

Etiology and epidemiology of malignant tumours – Methods for cancer prevention and screening – Basic principles of complex oncotherapy

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Etiology of malignant tumours

- Multifactorial etiology
- Environmental factors – chemical and physical factors (80-90%)
- Infections – Viral, bacterial and wormal oncogenesis (5-10%)
- Hereditary tumours (< 5%)

Chemical and physical factors – Carcinogenic agents (n=984)

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER



IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans

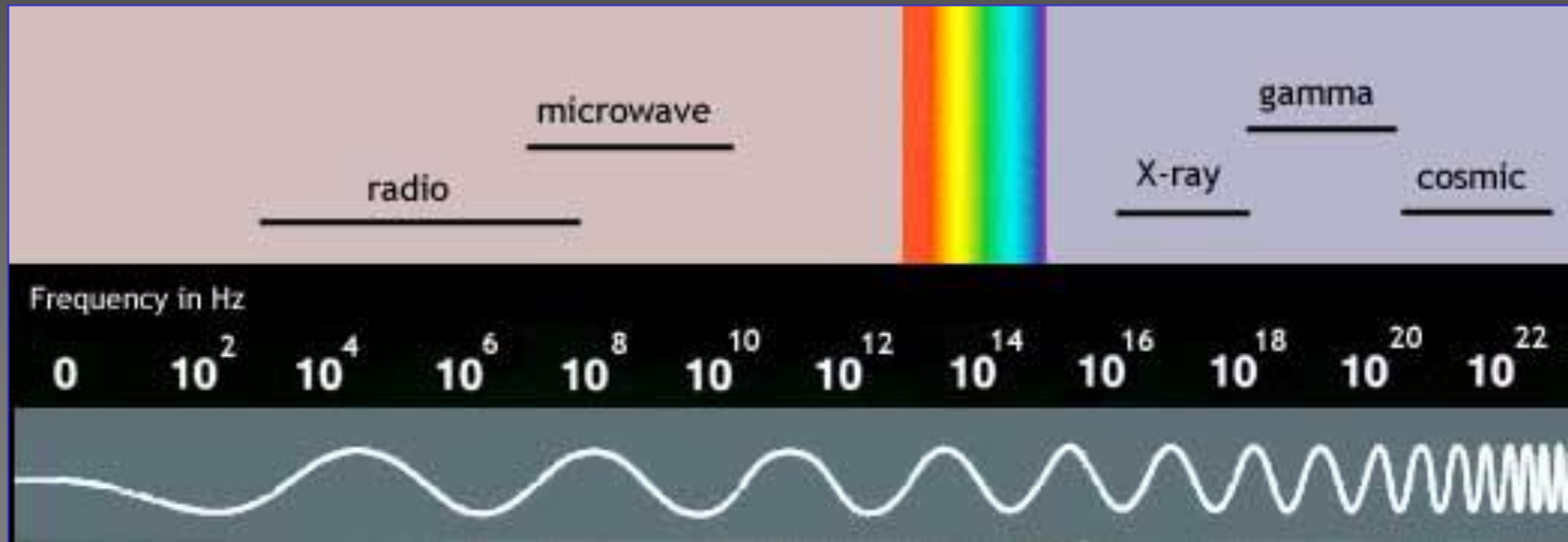
- Group 1: carcinogenic to humans (n=118; tobacco, asbest, alcohol, UV, solar and ionizing radiation, outdoor air pollution, oral contraceptives, **processed meat**)
- Group 2/A: probably carcinogenic to humans (n=75; bitumens, DDT, anabolic, steroids, **red meat**)
- Group 2/B: possibly carcinogenic to humans (n=288; phenobarbital, chloroform, coffee, glass fiber, gasoline, diesel fuel, carbon black, lead, chrome, nickel)
- Group 3: not classifiable as to its carcinogenicity to humans (n=503; caffeine, tea, PVC, printing ink, magnetic & electric fields, paracetamol, diazepam)
- Group 4: probably not carcinogenic to humans (n=1; caprolactam)

Group 1 carcinogenic chemical agents

- **Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons** (combustion products)
 - tobacco smoke, smut, exhausted gas, urban outdoor air
- **Aromatic amines**
 - production of aniline-dye, plant-protecting agents, plastic materials
- **Nitroze-amines**
 - tobacco smoke, rubber and war industry
- **Aflatoxines** (mushroom toxine)
- **Not classified, other agents**
 - arsenic compounds, chrome, nickel, mustard gas, plant alkaloids etc.
 - processed meat (2015)

Carcinogenic physical factors

- **Ionising radiation** (physical-chemical-biologic phases → DNA-damage)
- **Non-ionising radiations**
 - UV (melanoma, skin squamous and basal cell cancers)
 - Microwave & radiofrequency radiation (Group 2/B, gliomas?)
 - Very low frequency electromagnetic field (0-300 Hz) (Group 2/B, leukemia?)



- **Asbestos, quartz, talc** (powders, fibres, crystals)

Carcinogenic viral, bacterial, and worm infections (5-10%)

| Virus/Bacteria/Germ | Type | Increased cancer risk |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Human papilloma virus (HPV) | 16,18,6,11...31,33,35,39,45,51,52,56,58,59,68,73,82 | cervix, anal, bladder, head&neck ca. |
| Hepatitis B virus (HBV) | B, C (far-east) | hepatocellular ca. |
| Human polyoma virus | BK, JC | childhood neuroblastoma |
| Human herpes virus | EBV, CMV, KS | nasopharynx, Burkitt-lymphoma. lethal midline granuloma, Kaposi sarcoma |
| Exogen retrovirus | HTLV-1, HTLV-2 | T-cell leukemia |
| Hepatitis C virus | HCV | lymphoma, aplastic anaemia, cirrhosis, hepatocellular ca. |
| Human immunodeficiency virus | HIV-1 | cancer risk increased indirectly by primary immunosuppression |
| Helicobacter pylori | bacteria | gastric cc. |
| Schistosomes | worms: S. haematobium, S. japonicum, | bladder, liver, colorectal, gastric ca. |

Hereditary tumours (< 5%)

