

Slovakia

Contributors: Slovak League Against Cancer

WHO cancer country profile 2014		Link to profile			
Mortality (male)	Mortality (female)	Cancer plan	Cancer registry	HBV vaccination	HPV vaccination
6,600	4,900	Yes	Population-based	98%	No data
Breast screening	Cervical screening	Radiotherapy	Chemotherapy	Oral morphine	
Generally available at public primary healthcare level	Generally available at public primary healthcare level	Generally available in the public health system	Generally available in the public health system	Generally available in the public health system	

WHO NCD progress monitor 2015		Link to monitor							
Risk factor survey	NCD action plan	Tobacco taxation	Smoke-free policies	Tobacco health warnings	Alcohol availability regulations	Alcohol advertising bans	Alcohol pricing policies	Public awareness on diet/physical activity	NCD management guidelines
●	◐	◐	◐	◐	◐	◐	◐	●	No data



Progress against the World Cancer Declaration targets

Slovakia has taken a number of key steps to reduce the national burden of cancer including:

- Improving early detection of breast, cervical and colorectal cancers in partnership with international organisations such as WHO, the Association of European Cancer Leagues, and UICC
- Building awareness of cancer risks through public campaigns, leveraging World Cancer Day and the European Week Against Cancer and using recommendations from the European Code Against Cancer
- Strengthening the national cancer registry through improved data recording strategies.



Key successes

Slovakia has developed its national cancer control plan, which should be published in early 2017. Alongside this, the National Cancer Registry is now publishing high quality data on a regular basis, although with a few years' delay.

With regards to prevention mechanisms, a lot of work has been done to pass tobacco control legislation including a non-smoking policy for public institutions and public places. Public campaigns have also targeted other well-known risk factors, specifically highlighting the need for good nutrition, reduced alcohol consumption and increased physical activity, in partnership with schools, the Slovak Media, Slovak League Against Cancer (SLAC) and the Slovak Public Health Authority.

Although Slovakia does not have a population-based screening programme, the availability of preventive examinations is very good, and a significant increase in breast cancer stage I cases and a steep decrease in advanced stages has been observed.



Key challenges

SLAC would like to see;

- Improvement in the frequency and quality of data collected as part of the National Cancer Registry
- Further work around primary prevention, in particular more effective national campaigns focused on schools
- Development of population-based screening programmes for breast, cervical and colon cancers, and streamlining of the process of starting treatment following screening
- Improvement in the national introduction of and access to innovative therapies.

UICC Member's achievements

SLAC has achieved great progress in cancer prevention through a school-based cancer education project, launched in 1999. As part of this, annual training sessions and workshops have been held for teachers and students to enable them to take part in national campaigns.

In recent years, SLAC has developed a psychosocial care programme with the objective of providing professional psychological services to patients and their families, within and external to cancer institutes and hospitals across the country. In its role as chair of the European Cancer League's patient support working group, SLAC adopted the Psychosocial Rehabilitation Programme as a priority within its own work. The aim of this programme is to help patients to maintain the physical, social, psychological and vocational aspects of their life both during and after treatment.