalutara											480	492	647	595	678	440
DGH Nuwara Eliya									238	236	203	286	414	353	463	435
DGH Matara												180	405	507	580	524
DGH Hambanthota										177	312	427	460	534	679	713
DGH Vavuniya										26	223	253	240	276	202	296
DGH Polonnaruwa										648	699	615	714	622	525	353
DGH Monaragala									125	136	413	262	266	256	172	177
DGH Trincomalee										702	568	350	333	260	313	60
DGH Ampara									164	140	111	161	156	180	158	226
DGH Chilaw									91	239	455	591	673	648	612	483
DGH Kegalle									183	276	243	297	332	337	293	311
DGH Embilipitiya														68	93	9
DGH Matale														49	304	328
KDU Hospital													1489	1614	1179	1406
NFTH													208	106	150	53
Total	19309	20538	21517	25457	25452	25515	26341	28474	30258	31664	34953	35107	35863	35668	38772	39115



The key activities conducted in the year 2023, in relation to cancer surveillance are listed below.

1.2.a Conducting Meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Cancer Registration and Research

The Technical Advisory Committee on cancer registration and research was established with the approval of Secretary -Health and first meeting was conducted on 10th March 2020. The Deputy Director General (Public Health Services I) acts as the chairperson of the committee and Consultant Community Physician attached to the Strategic Information Management Unit acts as the Secretary for the Technical Advisory Committee. The recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee are communicated to the 'National Advisory Committee on Prevention & Control of Cancers'.

Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Technical Advisory Committee is mentioned below.

1. Provide technical advice on planning, implementation, monitoring & evaluation of the "National policy & strategic framework on cancer prevention & control - Sri Lanka".
2. Identify strategies to strengthen the cancer surveillance in Sri Lanka with the introduction of health information technology solutions.
3. Identify strategies to promote, and facilitate cancer research and disseminate the research findings
4. Review the progress and address challenges/issues which arise during the process of strengthening cancer registration and cancer research in Sri Lanka.
5. Two meetings were conducted in year 2023 on 08.09.2023, and 08.12.2023.

1.2.b Conducting Meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on childhood & adolescent cancer care is the newly formulated TAC under NCCP in addition to existing committees on; cancer prevention & early detection, cancer diagnostics & treatment, and palliative care survivorship. The committee is co-chaired by Deputy Director General (NCD) & Deputy Director General (Medical Services 1).

Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Technical Advisory Committee is mentioned below.

1. Provide technical advice on implementation, monitoring & evaluation of National Strategic Plan on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care 2021-2025 Sri Lanka.
2. Address challenges / issues which arise during the process of implementation of National Strategic Plan on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care 2021-2025 & submit recommendations to the National Advisory Committee on Prevention & Control of Cancers
3. Promote research related to Childhood & Adolescent Cancer and utilization of research evidence in decision making

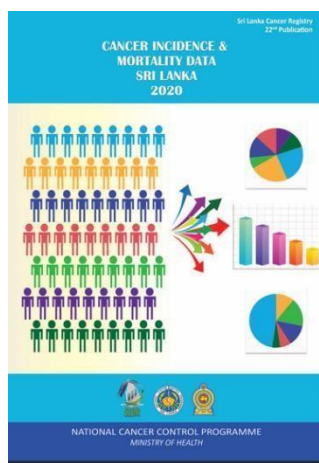
4. Identify further activities to strengthen the childhood and adolescent cancer care in Sri Lanka with the detailed analysis of evidence arising from Paediatric Cancer Registry and other related information

Three meetings were conducted in year 2023 on 10.03.2023, 07.06.2023 and 12.12.2023.

1.3 Publications of National Cancer Incidence Data 2020

Analyzing cancer incidence data and generating publications is a crucial step in disseminating findings to the scientific community and the public. It demonstrates transparency and accountability in research efforts, while also contributing valuable insights to the field of cancer epidemiology.

Processing cancer incidence data in 2020 suggests a timely response to gather and analyze crucial health information. Therefore, after obtaining relevant data, the NCCP team verified and analyzed cancer incidence data to generate the publication “Cancer Incidence & Mortality Data Sri Lanka 2020”.



1.4 Processing of cancer incidence data 2021

In the year 2023, all the cancer treatment centres were asked to prioritize sending recently reported cancer cases in 2021 for the processing of cancer incidence data 2021. The SIM unit team did continuous monitoring of data entering, data coding, assessing quality of data from each cancer treatment center and did all the necessary arrangements for initiation of analysis of cancer incidence data 2021.

1.5 Monitoring of Cancer Surveillance Activities

1.5.1 Monitoring of Cancer Surveillance at cancer treatment centres in the Year 2023

National Cancer Surveillance Form and CanReg 5 software was introduced to each cancer treatment centre for cancer surveillance. It was expected that newly detected cancers would be entered to the CanReg 5 software. Some cancer centres were able to maintain up to date cancer registry data base at the hospital level. Visited each cancer centre and quality checked the data entered into the Canreg5 database. Each member is trained to enter good quality data. Pre intern medical officers were trained for the Centres which do not provide data timely data, for a short period of time to complete 2020 and 2021 data of cancer centres.

1.5.2 Monitoring of Cancer Surveillance at Pathology Laboratories

During the year 2023, pathology laboratory-based cancer surveillance was closely monitored to improve the coverage and timeliness of reporting.

1.5.3 Monitoring of Cancer Surveillance at Oral & Maxillo-Facial Units

Cancer surveillance at OMF units were monitored by the Oral Cancer Prevention and Control Unit of The National Cancer Control Programme. The Strategic Information Management Unit provided technical support for cancer surveillance since the CanReg 5 software was introduced to OMF unit for cancer surveillance to be commenced from year 2023. 1.5.4 Monitoring of Cancer Mortality Surveillance in Colombo district

Monitoring & Evaluation of Prevention & Control of Cancers

2.1 Conducting National Advisory Committee Meeting on Prevention & Control of Cancers

The National Advisory Committee Meeting on Prevention and Control of Cancers is the main statutory body for the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of National Policy and Strategic Framework on Prevention and Control of Cancers. Four meetings were conducted in the year 2023.

2.2 Conducting Provincial Cancer Control Reviews

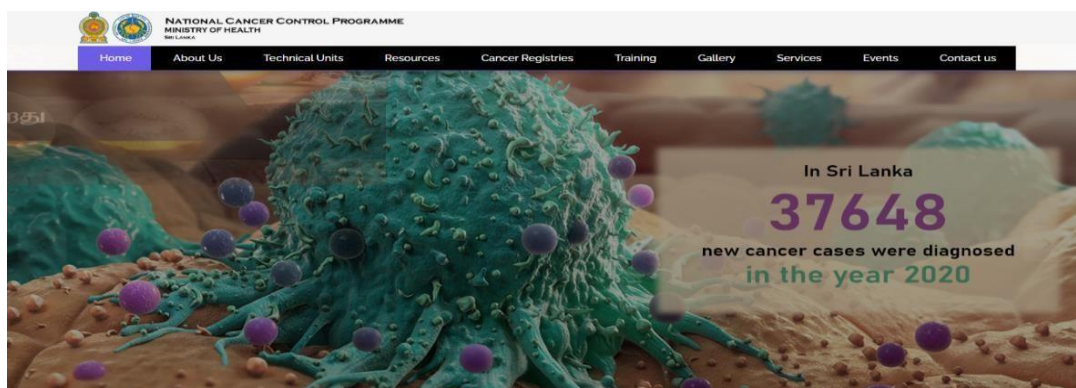


Provincial Cancer Control Reviews were conducted in Western, Southern, Uva, Central, North Central, Sabaragamuwa & North Western provinces with the active participation of PDHS, RDHS Teams & Hospital teams.

Health Information Management

3.1 NCCP Website

The website of National Cancer Control Programme can be accessible through, <https://www.nccp.health.gov.lk/en>



Cancer Research

4.1 Cancer Research Priorities

Research Priorities of Public Health Importance for Prevention & Control of Cancers in Sri Lanka Year 2023 was updated and published at the National Cancer Control Programme.

Research Priorities of Public Health Importance for Prevention & Control of Cancers in Sri Lanka Year 2023/2024

Thematic areas

- Primary Prevention & Early Detection of Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Cervical Cancer
- Oral cancer
- Paediatric cancers
- Other Common Cancers
- Diagnosis & Treatment of Cancers
- Survivorship & Palliative Care of Cancers

Primary Prevention & Early Detection of Cancer

1. Effectiveness of Healthy Lifestyle Centre (HLC) intervention for primary prevention of cancers
2. Qualitative research on sociocultural determinants of the occurrence of cancers and related myths
3. Awareness on cancer risk factors among high-risk groups
4. Effectiveness of regulations related to risk factor control in prevention & control of cancers. (Tobacco smoking, Smokeless tobacco, areca nut, and commercially prepared tobacco and areca nut products)
5. Use of safety measures for prevention of occupation-related cancers
6. Acceptance of Cancer Early Detection Centre initiative as a method of early detection of cancers
7. Study on contribution of private sector for early detection of cancers

Breast Cancer

1. Needs assessment, patient perspectives and effectiveness of breast clinics
2. Effectiveness & outcome of clinical breast examination at Well Women Clinic & Healthy Lifestyle Centres
3. Utilization pattern of mammography services at government and private sector hospitals
4. Assessment of preparedness to conduct breast clinics in a sustainable manner in secondary & tertiary care hospitals

Cervical Cancer

1. Readiness to achieve targets of the global initiative on elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem
2. Feasibility of introducing follow-up pre-cancer registry for cervical cancer patients
3. Factors for not attending cervical cancer screening at the age of 35 years and 45 years
4. Prevalence of cervical precancer and cancer among vulnerable groups – STD Clinic attendees, Commercial Sex workers etc
5. Utilization of colposcopy services for cervical precancer care

Oral cancer

1. Gaps in early detection programme of OPMD/oral cancers
2. Contribution of HPV infections for development of oro pharyngeal cancers
3. Costing studies of early detection of oral cancer and oral cancer care
4. Quality of life of oral cancer survivors
5. Care pathways and delays of oral cancer care
6. Effectiveness of options available for management of OPMD

7. Barriers and enabling factors for surveillance of OPMD/Oral cancer in oral healthcare settings
8. Malignant transformation rate among patients with OPMD in Sri Lanka
9. Effectiveness of adjunct methods in detection of OPMD in Sri Lanka
10. Survival rates of Oral cancers in Sri Lanka
11. Effectiveness of public health strategies and approaches to prevent oral cancer
12. Challenges faced to control of oral cancer in primary health care settings

Paediatric cancers

1. Survival rates on WHO GICC Index Cancers – Acute Lymphocytic Leukaemia, Burkitt Lymphoma, Retinoblastoma, Wilm’s Tumour, Low Grade Glioma
2. Long-term survivorship issues of childhood cancer survivors
3. Study of care pathways and delays of childhood cancer care
4. Adverse effects following childhood cancer care
5. Audit on childhood cancer deaths in Sri Lanka
6. Costing studies on childhood cancer care (Out of pocket expenditure & Institutional cost)
7. Awareness & educational needs of primary care medical officers on early identification of childhood cancers
8. Effects of current economic crisis for management of childhood cancers

Other Common Cancers

1. Gaps on awareness on symptoms and signs of common cancers among primary health care team
2. Care pathways of Colo rectal cancers and delays of early diagnosis of colon cancers
3. Survival rates of common cancers – Colo rectal cancers, thyroid cancers, oesophageal cancers

Diagnosis & Treatment of Cancers

1. Utilization pattern of MRI, CT for diagnosis of cancers
2. Knowledge and practices of radiation protection in diagnostic imaging
3. Health seeking behavior of patients with different cancers including breast, cervix, and oral cancer..... etc
4. Adverse effects of radiotherapy among patients receiving care from Cobalt & Linac machines
5. Health seeking behavior of patients with different cancers – Community based study
6. Utilization of brachytherapy in Cancer Treatment Centers
7. Retrospective assessment of treatment cost of selected cancers
8. Radiation safety monitoring at health care settings

9. Study on management of clinical (chemotherapy and radiotherapy) waste in CTCs 10
Gap analysis of cancer care in Centers of Excellence and CTCs

Survivorship & Palliative Care of Cancers

1. Assessment of palliative care consult services at secondary and tertiary care
2. An assessment of existing hospice care services for palliative care - available resources, barriers and opportunities
3. Experiences of provision of palliative care services at primary care level
4. Assessment of palliative care service provision of Public Health Nursing Officers.
5. Educational needs on palliative care among primary care medical officers
6. Assessment of care giver needs of primary care givers of palliative care patients at home setting
7. Barriers and strengths of maintain continuous supply of Morphine for cancer pain management

Cervical Cancer

4.1 Activities towards cervical cancer elimination targets

Two sensitization programmes were conducted in Apeksha Hospital Maharagama to ensure 90% of women identified with cervical disease (cervical cancer & pre cancer) receive treatment for both curative and preventive sector selected staff in Colombo district.

