WHO GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CANCER PAIN

PAIN

is an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential damage of tissues. Individuals experience and express pain differently.

55% of patients undergoing treatment for cancer experience pain

66% of patients who have advanced metastatic or terminal cancer experience pain

PAIN RELIEF

improves the quality of life of patients with cancer.

The goal of pain management is to relieve pain to a level that allows for an acceptable quality of life.

Patients with cancer may require pain relief at all stages of their disease and not only at the end of life.

Better results in terms of pain and symptom management can be achieved when:
- palliative care is introduced early in the course of illness;
- an approach tailored to each individual is adopted together with disease-modifying therapies.
The concept of a ladder explains the need for pain assessment and for appropriate management of pain based on the severity of pain.

https://www.who.int/ncds/management/en/