

International Atomic Energy Agency Scientific Forum

A Decade of Action on **Cancer Control** and the Way Forward



IAEA

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Atoms for Peace and Development

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The Nigerian Experience in Cancer Control and the way forward

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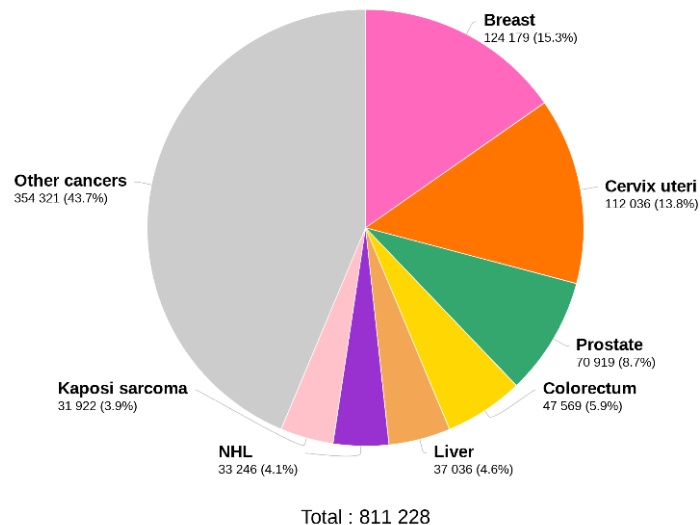


Epidemiology of cancer in Africa

811,000 new cases and 534,000 deaths each year

- Number of new cases is increasing due to demographic changes (growing, aging populations)
- Incidence is expected to double by 2040 to 1.6 million new cases per year

Estimated number of new cases in 2018, WHO Africa region (AFRO), all cancers, both sexes, all ages



Breast, cervical, prostate, colorectal, and liver cancers account for approximately half of all new cases



Cancer in Africa

Late presentation and low access to treatment result in poorer outcomes for patients

- >80% of patients are in advanced stages of disease when they present to a cancer center
- Access to comprehensive cancer care is limited, but increasing



Cancer Control efforts of the Nigerian government

- Establishment of 7 radiotherapy Centres across the country in 2005 with the help of the IAEA
- The Centres were equipped with linear accelerators and treatment planning systems and dosimetry equipment.
- Establishment of state of the art radiotherapy centre in Lagos and Abuja
- The LUTH centre has 3 linear accelerator, with high dose rate brachytherapy, chemotherapy suites, etc.
- The National Hospital, Abuja centre has 2 linear accelerators, a HDR brachytherapy machine with a Co 60 source.



Types of cancers seen

- Radical treatment
 - Breast Cancer
 - Cervical Cancer
 - Prostate Cancer
 - Head and Neck cancers
 - Non Melanoma skin Cancers(Late presentations with few benefitting from treatment)
- Palliative treatments
 - Spinal Cord Compressions
 - Brain Metastases
 - Haemorrhages
 - SVCS



How accessible and how affordable ?



Treatment pattern

Cancer Type	Gender	Mean age	Radical treatment	Palliative Treatment	Outcome	
Breast	F	45yrs	900	365	2017 – 2019	
Cervical	F	40yrs	600	80	2017 - 2019	
Prostate	M	55yrs	300	67	2017 - 2019	
Colorectal	M/F	26yrs	38	9	2017 - 2019	
Head and Neck	M/F		120	26	2017 -2019	



- Launch of the National Cancer Control Plan 2018 – 2023.
- IAEA group of experts visit in December 2017 and their recommendation.
- FGN and IAEA joint project to train radiation oncologists, medical Physicists and RTTs (NIR 6027) has trained many of us and is on going.
- The implementation has already commenced.



Collaboration with the IAEA in Nuclear Medicine

- Since 2006 in UCH Ibadan.
- Joint Project (FGN and IAEA) (NIR6022) to provide PET/CT scanners and Cyclotrons.
- Train nuclear medicine specialist in SA, – 18 out of 20 have already completed their training.
- Nigeria has 3 Gamma camera scanners – 1 in Abuja and 2 in UCH Ibadan, all in collaboration with the IAEA.
- Accessibility to radiopharmaceuticals from SA is quite erratic.



Challenges

Nigeria with a population of 200,000 will require a minimum of 180 machines, we have less than 10.

The trained 18 Nuclear medicine Physicians are not effectively put to work.

The challenges with import and speedy clearing of radionuclide should be addressed quickly.

Only few patients could access radiation treatment because of distance from the centres and few machines.

Not many people could afford treatment because it is out of pocket expenses.



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

