

29.09.2021

## Research Priorities on Prevention & Control of Cancers

<b>Thematic area</b>	<b>Priority research topics</b>
<b>Leadership, Advocacy &amp; Governance</b>	Assessment policies related to prevention & control of cancers in Sri Lanka- Health/ Non Health Task distribution & capacity building needs of primary health care workers on prevention & control of cancers
<b>Primary Prevention</b>	Existing interventions on prevention & control of cancers in school curricula & future needs Life style modifications and the association with cancer risk prevention Effectiveness of regulations related to risk factor control in oral cancer. (Smokeless tobacco, areca nut and commercially prepared tobacco and areca nut products) Association between human papilloma virus (HPV) and Oral cancer in Sri Lanka Genetic predisposition to toxic effects and pharmacogenetics Qualitative research on socio-cultural determinants of cancer including myths Impact of IEC materials on risk factor control on prevention of cancers Research on Occupational exposures and Occurrence of Cancers
<b>Early Detection</b>	Client satisfaction on participating to Well Women Clinic Barriers for early detection of cancers Qualitative study on needs of Cancer Early Detection Centres (CEDC) Cost effective analysis on cancer screening services / CEDC Study on public awareness on early signs & symptoms

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<b>Diagnosis &amp; Treatment</b>	<p>Determinants for delayed diagnosis/ diagnosis at an advanced stage</p> <p>Health seeking behaviour of patients with different cancers including breast, cervix, and oral cancer</p> <p>Barriers for treatment and follow up for curable cancer</p> <hr/> <p>Bio-chemical basis for specific symptoms and toxic effects due to cancer and cancer treatment</p> <p>Treatment and follow up pathways for common cancers in Sri Lanka (health system research)</p> <p>Patient perspective of cancer treatment among patients taking treatment from government cancer treating institutions</p> <p>Day treatment centers - use of day centers, patient perspective/ client satisfaction, etc.</p> <p>Needs assessment for genetic marker testing</p> <p>Identify, treatment and advice patients on treatment related adverse effects and symptom risk</p> <p>Evidence-based approach to predict and screen outcomes of cancer and treatment modalities</p> <p>Optimal methods of health care delivery after completion of initial treatment</p> <p><b>Cervical cancer</b></p> <p>Readiness to achieve targets of global initiative on elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem</p> <p><b>Breast cancer</b></p> <p>Breast clinic - needs assessment, patient perspectives and effectiveness</p> <p>Effectiveness of mammogram services at government hospitals</p>
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**Oral cancer**

Facility survey at oral cancer detection centers (OMF Units) in Sri Lanka.

Qualitative assessment of barriers encountered by estate sectors in seeking treatment for

Costing studies for OPMD and /oral cancer management

Effect of nutritional status in OPMD and Oral Cancer development

Magnitude of carcinogenicity of betel quid vs risk factors alone

HPV infection and oral cancer in Sri Lanka

Survival rates of OC related to sites

Quality of care for oral cancer patients

Occupational risk factors and oral cancer

Cost for OC care

Cost for OC screening

Communication modalities for OC risk factor control

**Paediatric cancer**

Paediatric cancer care in Sri Lanka - situational assessment

Aetiology and treatment innovations in childhood cancer

Impact of childhood cancer on children, family and education

Underlying reasons for disparities in childhood cancer outcomes between populations

Reasons for increase incidence of adolescent cancers

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	<p><b>Colorectal cancer</b></p> <p>Stage at presentation, cost for treatment of early and late stage cancers</p> <p>Colon cancer survival</p> <p><b>Radiotherapy, Chemotherapy .... Etc</b></p> <p>Audit on quality assurance and patient safety</p> <p>Capacity building on radiation safety for doctors, nurses, radiographers, physicist - pre/ post testing</p> <p>Unmet need for Evidence-based approaches to complications and treatment</p> <p>Cytotoxic and radiation safety - Knowledge and practices of radiation protection in diagnostic imaging</p> <p>Stem cell transplant - Needs assessment</p> <p>Cost effectiveness of certain cancer chemotherapy drugs</p> <p>Appropriateness of radiotherapy usage in cancer patients</p> <p>Need assessment of prioritization of list of chemotherapy drugs</p> <p>Address behavioral change to improve lifestyle and wellness to improve survivorship care</p>
<p><b>Survivorship and Palliative care</b></p>	<p>Quality of life of cancer survivors - Multidimensional needs/Available support</p> <p>Psychosocial well being &amp; cancer survivors – issues/coping mechanisms/screening tools/ intervention</p> <p>Survivors &amp; Employment/ work life</p> <p>Cancer survivorship and health care providers</p>

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	<p>Hospital based palliative care in Sri Lanka – Facility assessment on tertiary, secondary, primary &amp; Community levels (Services, resources, barriers/opportunities)</p> <p>Palliative cancer patients in the community – Need assessment/ Available support&amp; Quality of life)</p> <p>Need assessment and available support /intervention</p> <p>Quality of life family members and caregivers</p> <p>An assessment of hospice care – Services, resources, barriers and opportunities</p> <p>Barriers and strength of maintain continuous supply of opioids/ Morphine</p> <p>Impact of rehabilitative and palliative care on quality of life of oral cancer victims</p>
<p><b>Surveillance</b></p>	<p>Burden of cancer among childhood, adolescents and young adults</p> <p>Advanced analysis using cancer incidence data</p> <p>Cancer survival studies - Breast cancer, cervical cancer, oral cancer, Colo rectal cancer etc...</p> <p>Thyroid cancer – Reasons for increasing incidence, whether it is a true incidence or due to microscopic diagnosis</p> <p>Prostate cancer – Whether the national cancer registry data is true? Find out whether there is under reporting</p> <p>Esophageal cancers – whether the incidence actually high in some districts, if so what are the reasons?</p> <p>GIS mapping of common cancers</p>

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	Interventional study to improve the quality of cancer surveillance data Predictions of cancer incidence in Sri Lanka through statistical modelling
	Costing of commencing PBCR in another district.
<b>Research</b>	Systematic review of cancer research conducted in Sri Lanka