1. The first programme was conducted for public health staff including Medical Officer of Health (MOH), Public Health Nursing Sisters, Public Health Nursing Officers in RDHS Colombo & Colombo CMC area.



2. Second programme was for the curative sector health staff including Medical Officers Planning / Public Health / NCD / Quality, Pathology, Senior medical Officers – OPD secondary & tertiary care hospitals in Colombo district and Medical Officers in Divisional Hospitals and Primary Medical Care Units, Colombo.



Key areas addressed during the programme were:

- Operationalizing Global Initiative of Elimination of cervical Cancer.
- Strengthening of Cervical Cancer Programme & Follow up care at Community setting
- Curative Care for cervical pre-cancer & cancer.
- Palliative care for cervical cancer patients
- Monitoring and Evaluation of colposcopy programme
- Overview of other gynecological cancers

at Auditorium,
National Cancer
Institute
Maharagama

**'Strengthening Care for
females with cervical
precancer cancer**

07th September 2023

AGENDA

9.00 a.m. – 9.15 a.m.
Welcome Speech,
Dr. Eshani Fernando, Director, NCCP

Opening Remarks
Dr. Aruna Jayasekara, Director, NCIM, Dr. Aruna Jayatilaka, Deputy RDHS

9.15 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.
Burden of Cervical Cancer & Operationalizing Global Initiative of Elimination of Cervical Cancer
Dr. Suraj Perera, CCP, NCCP

9.30 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.
Strengthening of Cervical Cancer Screening Programme & Follow up care at Community Setting
Dr. Padmaka Silva, CCP, FHB

9.45 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.
Care For Cervical Precancer
Dr. Chinthana Hapuachchige, Consultant Gynaecologist, National Cancer Institute

10.00 a.m. – 10.15 a.m.
M & E of Colposcopy Programme,
Dr. Hasarali Fernando, CCP, NCCP

10.15 a.m. – 10.45 a.m. Discussion – Way forward in strengthening Cervical pre cancer care

10.45 a.m. – 11.15 a.m. Tea & Networking

11.15 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.
Care for cervical Cancer
Dr. Chinthana Hapuachchige, Consultant Gynaecologist, National Cancer Institute

12.00 p.m. – 12.45 p.m.
Care for Cervical Cancer – Oncological & Palliative care
Dr. Thushari Hapuachchi, Consultant Oncologist, National Cancer Institute Maharagama

12.45 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.
Other common gynaecological cancers – Uterine & Ovarian Cancer
Dr. Kalum Jayasinghe, Consultant Gynaecologist, TH Mahamodara

1.30 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.
Discussion – Way forward in strengthening Cervical cancer care

Lunch

Participation by invitation only. Contact: NCCP 0112368627

According to the National Strategic Plan to Reach Interim Targets of Cervical Cancer Elimination in Sri Lanka 2021-2030, 90% of women identified with cervical disease should receive optimal treatment. In the strategic plan, establishing referral pathways and people centered linkages throughout the continuum of care is identified as a strategic direction. Therefore, to identify the care pathways used by cervical cancer patients, a survey was conducted among the patients with cervical cancer. This survey was conducted in cancer treatment centers where gynecology experts were available. Four consultative meetings were conducted in DDG- NCD Auditorium Ministry of Health, Apeksha Hospital Maharagama, National Hospital Kandy and Teaching Hospital Karapitiya/Teaching Hospital Mahamodara to sensitize the relevant administrators and clinicians on the survey and to validate the questionnaire to describe the care pathways used by cervical cancer patients in Sri Lanka.



Childhood Cancer

1. Conducting Meetings of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care

The Technical Advisory Committee meetings on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care was commenced in year 2022.

