Cancer Registries in the Middle East & North Africa

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Summary of Presentation

- Cancer registry is a means and NOT an end with the ultimate goal of cancer registry being to enhance cancer control & cancer research.

- The Middle East Cancer Consortium (MECC) is an example of regional cooperation in cancer registry.

- NCI has invested in MECC since 1996 especially in the areas of creation & adoption of standards and training.

- Cancer registry in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is woefully inadequate but progress is being made.

- MECC has contributed to the expansion of cancer registry in Turkey, and a MECC registry has been selected by IARC as the site for a regional hub within its GICR initiative.

- MECC’s cancer registry activities have also led to a major initiative in palliative care in the region.
Activity is **NOT** Enough

“Never mistake activity with accomplishment.”

Basketball Coaching Legend John Wooden
“The cancer registry is essential to cancer control, and cancer control is essential to (the survival of) the cancer registry.”

Armstrong, B.K.
Cancer Causes & Control 3:569 (1992)
Bruce Armstrong’s 6 X 9 Grid on the Role of Cancer Registries in Cancer Control (IACR, 1992)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Control</th>
<th>Basic Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development of Intervention</td>
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<td>Evaluation of Intervention</td>
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<td>Situation Analysis</td>
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<td>Awareness Raising</td>
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<td>Program Planning</td>
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<td>Program Implementation</td>
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<td>Program Monitoring</td>
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<td>Future Planning</td>
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Role of Cancer Registry:
- Central (34/54)
- Support (9/54)
5 Steps of Cancer Control Planning
“Failing to plan is planning to fail”

- Assess needs and capacity
- Decide approach to planning
- Develop the plan
- Implement the plan
- Evaluate the plan

= Where cancer registries particularly assist
The Middle East Peace Process Formed the Backdrop for MECC in 1996

MECC Members:
- Cyprus
- Egypt
- Israel
- Jordan
- Palestinian Authority
- Turkey
MECC-Affiliated Cancer Registries
Began Cooperation in 1996

Amman  Bethlehem  Gaza City  Nicosia

Tant  Jerusalem  Izmi
Cancer Registries of the MENA Region

- MECC flagship registries submitting data for Ci5 Vol. X: Cyprus, Egypt (Gharbiah), Israel, Jordan, Turkey (Izmir)
- MECC flagship registries not submitting data for Ci5 Vol. X: West Bank, Gaza
- “Second Generation” registries of MECC members submitting data for Ci5 Vol. X
- Other MENA registries submitting data for Ci5 Vol. X
MECC Monograph Chapters

Overview and Summary Data
Esophageal Cancer
Stomach Cancer
Colorectal Cancer
Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct Cancer
Lung Cancer
Laryngeal Cancer
Breast Cancer
Cervix and Corpus Uterine Cancer
Ovarian Cancer
Urinary Bladder Cancer
Other Central Nervous System Cancer
Lymphoma and Leukemia

Each chapter compares cancer rates among populations and poses relevant research questions.
Although the average age for breast cancer is younger in Arab populations, breast cancer in women under 35 is very rare in all populations and not higher in Arab women.
Chance of Breast Cancer in a Given Decade of Life: U.S.-White vs. Egypt

Most recommendations in U.S. start mammographic screening at age 50yr

Data from NCI SEER & Gharbiah Cancer Registry
Bladder Cancer in Egypt

The changing patterns of bladder cancer in Egypt over the past 26 years

Ashley S. Felix · Amr S. Soliman · Hussein Khaled · Mohamed S. Zaghloul · Mousumi Banerjee · Manal El-Baradie · Mohamed El-Kalawy · Alaa A. Abd-Elsayed · Kadry Ismail · Ahmed Hablas · Ibrahim A. Seifeldin · Mohamed Ramadan · Mark L. Wilson

Bladder cancer associated with infection by *Schistosoma haematobium* tends to be squamous cell carcinoma

Bladder cancer associated with tobacco use tends to be transitional cell carcinoma
Cancer Registries of Turkey

Site of the IARC regional hub within its GICR initiative

MECC “Flagship” registry at Izmir submitting data for Ci5 Vol. X

“Second Generation” registries of Turkey submitting data for Ci5 Vol. X
The 3 Most Significant Features of Cancer in MENA

1. Late Diagnosis
2. Late Diagnosis
3. Late Diagnosis

“Where can I go in this desert to find out about how to prevent cancer or detect it early enough so that it won’t kill me?”

Breast Cancer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Late</th>
<th>Early</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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MECC Monograph on Palliative Care
“Registries require sustained commitments and trained personnel”

Report commissioned by OIA/NCI & produced in 2007 with support of NCI and ACS
Today’s Presentation Was Intended to Highlight the “Tip of the Iceberg”

For more details on any aspect of the presentation, contact:

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