**DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**BURDEN OF CANCER**

**Total population (2019)**

25,666,158

**Total # cancer cases (2018)**

55,476

**Total # cancer deaths (2018)**

35,997

**Premature deaths from NCDs (2016)**

71,901

**Cancer as % of NCD premature deaths (2016)**

34.3%

**PAFs (population attributable fractions)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(population attributable fractions)</th>
<th>n/a</th>
<th>3.6%</th>
<th>18.0%</th>
<th>1.1%</th>
<th>0.0%</th>
<th>1.9%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco (2017)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol (2016)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infections (2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity (2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UV (2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational risk (2017)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PAF, cancer deaths

+ PAF, cancer cases

| PAF, melanoma cases |

**TRENDS**

**Estimated past and future trends in total cases per year (breast and lung)**

**Probability of premature death from cancer per year**

**INVESTMENT CASE (2019)**

*Low income*

At this income level, investing in a package of essential services and scaling-up coverage will:

**Costs per year**

**Projected lives saved per year**
**HEALTH SYSTEM CAPACITY**

- **Availability of population-based cancer registry (PBCR)**
  - 2019: Registration activity

- **Quality of mortality registration***
  - 2007-2016: No coverage

- **# of external beam radiotherapy (photons, electrons)**
  - 2019: 0.5

- **# of mammographs**
  - 2020: n/a

- **# of CT scanners**
  - 2020: n/a

- **# of MRI scanners**
  - 2020: n/a

- **# of PET or PET/CT scanners**
  - 2020: n/a

- **# of radiation oncologist**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of medical physicists**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of surgeons**
  - n/a

- **# of radiologists**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of nuclear medicine physicians**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of medical & pathology lab scientists**
  - n/a

**WORKFORCE**

- **Available staff in Ministry of Health who dedicates significant proportion of their time to cancer**
  - 2019: yes

- **# of radiation oncologist**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of medical physicists**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of radiologists**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of surgeons**
  - n/a

- **# of nuclear medicine physicians**
  - 2019: n/a

- **# of medical & pathology lab scientists**
  - n/a

**FORMULATING RESPONSE**

- **Integrated NCD plan**
  - 2019: operational

- **NCCP (including cancer types)**
  - 2019: n/a

- **MPower measures fully implemented and achieved**
  - 2018: 0

- **Cancer management guidelines**
  - 2019: yes

- **Palliative care included in their operational, integrated NCD plan**
  - 2019: no

- **# of treatment services (surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy)**
  - 2019: 3

- **Breast cancer screening program**
  - 2019: yes

- **Breast cancer screening program: Starting age, target population**
  - 2019: 35

- **# Public cancer centres per 10,000 cancer patients**
  - 2019: 4.5

- **Early detection programme/guidelines for 4 cancers (breast, cervix, colon, childhood)**
  - 2019: 3 cancer(s)

- **Pathology services**
  - 2019: generally available

- **Bone marrow transplantation capacity**
  - 2019: generally not available

- **Palliative care availability: community/home-based care**
  - 2019: generally available

- **Availability of opioids* for pain management**
  - 2015-2017: 18

*Defined daily doses for statistical purposes (S-DDD) per million inhabitants per day

**GLOBAL INITIATIVES**

- **Elimination of Cervical Cancer**
  - **HPV vaccination programme coverage**
    - 2018: n/a
  - **Cervical cancer screening**
    - 2019: yes
  - **Screening programme type**
    - 2019: organised
  - **Screening programme method**
    - 2019: visual inspection
  - **Screening participation rates**
    - 2019: 70% or more
  - **Early detection programme/guidelines**
    - 2019: yes
  - **Defined referral system**
    - 2019: yes

- **Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer**
  - **Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)**
    - 2020: 711
  - **Early detection programme/guidelines**
    - 2019: no
  - **Defined referral system**
    - 2019

- **Annual cancer cases (0-14 years old)**
  - **Acute lymphoid leukaemia**
  - **Hodgkin lymphoma**
  - **Burkitt lymphoma**
  - **CNS, low grade tumours**
  - **Rhabdomyosarcoma**
  - **Wilms tumour**
  - **Other childhood cancer**

**Notes:**
- ***The incidence estimates for this country have a high degree of uncertainty because they are not based on population-based cancer registry
- **The mortality estimates for this country have a high degree of uncertainty because they are not based on any national NCD mortality data***