Terms of Reference (TOR) of TAC on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care are;

1. Provide technical advice on implementation, monitoring & evaluation of National Strategic Plan on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care 2021-2025 Sri Lanka.
2. Address challenges / issues which arise during the process of implementation of National Strategic Plan on Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care 2021-2025 & submit recommendations to the National Advisory Committee on Prevention & Control of Cancers
3. Promote research related to Childhood & Adolescent Cancer Care & utilization of research evidence
4. Identify further activities to strengthen the childhood and adolescent cancer care in Sri Lanka with the detailed analysis of Paediatric Cancer Registry and other related information

Three meetings were conducted in year 2023 on 10th March 2023, 3rd September 2023. and 12th December 2023.

The key recommendations of TAC were tabled at the National Advisory Committee on Prevention & Control of Cancers.

2. Continuing activities related to WHO Global Initiative of Childhood Cancers (GICC)

Sri Lanka is identified as an index country for Global Initiative on Childhood Cancers (GICC) of WHO. Therefore, National Cancer Control Programme in collaboration with other partners including Sri Lanka College of Oncologists College coordinated with WHO country office to complete the already commenced activities related to childhood and adolescent cancer care development under GICC. The activity on updating the National Essential Paediatric Oncology Drug list was withheld according to the instructions of Ministry of Health.

Also, discussions were conducted with WHO Country office for identifying new activities with the remaining funds of WHO GICC.

National Cancer Control Programme, Sri Lanka College of Oncologists and WHO Country Office participated to the advocacy events and progress review meetings organized by the WHO SEARO Office, WHO head office and St. Jude Global Alliance.



Sri Lanka **cure4all** **Overview** PAGE 2 OF 2

SEA Region
Focus Country, May 2020
Dr. Sanjeeva Gunasekera, Dr. Suraj Perera, Dr. Virgini Mallawarachchi

World Health Organization

Country Core CureAll Projects

1. Analysis of cancer health system
2. National Cancer Control Strategy Development/implementation
3. Implementation of cancer workforce training packages
4. National network and referral pathway strengthening
5. Defining national standards and guidelines for index cancers
6. Essential medicines and technologies strengthening, including via UN
7. Economic analysis and benefit packages review of cancer
8. Strengthening & linking cancer registries (population & hospital based)
9. Country dashboard for childhood cancer monitoring
10. Local/regional advocacy portfolios: case studies, awareness campaigns

CureAll Metrics Towards 2030

<p>Patient Impacts by Dec 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of patients accessing childhood cancer care 3-year survival rates of GICC Index cancers 	<p>Provider Impacts by Dec 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of health care workforce undergone training in childhood cancer care New positions created in childhood cancer care
<p>Institutional Impacts by Dec 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new institutions involved in shared care New services related to childhood cancer asked in institutions, Eg: Bone Marrow Transplant Services 	<p>National Impacts by Dec 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childhood cancer integration into national health policies Dedicated funding allocated to childhood cancer initiatives

Most Meaningful Impact Envisioned by 2030

Children with cancer having access to high quality treatment without facing catastrophic financial hardships or mental anguish.

Acknowledgements

- Deputy Director General of Health (Non-Communicable Diseases), Ministry of Health
- Director, National Cancer Institute Sri Lanka, Director, National Cancer Control Programme
- All representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations working in the domain of childhood cancer

Contact email: guntimail@gmail.com Date updated: 2024/01

Sri Lanka **cure4all** **Overview** PAGE 3 OF 2

SEA Region
Focus Country, May 2020
Dr. Sanjeeva Gunasekera, Dr. Suraj Perera, Dr. Virgini Mallawarachchi

World Health Organization

Country Insights

- 1 hospital with dedicated unit for children with cancer
- 850 new children with cancer diagnosed each year (ages 0 – 19)
- 3 pediatric hematologists/oncologists
- Operational NCCP (2023): Yes
- Specific goals on childhood cancer: Yes

CureAll Deliverables

<p>Childhood Cancer Policy</p> <p>Formulating the first childhood cancer focused national policy in Sri Lanka Date: 2022/10</p>	<p>Childhood Cancer Registry</p> <p>Establishing and maintaining a hospital based childhood cancer registry at National Cancer Institute Sri Lanka (NCISL) Date: 2023/12</p>
<p>Addressing procedure associated pain in childhood cancer</p> <p>Establishing a working group and publishing a protocol for pain control in all procedure related to childhood cancer. Model Procedure room with a focus on child friendly ambience also established at NCISL Date: 2023/11</p>	<p>Antibiotic stewardship program</p> <p>First Paediatric febrile neutropenia treatment guidelines as well as an antibiotic stewardship program established at NCISL Date: 2023/12</p>

