

Research Priorities of Public Health Importance for Prevention & Control of Cancers in Sri Lanka

Year 2022



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 of 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 the Cancer Early Detection Centre initiative as a method of early detection of cancers
7	Study on the contribution of the 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 Life Style Centres
3	Utilization pattern of mammography services at government and private sector hospitals



Cervical Cancer

1	Readiness to achieve targets of global initiative on elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem
2	Care pathways of patients with cervical pre-cancer and cancer
3	Feasibility of introducing follow up pre-cancer registry for cervical cancer patients
4	Factors for not attending to cervical cancer screening at the age of 35 years and 45 years
5	Prevalence of cervical precancer and cancer among vulnerable groups – STD Clinic attendees, Commercial Sex workers etc
6	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 options available for management of OPMD
7	Barriers and enabling factors for commencement of OPMD/Oral cancer registries at OMF Units
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



Paediatric Cancer

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 behaviour of patients with different cancers including breast, cervix, and oral cancer..... etc
4	Adverse effects of radiotherapy among patients receiving care from Cobolt & Linac machines
5	Health seeking behaviour of patients with different cancers – Community based study



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