Cancer is caused by DNA-mutations



Cancer (at cellular level) is a genetic disease

- **Aquired, sporadic tumours (> 95%):**
Mutations in somatic cells caused by cumulated environmental effects
- **Hereditary tumours (< 5%):**
Hereditary germ-cell mutations + aquired somatic mutations



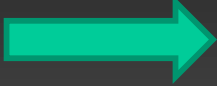

- **Cancer itself is NOT hereditary!**
- **There is only a hereditary higher propensity for developing cancer!**

Hereditary cancer syndromes (< 5%)

Mainly based on the inactivation tumour suppressor genes

| Syndrome | Affected gene | Tumours |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Hereditary breast cancer | BRCA1, BRCA2 | breast, ovary, prostate, pancreas |
| Hereditary retinoblastoma | RB1 | retinoblastoma, osteosarcoma |
| Wilms-tumour | WT1 | Wilms-tumour |
| Fam. adenomatous polyposis | APC | GI, brain, thyroid gland, retina |
| Lynch | MLH1; MSH2,6; PMS1-2 stb. | non polyposus colorectal ca. |
| Peutz-Jeghers | STK11/LKB1 | GI, breast, ovary, endometrial, testicular, pancreatic ca. |
| Ataxia teleangiectasia | ATM | lymphoma, leukemia, breast, suprarenal gland |
| Li-Fraumeni | TP53 | sarcoma, breast, leukemia |
| Multiplex Endokrin Neoplasia 1 | MEN1 | insulinoma, gastrinoma, hypophyseal & parathyroid glands |
| Xeroderma pigmentosum | XPA, XPB, XPC, XPD, XPE stb. | melanoma, basalioma |
| von Hippel-Lindau | VHL | clear cell renal ca., phaeochromocytoma, retinal angioma |

Significance of cancer morbidity and mortality – Hungarian data

- ≈ 77.000 new cancer cases/year  2030: ≈ 100.000 new cases/year
- 1 out of 3 men/women will develop cancer during his/her life-time
 - 2nd. most frequent cause of death
 - 1 out of 4 deaths (25%) is caused by cancer
-  Cancer burden is a global challenge for the public health systems

Cancer incidence in Hungary (2008-2015) (male & female)

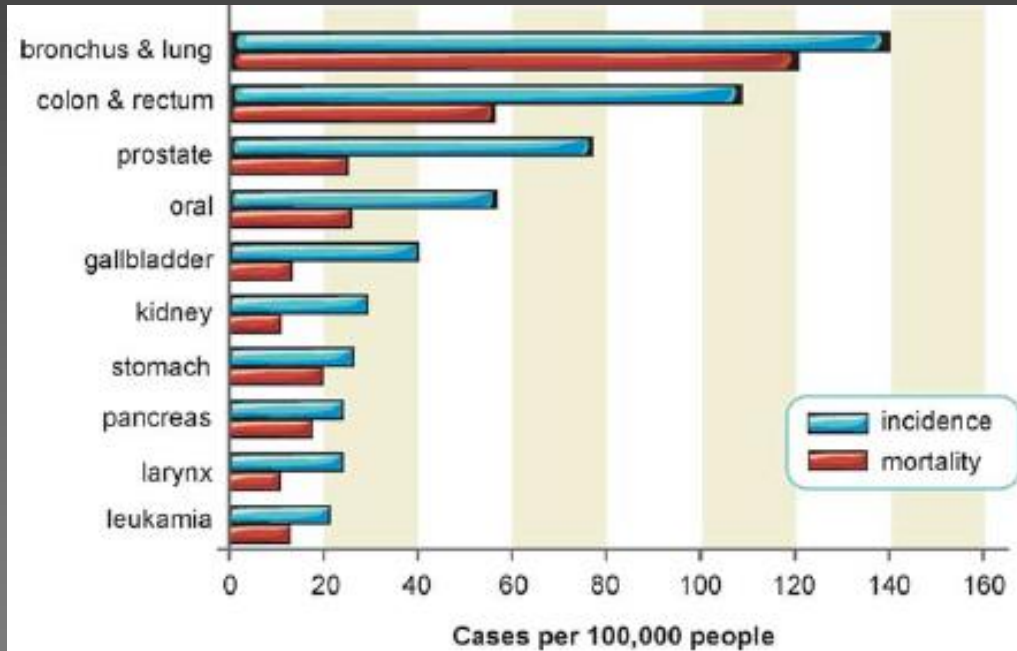
| Tumour site | | Incidence by year | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| | | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | |
| | Skin (non-melanoma) (C44) | 12011 | 12070 | 11319 | 14375 | 14079 | 14629 | 15983 | 15370 | ↑↑↑↑ |
| 1 | Lung (C33-C34) | 11892 | 11263 | 10564 | 11947 | 11333 | 11304 | 11470 | 11776 | → |
| 2 | Colorectal (C18-C21) | 10004 | 9543 | 9545 | 10673 | 10584 | 10664 | 10589 | 10567 | ↑ |
| 3 | Breast (C50) | 7070 | 6992 | 6711 | 7939 | 7927 | 7919 | 8075 | 8324 | ↑↑ |
| 4 | Prostate (C61) | 3790 | 3645 | 3635 | 4352 | 4028 | 4648 | 4576 | 4501 | ↑↑ |
| 5 | Lymphoproliferative (C81-95) | 3822 | 3812 | 3688 | 4046 | 4477 | 4287 | 4284 | 4318 | ↑ |
| 6 | Oral cavity (C00-C14) | 3950 | 3653 | 3599 | 3956 | 3742 | 3759 | 3765 | 3700 | ↓ |
| 7 | Bladder (C67) | 3064 | 2873 | 2789 | 3182 | 3315 | 3300 | 3518 | 3427 | ↑↑ |
| 8 | Pancreas (C25) | 2571 | 2396 | 2324 | 2260 | 2546 | 2738 | 2693 | 2885 | ↑ |
| 9 | Kidney (C64-C66 és C68) | 2492 | 2399 | 2402 | 2735 | 2728 | 2814 | 2831 | 2735 | ↑ |
| 10 | Stomach (C16) | 2672 | 2442 | 2243 | 2559 | 2437 | 2433 | 2260 | 2361 | ↓ |
| | ALL : | 84144 | 80745 | 78014 | 90879 | 89993 | 91089 | 92166 | 93043 | ↑ |
| | ALL (wo C44): | 72136 | 68676 | 66666 | 76504 | 75914 | 76460 | 76183 | 77673 | ↑ |