<p>Pending Deliverables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health endorsed Clinical Practice Guidelines for treatment of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia Health worker education program for early detection of retinoblastoma Development of pathological diagnosis guidelines for 6 WHO GICC index cancers Developing caregiver information booklet in local languages. 	<p>Lessons Learned</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of collaboration among the national, regional and global stakeholders in improving outcomes in childhood cancer. The role "Lived experience" play in successful designing as well as implementation of interventions Setting aside adequate time for administrative clearance when planning activities under GICC
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Contact email: guntimail@gmail.com Date updated: 2024/01

3. Commemoration of International Childhood Cancer Day – 15th February 2023

1. Media Seminar was organized in collaboration with Health Promotion Bureau to commemorate International Childhood Cancer Day. Following officers participated as resource personnel for the media seminar.



Dr. Mahendra Somathilaka,
Consultant Paediatric Oncologist,
National Cancer Institute,
Maharagama



Dr. Sanjeewa Gunasekara,
Consultant Paediatric Oncologist,
National Cancer Institute,
Maharagama



Dr. Suraj Perera,
Consultant Community Physician,
National Cancer Control Programme



Dr. Percy Sylvester, Medical Officer
National Cancer Control Programme

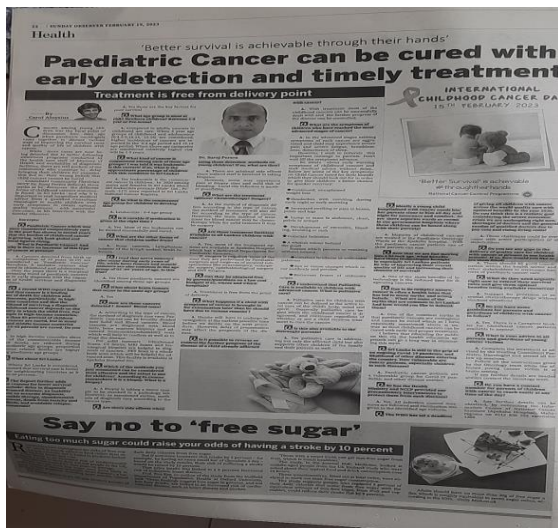
- Participated in media programmes to disseminate the relevant messages related to Childhood and adolescent cancers for the commemoration of International Childhood Cancer Day - 2023



Television Programme at 'Siyatha' TV



Radio Programme at 'V' FM



'Sunday Observer' 19.02.2023



'Divaina' - Newspaper 16.02.2023

5.Sensitization programmes on childhood cancers among health care staff

Sensitization programmes were conducted to improve awareness on Childhood and Adolescent Cancers among Health Care staff in curative and preventive health sector

Programme	Date
<u>Programme 1</u> - Medical Officers & Nursing Sisters of Paediatric Units & OPDs in district of Colombo	21 st June 2023
<u>Programme 2</u> - Medical Officers of Health & Public Health Nursing Sisters in RDHS area - Colombo & Colombo Municipal area	23 rd June 2023



at "Sankathani" Auditorium at Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration, Colombo 7

EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND CARE FOR CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENT CANCERS

Sensitization Programme for Curative Health Staff of Colombo District

21st June 2023

AGENDA		
9.00 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Welcome	Dr. Eshani Fernando Director – NCCP
	Opening Remarks	President, College of Paediatricians REHS – Colombo District PDHS – Western Province Director – Apeksha Hospital Dr. Suraj Perera CCP- NCCP
9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Burden of Childhood Cancers	
10.00 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Early Diagnosis of Childhood Cancers	Dr. Mahendra Somathilaka Consultant Paediatric Oncologist - Apeksha Hospital
10.45 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.	Tea	
11.15 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	Role of Paediatrician in Childhood cancer care	Dr. Rukmal Gunathilake Consultant Paediatrician – Apeksha Hospital
12.00 p.m. – 12.45 p.m.	Early Diagnosis of Childhood Cancers – Paediatric Surgeon's perspective	Dr. Malli Samarasingha Consultant Paediatric Surgeon Lady Ridgeway Hospital
12.45 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Psychosocial support for childhood cancer patients and their care givers	Dr. P. Kandapola Arachchige Consultant Psychiatrist
1.30 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.	Vote of Thanks & Lunch	Open discussion

