

## **Group session I - Sources of Cancer Data**

### **A. International Statistics**

#### **1. Cancer Mortality**

##### ***The WHO mortality database***

The WHO Mortality Database contains mortality data officially reported by WHO Member States. It includes cause-of-death statistics coded according to the 9th and 10th revision of the [ICD](#), hence the data presented here refer to the years 1979 and later.

<http://www.who.int/healthinfo/morttables/en/index.html>

Age- and sex-specific death rates by cause are presented (Table 1), and the estimated level of completeness and coverage of the reported data (Tables 3 and 4) are provided to help users in interpreting the results.

If data for a country-year does not appear in these tables, then that country did not report data to the WHO for that year or did not provide the data according to WHO requirements and standard file specifications.

These mortality data are also available on the *CANCERmondial* website of IARC.

<http://www-dep.iarc.fr/>

This website has the advantage of permitting the data to be examined in a variety of tabular formats, and there are options for producing graphs (age-specific mortality curves, and as time trends of age standardised and age specific rates).

#### **2. Cancer Incidence**

Cancer incidence data are derived from cancer registries. The Cancer Incidence in Five Continents series aims to publish data from cancer registries that are reasonably comparable (that is, evaluated by the editors as meeting criteria of completeness and accuracy of reporting). There are nine volumes, each including results from a period of about 5 years. The most recent in Volume IX, which includes results from 225 cancer registries, for the period around 1998-2002. The results are available on the *CANCERmondial* website of IARC

<http://www-dep.iarc.fr/>

The results from the first 8 volumes of the series are also available via this same website.

The website allows simple tabulation and graphic options for both the CI5 IX and CI5 I-VIII databases.

However, more complex analyses (involving combinations of registries, or of cancer sites, for example, and more detailed subdivision of the diagnostic groupings, is available via software on a CD-Rom

The CD-Rom includes four databases containing data from the eight volumes of *Cancer Incidence in Five Continents* (CI5). The data are recorded as text files in Comma Separated Value (CSV) format, and can be incorporated easily into statistical packages for further analysis. Two Windows™ based software programs, with basic tabulation and graphic capabilities, are also provided. The CD-Rom files have been compressed in .Zip format for ease of distribution. CI5 Vol. I to VIII requires about 27 megabytes of disk space for the .Zip file, and about 75 megabytes of disk space for the publication once it's unzipped. The file containing the data and a file containing the software can be downloaded from the following address.

[http://www-dep.iarc.fr/CI5\\_original/downloads.htm](http://www-dep.iarc.fr/CI5_original/downloads.htm)

### 3. Cancer Survival

Data on cancer survival in European countries is made available via the EURO CARE project. This is a project of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) in Rome (Italy). The most recent database (Eurocare-4) is based on cancer cases diagnosed in 93 cancer registries in 23 European countries from 1978 to 2002, with follow-up for vital status ascertainment until the end of 2003.

The main results of the EURO CARE-4 study were published in European Journal of Cancer, Volume 45, No.6.

The detailed database of EURO CARE-4 results can be accessed on-line:

<http://www.eurocare.it/DatabaseEU4/tabid/78/Default.aspx>

## GLOBAL ESTIMATES

### **A. GLOBOCAN**

**GLOBOCAN** is a project of IARC. It aims to present **estimates** of the incidence and prevalence of, and mortality from 27 cancers for **all** countries in the world, based on the best available data. The most recently available estimates (in January 2010) are for 2002 (but the 2008 estimates will appear very soon).

An Internet application is available at the *CANCERmondial* website of IARC

<http://www-dep.iarc.fr/>

It has limited tabulation and graphic facilities.

The complete facilities such as grouping of cancer sites and populations, predictions of cancer burden, are available using the **GLOBOCAN 2002** software on CD-Rom, which can be downloaded from the following website.

<http://www-dep.iarc.fr/globocan/downloads.htm>

### **B. Burden of Disease estimates (WHO)**

The Global Burden of Diseases study aims to provide summary death and Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY) **estimates** for a range of diseases (including cancers). The latest comprehensive estimates are for 2004, and include 16 cancers. The results are available via the WHO "Health Statistics and Health Information" website

[http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global\\_burden\\_disease/estimates\\_country/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/estimates_country/en/index.html)

## B. National (or regional) Statistics

Many national agencies provide statistical data online, via a website, and regional statistical data are also compiled via various agencies.

Some that might be noted;

### a. EUROPEAN UNION

Previously, estimates of cancer incidence, mortality and prevalence for the countries of the EU were made available by the European Network of Cancer Registries (ENCR). This activity has lapsed since 2004, but such data (a little out of date) are available from the website of the "European cancer Observatory" (a project of the IARC).

<http://eu-cancer.iarc.fr/1-home.html,en>

### b. NORDCAN

The NORDCAN project of the Association of Nordic cancer Registries (ANCR) presents the incidence, mortality and prevalence statistics from 41 major cancers in the Nordic countries. An Internet application provides access to summary data with graphic and tabulation facilities. The full database with regional information including cancer maps and facilities such as grouping of cancer sites and populations are only available using the **NORDCAN** software for PC.

<http://www-dep.iarc.fr/nordcan.htm>

### c. SEER

The Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) Program is the premier source for cancer statistics in the United States. SEER collects information on incidence, prevalence and survival from specific geographic areas representing 26 percent of the US population and compiles reports on all of these plus cancer mortality for the entire country. The website is intended for anyone interested in US cancer statistics or cancer surveillance methods.

<http://seer.cancer.gov/>