Mongolia

Contributors: National Cancer Center of Mongolia

WHO cancer country profile 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk factor survey</th>
<th>NCD action plan</th>
<th>Tobacco taxation</th>
<th>Smoke-free policies</th>
<th>Tobacco health warnings</th>
<th>Alcohol availability regulations</th>
<th>Alcohol advertising bans</th>
<th>Alcohol pricing policies</th>
<th>Public awareness on diet/physical activity</th>
<th>NCD management guidelines</th>
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WHO NCD progress monitor 2015

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Mortality (male)</th>
<th>Mortality (female)</th>
<th>Cancer plan</th>
<th>Cancer registry</th>
<th>HBV vaccination</th>
<th>HPV vaccination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Hospital-based/National</td>
<td>98%</td>
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Progress against the World Cancer Declaration targets

- Cancer care and services in Mongolia are provided free of charge and fully funded by the state budget.
- A population-based cancer registry was established in 2012, but further efforts are needed to improve quality. In 2013, with support from WHO, the International Classification of Diseases for Oncology (ICD-O-3) was translated into Mongolian and a workshop was held to train pathologists and statisticians.
- The second National Programme on Prevention and Control of Diseases caused by Harmful Lifestyle Factors' was approved in 2014, and addresses prevention of common risk factors for NCDs, including through laws for tobacco, alcohol and food safety.
- A national strategy against viral hepatitis has been implemented.
- Following a successful HPV pilot project in two provinces and two districts of the capital city, plans are in place for national rollout.
- Cervical and breast cancer screening has been implemented since 2012. Gynaecologists, cytologists and fieldshers (medical assistants) have been trained in cervical cancer screening.
- A liver cancer screening strategy was endorsed in 2014.
- A new extension building for the National Cancer Centre of Mongolia (NCCM) is under construction, which will allow for expansion of cancer services, including liver surgery and transplantation, radiotherapy and chemotherapy.

Key challenges include:

- High prevalence of cancer risk factors.
- Limited funding and weak multisectoral cooperation for cancer control.
- Lack of cancer research capacity.
- The need to improve diagnostic and treatment equipment.

Key successes

- Pain management guidelines have been developed and there are regulations for the provision and use of opioids.
- Every province and district has an oncology physician and nurse, a palliative care physician and nurse.

The Action Plan on Cancer Prevention and Control (2011–2021) has been endorsed by the Ministry of Health and outlines national strategies on cancer prevention, diagnostics, treatment, and palliative care. This plan informs the development of the ‘Sub-programme on Cancer Prevention and Control’ (2015–2020) and the national NCD programme. The third national ‘Sub-programme on Cancer Prevention and Control’ was approved in 2014, and is currently being implemented.

- Development of the ‘Strategic Plan for Development of Radiotherapy’ (2011–2021) aims to upgrade the quality of radiotherapy in Mongolia to international standards and make it accessible for all patients.
- The Tobacco Control Law was revised and updated in 2014.

UICC Member’s achievements

The NCCM provides cancer care and services nationwide, receiving patients referred from all districts of the capital city and all provinces, as well as providing telemedicine support for specialists in the field. NCCM is also responsible for overseeing cancer registration, research, and training of cancer specialists.

NCCM has implemented the ‘National anti-cancer campaign’ since 2011, in cooperation with the private Khaan Bank and the Mongolian National Broadcaster. Campaign activities include: screening and early detection with high-risk populations for the most common cancers, raising public awareness on cancer, training of district and province level health service providers on prevention and early detection, and building a network of health volunteers specialised in cancer prevention.

NCCM is a key technical institution that oversees the development and implementation of the second and third National Sub-programmes on Cancer Prevention and Control, and has also established the molecular genetics laboratory at the National Cancer Centre.

NCCM is also involved in updating clinical guidelines on early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.