Cancer mortality in Hungary (2008-2015) (male & female)

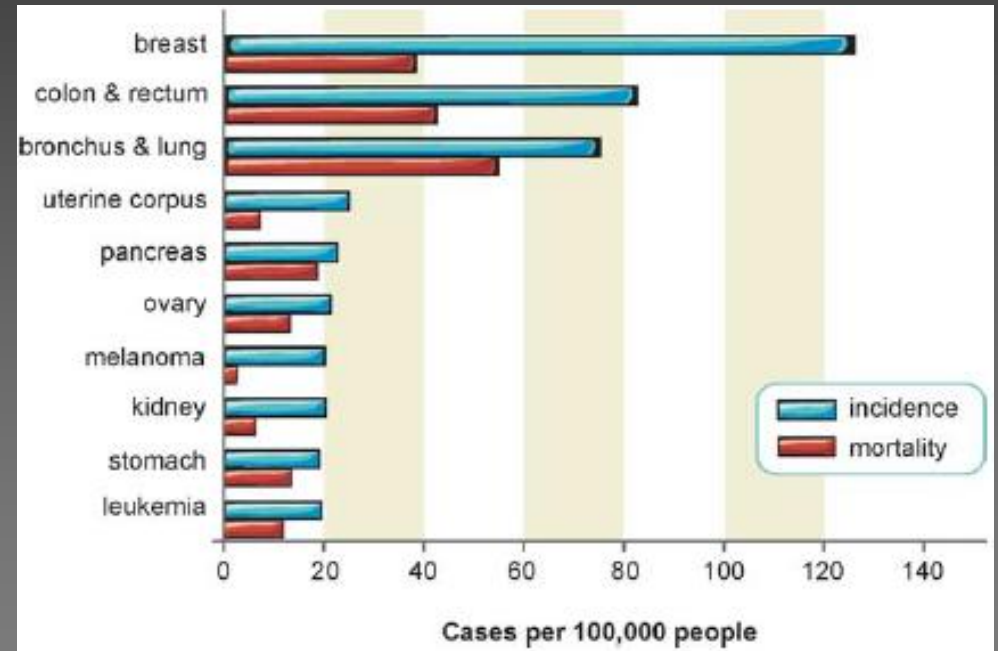
| Tumour site | | Mortality by year | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---|
| | | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | |
| 1 | Lung (C33-C34) | 8330 | 8453 | 8648 | 8533 | 8896 | 8591 | 8733 | 8753 | ↑ |
| 2 | Colorectal (C18-C21) | 4753 | 4949 | 4965 | 5054 | 5084 | 5017 | 5050 | 5008 | → |
| 3 | Breast (C50) | 2141 | 2183 | 2040 | 2159 | 2123 | 2194 | 2133 | 2250 | → |
| 4 | Pancreas (C25) | 1794 | 1837 | 1848 | 1850 | 2003 | 1976 | 1999 | 1978 | ↑ |
| 6 | Lymphoproliferative (C81-95) | 1732 | 1665 | 1725 | 1734 | 1688 | 1700 | 1630 | 1791 | → |
| 5 | Stomach (C16) | 1725 | 1824 | 1626 | 1701 | 1732 | 1619 | 1602 | 1500 | ↓ |
| 7 | Oral cavity (C00-14) | 1651 | 1521 | 1524 | 1494 | 1536 | 1431 | 1460 | 1472 | ↓ |
| 8 | Prostate (C61) | 1186 | 1193 | 1209 | 1198 | 1125 | 1211 | 1280 | 1258 | → |
| 9 | Bladder (C67) | 831 | 831 | 904 | 923 | 983 | 899 | 906 | 959 | ↑ |
| 10 | Kidney (C64-C66 és C68) | 712 | 709 | 829 | 849 | 784 | 835 | 830 | 775 | → |
| | ALL: | 32111 | 32536 | 32460 | 33274 | 33224 | 32748 | 32748 | 33121 | → |

Incidence and mortality of the 10 most common types of cancer in Hungary

Males



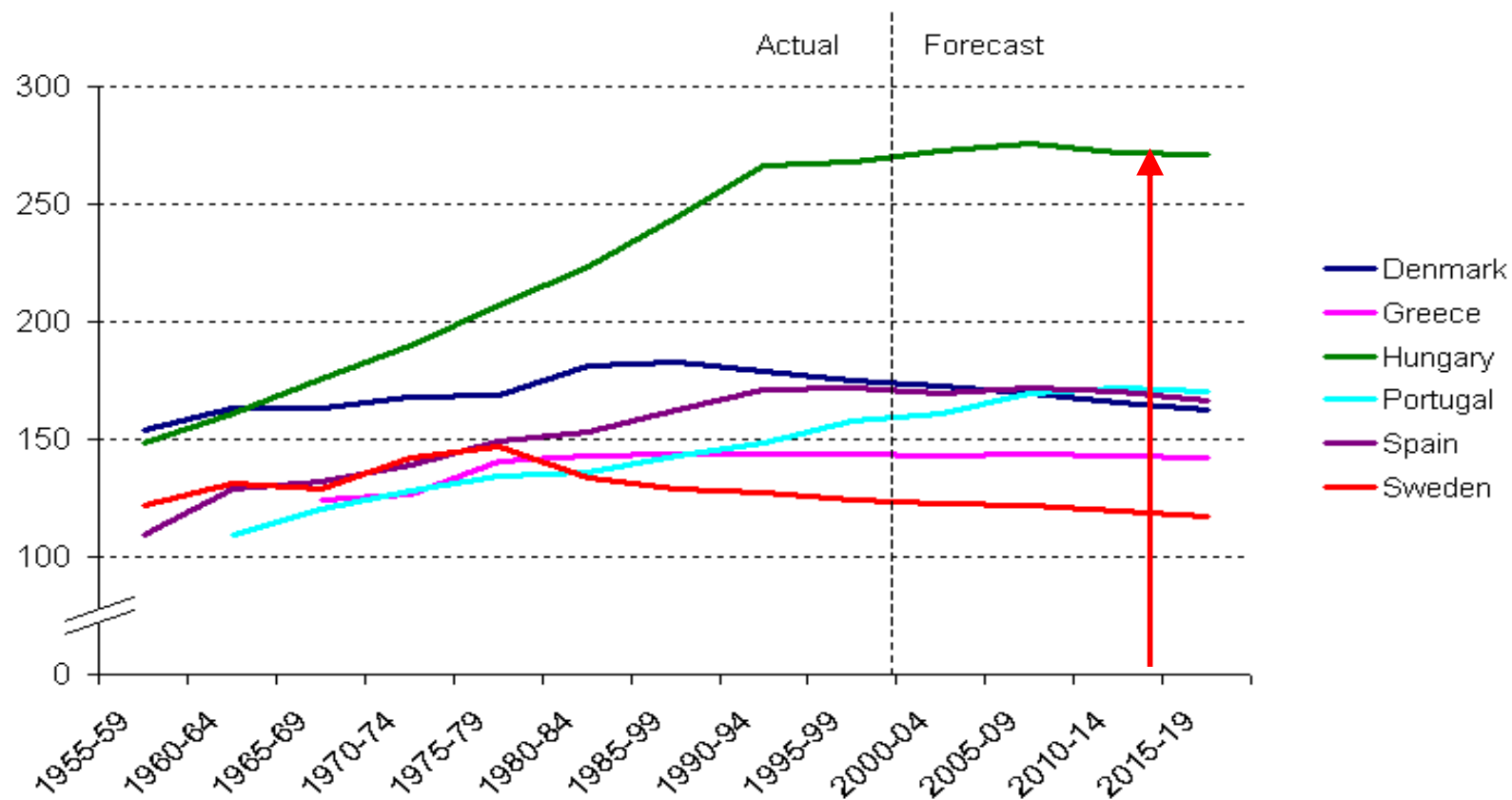
Females



Standardized cancer death rate in EU-28 member states

| Country | Standardised death rate (per 100,000 people) | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Total | Men | Women | Age less than 65 |
| EU-28 | 251.5 | 349.1 | 200.6 | 79.2 |
| Hungary | 348.1 (1 st) | 478.7 (1 st) | 266.5 (1 st) | 140.4 (1 st) |
| Croatia | 336.4 (2 nd) | 474.3 (3 rd) | 247.0 (4 th) | 107.8 (3 rd) |
| Slovakia | 324.1 (3 rd) | 463.5 (5 th) | 239.0 (5 th) | 103.7 (5 th) |
| Denmark | 300.6 (4 th) | 363.1 (11 th) | 258.3 (2 nd) | 76.1 (14 th) |
| Slovenia | 299.9 (5 th) | 424.4 (7 th) | 223.7 (8 th) | 84.3 (10 th) |
| Estonia | 299.4 (6 th) | 456.7 (4 th) | 217.8 (11 th) | 88.3 (9 th) |
| Latvia | 299.3 (7 th) | 476.9 (2 nd) | 212.0 (12 th) | 105.2 (4 th) |
| Poland | 292.3 (8 th) | 405.9 (8 th) | 222.0 (9 th) | 100.7 (8 th) |
| Ireland | 288.3 (9 th) | 344.5 (16 th) | 249.1 (3 rd) | 69.5 (21 th) |
| Czech Republic | 284.6 (10 th) | 382.4 (9 th) | 219.8 (10 th) | 82.9 (11 th) |
| The Netherlands | 282.2 (11 th) | 356.5 (12 th) | 232.7 (7 th) | 75.3 (16 th) |
| UK | 278.4 (12 th) | 341.1 (17 th) | 234.7 (6 th) | 68.7 (22 th) |
| Lithuania | 276.2 (13 th) | 441.4 (6 th) | 188.8 (19 th) | 101.9 (7 th) |
| Romania | 273.2 (14 th) | 381.8 (10 th) | 194.3 (17 th) | 118.5 (2 nd) |
| Luxembourg | 260.7 (15 th) | 356.5 (13 th) | 194.0 (18 th) | 62.6 (25 th) |
| Germany | 253.2 (16 th) | 328.4 (23 rd) | 202.1 (15 th) | 73.1 (17 th) |
| Belgium | 252.6 (17 th) | 333.9 (20 th) | 195.9 (16 th) | 72.2 (19 th) |
| Austria | 249.3 (18 th) | 320.7 (24 th) | 202.4 (13 th) | 72.3 (18 th) |
| Greece | 249.3 (18 th) | 344.7 (15 th) | 173.5 (25 th) | 75.7 (15 th) |
| Italy | 246.6 (20 th) | 332.0 (22 nd) | 187.3 (20 th) | 65.3 (23 rd) |
| France | 245.4 (21 th) | 339.9 (18 th) | 178.3 (22 nd) | 80.5 (12 th) |
| Bulgaria | 242.4 (22 nd) | 332.8 (21 th) | 178.7 (21 th) | 103.2 (6 th) |
| Portugal | 242.1 (23 rd) | 350.3 (14 th) | 166.7 (26 th) | 79.3 (13 th) |
| Sweden | 234.8 (24 th) | 282.4 (27 th) | 203.3 (14 th) | 54.2 (26 th) |
| Malta | 233.5 (25 th) | 310.0 (25 th) | 177.4 (24 th) | 64.8 (24 th) |
| Spain | 232.7 (26 th) | 337.0 (19 th) | 155.9 (27 th) | 71.5 (20 th) |
| Finland | 218.6 (27 th) | 283.5 (26 th) | 178.3 (22 nd) | 53.0 (28 th) |
| Cyprus | 201.0 (28 th) | 275.3 (28 th) | 140.8 (28 th) | 53.1 (27 th) |

Cancer mortality for male population in Europe 1955-2019



Definition of National Cancer Control Program (NCCP):

A national cancer control program is a public health program designed **to reduce the incidence and mortality of cancer and improve the quality of life of cancer patients** in a particular country or state, through the implementation of evidence-based strategies for **prevention, early detection, treatment, and palliation, making the best use of available resources.**

Hungarian NCCP (1993-2001-2006-2018)

Content (WHO recommendation):

- primary prevention
- secondary prevention (screening)
- early diagnosis
- therapy
- rehabilitation
- palliation – hospice
- education
- PR activity
- participants
- national oncological structure
- indicators, monitoring

Risk-Disease-Prevention –

Primary and secondary prevention opportunities

| Primary prevention | |
|--|---|
| Lifestyle | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Smoking– Drinking alcohol– Eating habits– Personal hygiene |
| Environmental pollution | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Water– Pesticides– Fuels– Soil |
| Vaccination | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– HBV vaccination– HPV vaccination |
| Secondary prevention | |
| Organised screening (secondary prevention) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Cervical cancer– Breast cancer– Colorectal cancer |

European Code against Cancer – 12 ways to reduce cancer risk

Primary prevention

1. Do not smoke. Do not use any form of tobacco.
2. Make your home smoke free. Support smoke-free policies in your workplace.
3. Take action to be a healthy body weight.
4. Be physically active in everyday life. Limit the time you spend sitting.
5. Have a healthy diet: Eat plenty of vegetables and fruits, high-fibre foods. Avoid high-calorie foods (foods high in sugar or fat) and sugary drinks. Avoid processed meat; limit red meat and salt consumption.
6. If you drink alcohol of any type, limit your intake. Not drinking alcohol is best for cancer prevention.
7. Avoid too much sun, be careful with sunburn. Use sun protection. Protect children from strong sunlight!
8. In the workplace, protect yourself against cancer-causing substances by following health and safety instructions!
9. Find out if you are exposed to radiation from naturally high radon levels in your home. Take action to reduce high radon levels.
10. For women: Breastfeeding reduces cancer risk for the mother. If you can, breastfeed your baby. Menopausal hormone replacement therapy increases the risk of certain cancers. Limit the use of hormone replacement therapy.
11. Ensure your children take part in vaccination programmes for: Hepatitis B (for newborns), Human papillomavirus (HPV) (for girls).

Secondary prevention

12. Take part in organised cancer screening programmes for: bowel cancer (men and women); breast cancer (women); cervical cancer (women).

Primary prevention

Elimination and minimalisation of carcinogenic factors

Smoking: lung, oral cavity, laryngeal, oesophageal, stomach, bladder, cervix

- legislation – new law against smoking (2012)
- public health program

Obesity: esophageal, colorectal, breast, endometrium, kidney

- diet: new tax – „chips tax” (2012)
- increasing tax on alcohol & tobacco (2013, 2015, 2016, 2018)

Physical activities: public health program – primary schools involved (2012-)

Occupational – environmental injuries

- physical: ionizing irradiation, solar irradiation
- chemical: several hundreds
- biological:
 - HPV – vaccination (supported by the government; 2014-)

Early detection and screening

Screening: in symptom- and complaint-free risk groups

Early diagnosis: patients with symptoms

Early detection:

- Possibility of an effective treatment
- Reality of effective treatment: breast, cervix, oral cavity, larynx, colorectal, prostate, skin

Screening:

- if effectiveness proven (specificity, sensitivity)
- if conditions provided (method, staff, equipment)
- if the target population can be screened (conditions given)
- if patients identified by screening can be treated/cured (conditions given)
- if financing provided
- localization:
 - breast, cervix, colorectal (US Task Force, European Code Against Cancer)
 - lung, oral cavity, prostate, skin, ovary (under investigation)

Recommendations for early detection and screening of selected cancers

| Site of cancer | Early diagnosis | Screening in Hungary |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Breast | Yes | Yes |
| Cervix | Yes | Yes |
| Colorectal | Yes | Yes (Sept 2018-) |
| Lung | Yes | Low-dose CT? |
| Oral cavity/Pharynx/Larynx | Yes | Physical exam.??? |
| Ovary | Yes | CA-125 + TVUS??? |
| Prostate | Yes | PSA + RDE??? |
| Oesophagus | Yes | No |
| Stomach | Yes | No |
| Skin melanoma | Yes | No |
| Other skin cancers | Yes | No |
| Bladder | Yes | No |
| Retinoblastoma | Yes | No |
| Testis | Yes | No |

Cervical cancer screening:

- Either cytology (Pap) testing or human papillomavirus (HPV).
- If cytology is used for screening, women starting at age 25–30 years and from then on, every 3 or 5 years.
- If HPV testing is used for screening, women starting at age 35 years (usually not before age 30 years) and from then on, every 5 years.

Irrespective of the test used, women continue participating in screening until the age of 60 or 65 years, and continue beyond this age unless the most recent test results are normal.

Breast cancer screening:

- women starting at age 50 years and not before age of 40 years,
- and from then on, every 2 years until age 70–75 years.

Colorectal cancer screening:

- men and women starting at age 50–60 years,
- and from then on, every 2 years if the screening test is the guaiac-based faecal occult blood test (gFOBT) or the fecal immunochemical test (FIT),
- or every 10 years or more if the screening test is flexible sigmoidoscopy (FS) or colonoscopy (TC).

Most programs continue sending invitations to screening up to age 70–75 years.

Secondary prevention - Screening

Cervix :

- cytology (Kellner, NIO, 1950-)
- cytological network (Kellner, Döbrössy, NIO, 1960-)
- **Cytological cervical screening (Döbrössy, Bodó, NIO, 1970-)**
- Public Health Program (Kertai – 1994, 2001, 2002)

Breast:

- HNCCP (Kásler, NIO, 1993)
- Public Health Program, model screening (Kertai – 1994, 2001, 2002)
- **Nationwide mammography screening program (2002-)**
- **Biannual mammography screening for women ageing 45 to 65 years**

Colorectal:

- HNCCP (Kásler, NIO, 1993)
- Public Health Program (Kertai – 1994, 2001, 2002)
- Model Screenings
- **Debate on methodology (occult bleeding vs colonoscopy)**
- **Occult bleeding fecal test will be implemented in 2018 for men and women ageing 50 to 70 years**

Hungarian population based mammography screening – 3rd. screening cycle (2006-2007)

- Invited: 925.036
- Participated: 428.151
 - Participation rate: 46.3%
- Recalled (suspicious): 23.477 5.5%
- Returned: 21.743
 - Appearance rate: 92.6%
- Operated: 1.503
 - Bening: 379
 - Malignant: 1.124 74.8%
 - DCIS: 131 11.7%
 - < 15 mm: 545 48.5%

Strategy for colorectal cancer screening

(1) Detection of occult colorectal bleeding

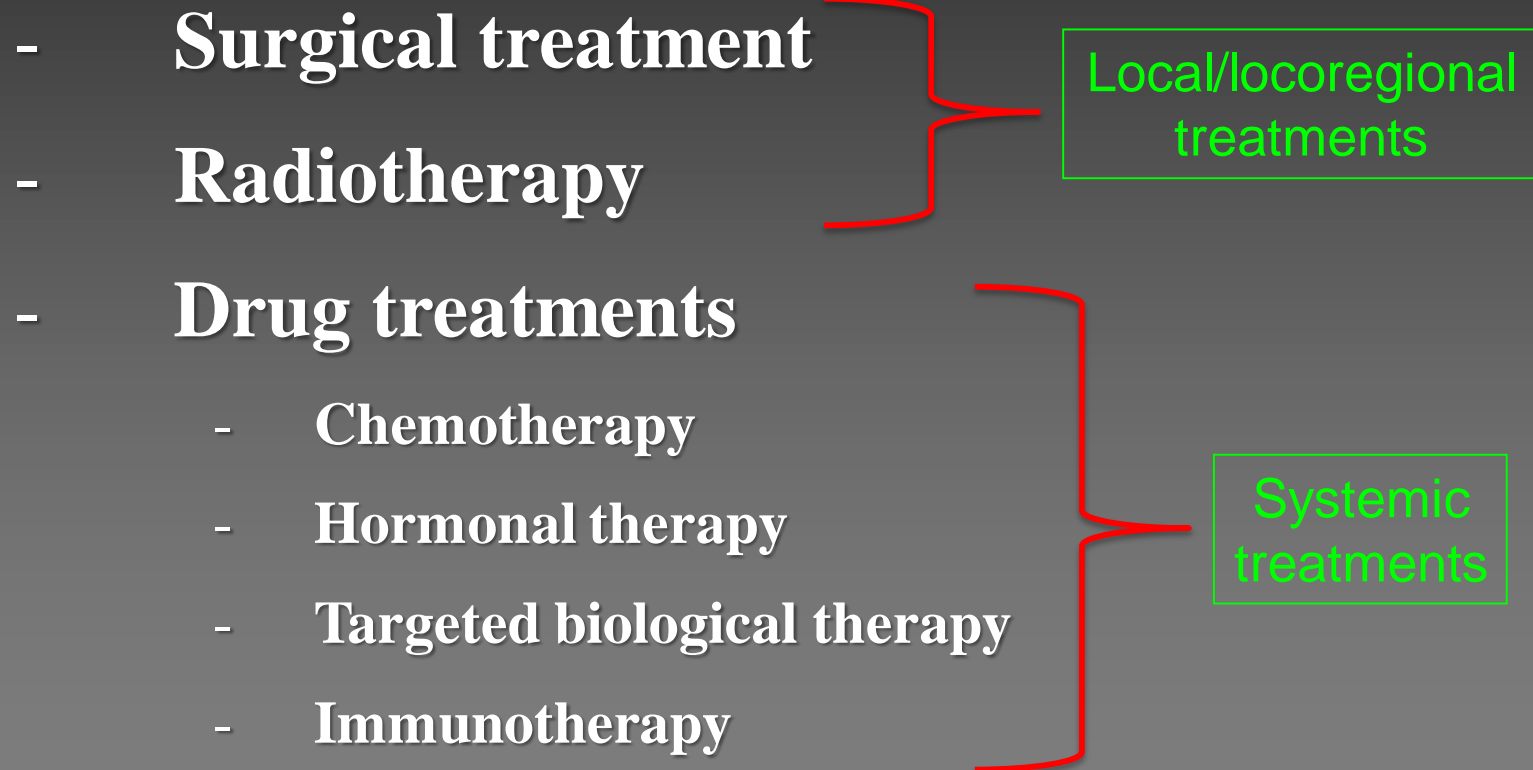
(2) Colonoscopy -

- ❖ **tumour localisation**

- ❖ **biopsy**

- ❖ **polypectomy**

Basic principles of complex oncotherapy – 3 methods for the management of malignant tumours



Multidisciplinary treatment of malignant tumours

- Surgery (S)
- Radiotherapy (RT)
- Systemic therapy
 - Chemo- , hormone-, immuno-therapy + targeted therapies
- Combined (multidisciplinary) management:
 - S + postop. RT
 - S + concomittant radio-chemotherapy (RCT)
 - Primary RCT
 - Preop. RT + S
 - Radio-biotherapy
 - Radio-immunotherapy

Anticancer therapies – Intention to treat

- Curative treatments

- Goal: Complete eradication of all tumour cells
- Intended to lead to the complete recovery of the patient

- Palliative treatments

- Goals:
 - Mitigation of life-threatening conditions/symptoms caused by the tumor
 - Temporary improvement of quality of life
 - Prolongation of life and symptom-free interval

Types of surgical oncology interventions

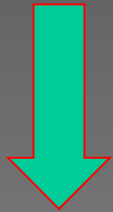
- Prophylactic
- Diagnostic
- Therapeutic
 - Curative
 - Palliative

Profilactic surgical oncology:

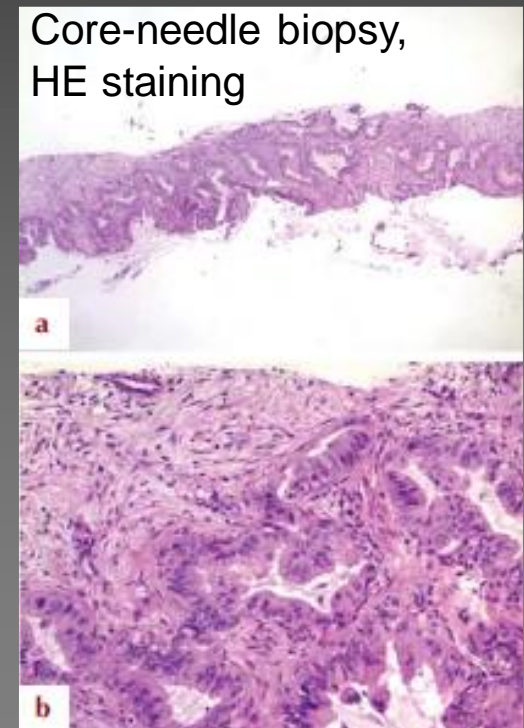
- Endoscopic removal of colorectal polyps
- Prophylactic segmental colectomy (hereditary colon ca.)
- Prophylactic ovariectomy/mastectomy (BRCA mutation carriers)

Diagnostic surgical interventions

- Aspiration cytology (cervical smear sample or fine-needle aspiration)
- Core-needle biopsy
- Incisional biopsy
- Excisional biopsy



Goal: Cytological/Histological diagnosis



Therapeutic surgical interventions

- **Curative operations = radical removal**
 - Operability – refers to the patient
 - Resectability – refers to the tumour
 - Radicality = Clear surgical margins = R0 resection!
 - Reconstructive/oncoplastic surgery
 - Organ/function preserving surgery
 - Quality of Life (QoL)
 - Minimal invasive surgery – laparoscopic surgery, VATS
 - Robotic surgery (Da-Vinci robot)
- **Palliative operations**
 - - Stomas, stents, ligation of a. hypogastrica, tracheotomia, vertebral fixation etc.

Chemotherapy

- Chemotherapy = Use of cytotoxic/cytostatic agents
- "Selective" killing of all rapidly dividing cells (tumour + healthy tissues)
- Systemic treatments = general effect on the whole organism
- Specific side-effects (hair-loss, nausea/vomiting, deterioration of blood count, oral mucositis etc.)

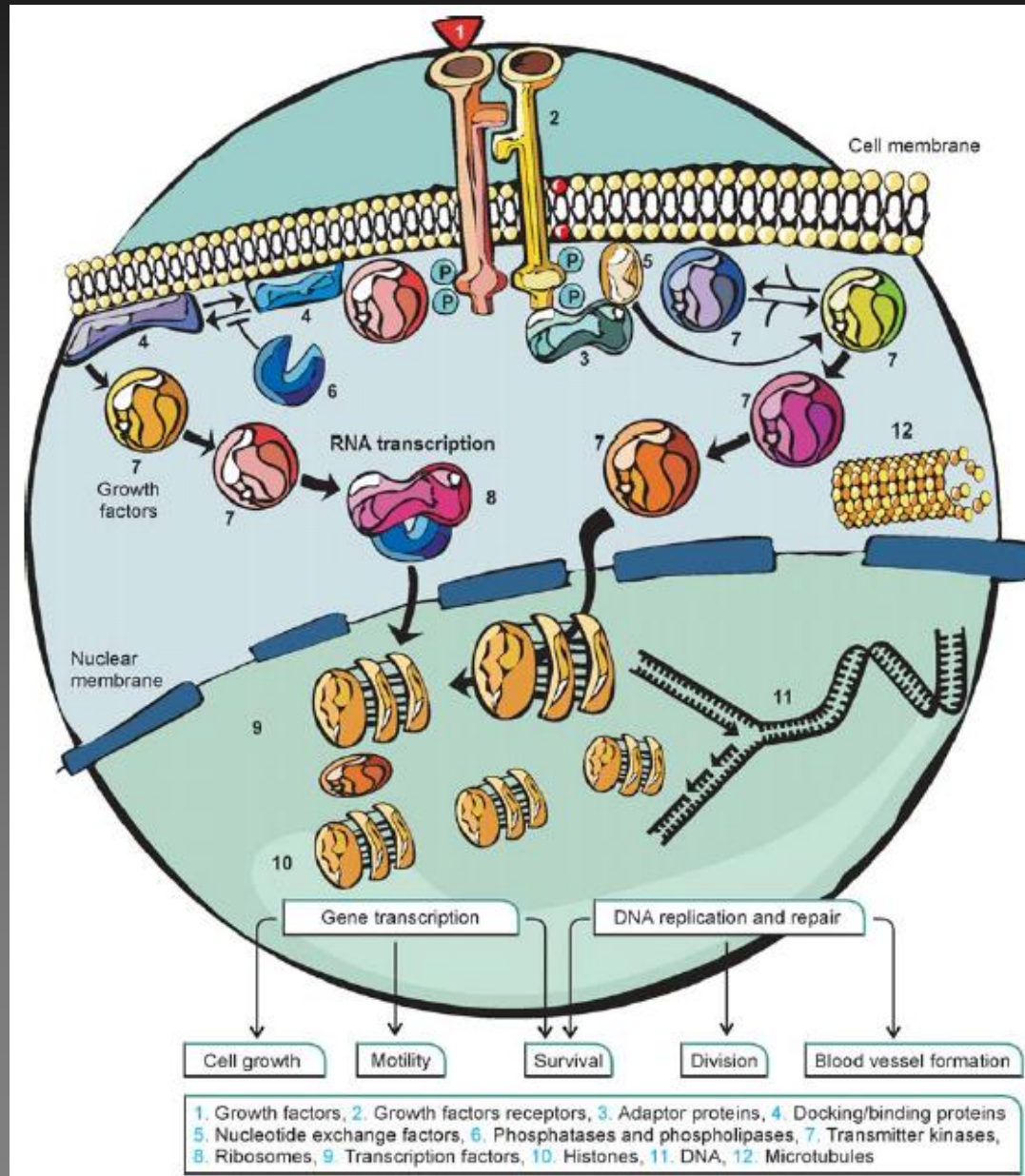


Targeted biological therapies

- Specifically affect tumour cells with cell surface receptors of a given type of tumour (and only that type)
- Specific killing of targeted tumour cells
- Milder side effects



Cell division and metabolism control – Potential targets for oncotherapy



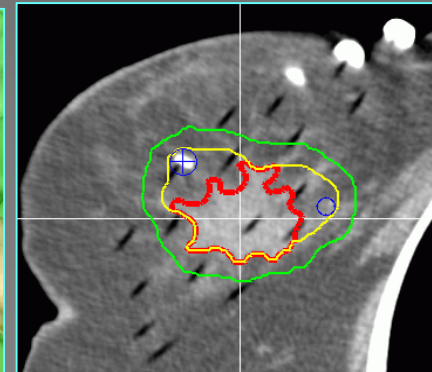
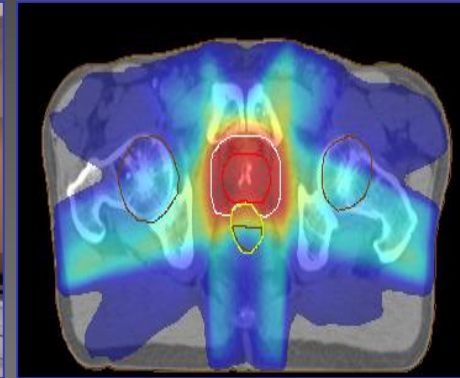
Immunotherapy

- Intended to enhance the natural, physiological anticancer immune response mechanisms of the body, and turn these against the tumour
- At immunotherapy check-points the administered drugs inhibit the immunosuppressive effects of tumours

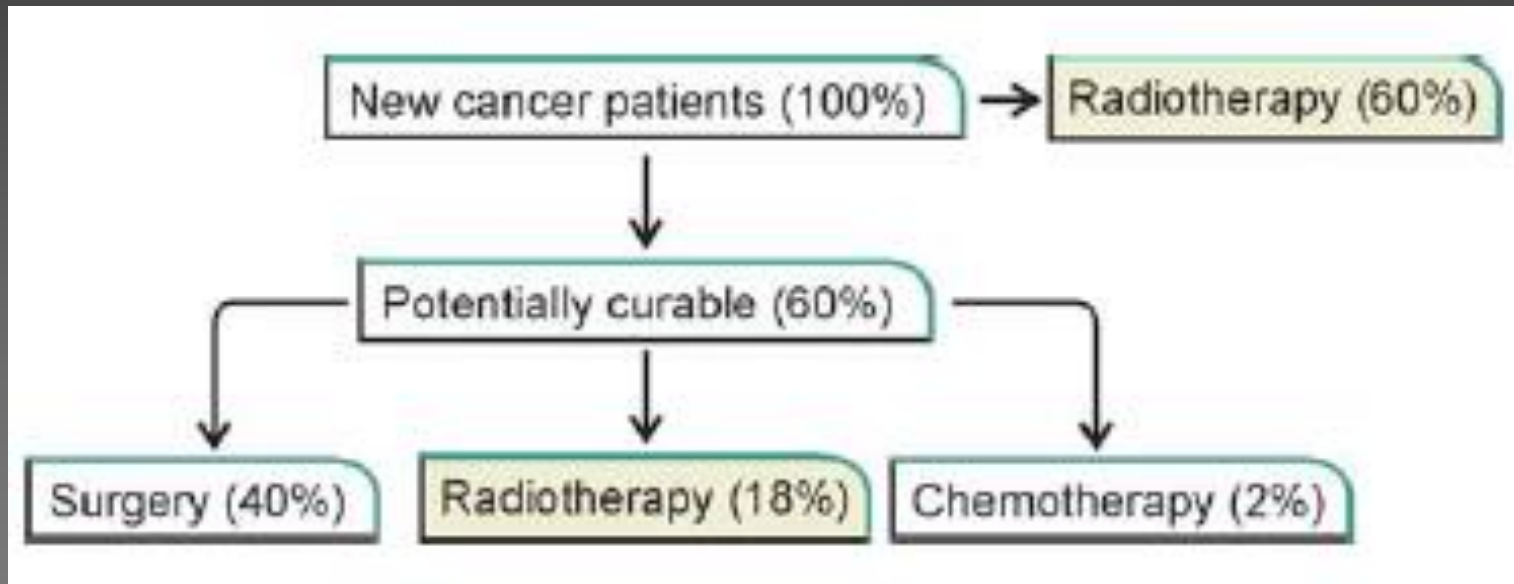
| Immunological characteristics of tumours, immunotherapy targets, and the immunological effects of radiotherapy | | |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| Immunological characteristics of tumours | Immunotherapy checkpoints | Immunological effects of radiotherapy |
| Decreasing tumour antigen expression | | Inducing neoantigen production from necrotic tumour cells |
| Decreasing tumour antigen presentation (decreasing the expression of MHC class I and II molecules) | | Stimulating tumour antigen presentation (increasing MHC class I expression) |
| Immunosuppressive cytokine (TGF β) secretion | | Releasing cytokines (IFN γ) to promote T-cell infiltration |
| Immunosuppressive cell (CTLA-4) secretion | Anti CTLA-4 | |
| PD-L1 overexpression (T-cell inhibition) | Anti PD-1, Anti PD-L1 | |

Radiotherapy


- Clinical modality dealing with the use of ionizing radiation in the treatment of patients with malignant tumours.
- **Aim:** To deliver precisely measured dose of irradiation to a defined tumour volume with as minimal damage as possible to the surrounding healthy tissues, resulting eradication of the tumour.
- Selective killing of malignant cells
- Teletherapy = external beam irradiation
- Brachytherapy = irradiation with sealed radioactive sources placed close to or in contact with the tumour.



The role of radiotherapy as an anticancer treatment modality



Intention of radiation therapy

- Intention to treat:
 - Curative (total dose: 50-80 Gy)
 - Palliative (total dose: 20-60 Gy)
- Preoperative RT (down-staging & down-sizeing, devitalisation of tumour cells before surgery  organ preservation surgery)
- Postoperative RT (eradication of microscopic residual tumour cells)
- Definitive or primary RT
- RT alone
- Combined RCT (head & neck, cervical, bladder, anal canal, rectal, lung)
- Combined radio-biotherapy (head & neck: cetuximab + RT)
- Combined radio-immunotherapy (investigational)



Thank you for your kind attention!