Participation by invitation only. Contact: NCCP 0112368627

at "Sankathani" Auditorium at Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration, Colombo 7

CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENT CANCER DAY

for Preventive Health Sector Staff of Colombo District

23rd June 2023

AGENDA
9.00 a.m. – 9.10 a.m.
Welcome Speech
Dr. Eshani Fernando, Director, NCCP
9.10 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.
Burden of Childhood Cancers
Dr. Suraj Perera, CCP, NCCP
9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.
"Experience of Early Diagnosis of Childhood Cancers" Paediatric Surgeon's Perspective
Dr. Ravilindu Ranawaka, Consultant Paediatric Surgeon, Colombo North Teaching Hospital
10.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.
Tea Break
11.00 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.
Supportive care for childhood & adolescent cancer patients and their families,
Dr. Thushari Hapursaseni, Consultant Oncologist, Apeksha Hospital
11.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.
Community Health Staff Role in Childhood Morbidity & Mortality Surveillance
Dr. Kapila Jayaratne, National Programme Manager, Childhood Morbidity & Mortality Surveillance, Family Health Bureau.
12.15 p.m. – 1.00 p.m.
Early Diagnosis of Childhood Cancers
Dr. Sanjeeva Gunasekara, Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, Apeksha Hospital
1.00 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.
Psychosocial support for childhood cancer patients and their caregivers,
Dr. P. Kandapola Arachchige, Consultant Psychiatrist, Apeksha Hospital
1.45 p.m.
Vote of Thanks
Lunch

Participation by invitation only. Contact: NCCP 0112368627

5. Improving reporting of deaths due to childhood cancers by the divisional death registrars

Sensitization programme was conducted to improve reporting of deaths due to childhood & adolescent cancers in Colombo district through Vital Registration System on 27th June 2023.



6. Coordinating the donation of essential oncology drugs for Childhood Cancers through World Health Organizations

WHO Support for procurement of Paediatric Oncology drugs

Name of the Drug	Dosage Form	Amount
Daunorubicin HCL	20mg	1000 Vials
Dactinomycin	Lyophilized powder for injection	125 Vials
Cyclophosphamide	Powder for injection 50mg	1500 Vials
Filgrastim	30 mu/0.5ml vials	3000 vials
Cytarabine		

7. Participation in the National Cancer Control Planning Integrating Children, Adolescents and Young Adults (NCCP iCAYA) Series

Ministry of Health nominated following officers to participate to National Cancer Control Planning Integrating Children, Adolescents and Young Adults (NCCP iCAYA) virtual workshop Series for 6 months duration in year 2023 conducted by St. Jude Global Alliance.

SRI LANKA Team

- **Dr. Eshani Fernando**, Director, National Cancer Control Programme, Ministry of Health *Team Lead
- **Dr. Sanjeeva Gunasekera**, Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, National Cancer Institute
- **Dr. Priyangi Amarabandu**, Consultant Pathologist, National Cancer Institute
- **Dr. Sandani Gunaratne**, Consultant Pathologist, Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children
- **Dr. Suraj Perera**, Consultant Community Physician, National Cancer Control Programme, Ministry of Health
- **Dr. Thusitha Kahathuwa**, Medical Officer, National Cancer Control Programme, Ministry of Health
- **Dr. Lanka Jayasuriya Dissanayake**, Chairperson, Indira Cancer Trust



NCCP iCAYA
National Cancer Control Planning
Integrating Children, Adolescents & Young Adults



Operational NCCP (WHO CCS 2021): Yes


NCCP iCAYA 2023: National Cancer Control Planning Integrating Children, Adolescents & Young Adults | Overview

This initiative provided opportunities for the team participating in the series to share knowledge gained about integrating children, adolescents and young adults into national cancer control planning with relevant stakeholders and partners who are supporting our national cancer control planning efforts.

SRI LANKA Team Perspective

- ✓ **NCCP current status:** Active implementation phase
- ✓ **Childhood cancer policy status in country:** Dedicated plan + Content included in NCCP/NCD policy
- **Childhood cancer in country's health priorities** (1 lowest, 10 highest priority): 6 [3-8] Median [Range]

- **Goal for series as a Team:** To learn about global best practices in integration of childhood cancers in National Cancer Control Plans.
- **Goal for national childhood cancer control in 2023 as a Team:** To accelerate translation of policy into action in the childhood cancer domain in Sri Lanka



NCCP iCAYA
National Cancer Control Planning
Integrating Children, Adolescents & Young Adults

NCCP iCAYA 2023: National Cancer Control Planning Integrating Children, Adolescents & Young Adults | Overview

Country : Sri

Pillar 1: Centers of Excellence and Care sufficient competent

- 1 Integrate cancer care between National Paediatric Surgical Care at Lady Ridgeway Hospital, National Hospital, National Eye Hospital, paediatric surgical units in the
- 2 How do we ensure optimal linkage between Pathology, Radiology and point of surgical Paediatric Oncology Unit at the National Cancer Centre
- 3 361 of NSP on Adolescent Cancer 2022 Lin paediatric care th paediatric oncology, pathology services and radiology
- 4 **Advocacy leveraged linked Policies and**

Integration levers:
Coherence

Actionability
Youth-centeredness
Accountability

Team Members Transferred out of NCCP



Dr. Udaya Usgodaarachchi
Consultant in Community Dentistry
Oral Cancer Prevention & Control Unit



Dr. Irosha Nilaweera
Consultant Community Physician
Palliative Care Unit



Dr. Lakshrieni Nishshanka
Acting Consultant Community Physician
Diagnosis and Treatment Unit



Dr. Saddharma Weerakoon
Cancer Prevention & Early Detection Unit



Dr. Nadeesha Rathnasekara
Cancer Prevention & Early Detection Unit



Dr. Dulanji Galappatti
Diagnosis & Treatment Unit



Dr. Chathurika Jayamani
Strategic Information Management Unit



Dr. Novandi Samarasighe
Strategic Information Management Unit



Dr. Lanka Sandaruwan
Strategic Information Management Unit



Mr. Gamini Boyagoda



Miss Nayomi Wathsala

Staff of the National Cancer Control Programme 2023

Dr. Eshani Fernando
Dr. Devani Ranaweera
Dr. Udaya Usgodaarachchi
Dr. Suraj Perera
Dr. Irosha Nilaweera
Dr. Hasarali Fernando
Dr. Lakshirini Nishshanka
Dr Saddharma Weerakoon
Dr Nadeesha Rathnasekara
Dr Nirma Alpitiarachchi
Dr Gayani Kalhari
Dr Nirmala Jayanthi
Dr Chathurika Jayamani Kariyawasam
Dr Thusitha Kahaduwa
Dr Dulanjani Galappaththi
Dr Thisari Dilshika
Dr Percy Silvester
Dr Dumindu Wijewardana
Dr Dulanjali Luxamana
Dr Kalumi Leelaratne
Dr Asanga Abeynayake
Dr Tharani Rajendra
Dr. Anuradha Indeewari
Dr Novandi Samarasighe
Dr. Priyangani De Silva
Dr. Fathima Roshen
Dr. Udani Shilpeswarage
Dr. Lanka Sandaruwan

Ms. Inoka Dissanayaka
Ms. Niroshi Rajakaruna
Ms. Chammi Dinusha Balasuriya
Ms. Sachini Shashikala
Lakmini Udayangani Kumari
Ruwani Nimalika Wickramasinghe
Wijethunga Koralalage Don Chalani Geethika
Saranga Tilini Ekanayake
Kottahachchige Nimesha Prasadi
Wijekoon Bandaralage Amila Bandra
Gamini Ekanayake Boyagoda
Saman Kumara Mahalekam
Thushari Dammika
Ashoka Dilrukshi Ariyadasa
Saman Anuruddha
Nalinda Sanjeewa Kumara
Sisira Kumara
Deepa Mohotti Arachchi
Nayomi Nilanka Weerasinghe
Nayomi Wathsala Sapumohotti
Ajith Kumara Wanaguru

