Cancer survivorship country profiles to inform cancer survivorship planning in Africa

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Background

Cancer survivorship is a critical yet often overlooked component of national cancer control plans (NCCPs). A multidisciplinary research team examined the inclusion of survivorship-related strategies and objectives in current or recently expired NCCPs of 21 African countries and published aggregate findings in January 2023. To promote access to and use of those results for decision-making by local and regional cancer planners, advocates, and policymakers, the team created survivorship profiles for each country to be published alongside NCCPs on the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP) Portal.

Methods

- The research team designed and validated two-page summaries for each country with a focus on replicability, context sensitivity, and applicability to a variety of stakeholders.
- Globocan was used for cancer burden data and Python for data visualization.
- A cancer clinician working with Nigeria’s NCCP technical writing group validated the profile design and content.

Implications

The survivorship country profiles can be used by cancer planners, advocates, policymakers, clinicians, and researchers to:

- Understand the current state of survivorship-related strategies outlined in your country’s NCCP
- Identify strengths and weaknesses in survivorship planning in your country’s NCCP
- Set benchmarks for cancer survivorship policy
- Analyze gaps between policy and implementation over time

Through multidisciplinary collaboration and validation in a real-life setting, the results of an academic study on survivorship content in NCCPs in Africa were translated into country-specific profiles that encourage direct integration of results to policy.

Count of survivorship strategies per domain across 21 African NCCPs

- (1) Raising Awareness: 15
- (2) Survivorship Care Plan: 4
- (3) Utilizing Evidence-Based Guidelines: 33
- (4) Developing and Implementing Quality Measures: 11
- (5) Models of Coordinated Care: 16
- (6) Survivorship as a Public Health Concern: 45
- (7) Healthcare Professional Capacity: 5
- (8) Employment-Related Concerns: 0
- (9) Adequate and Affordable Health Insurance: 7
- (10) Investments in Research: 11
- (11) Access to Medicines: 0

Results

21 NCCP survivorship profiles were created and uploaded to the ICCP Portal for easy public access.

NCCP Survivorship Profile: Nigeria

This document includes an analysis of survivorship-related content in Nigeria’s National Cancer Control Plan (2019–2023). For additional information about the analysis, methodology, and survivorship-relevant domains, please refer to Garton et al. 2023. To find language and information to include in a future NCCP, review the resources on the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP) Portal.

Access all profiles:

Read the publication: