



Incidence of Cancer in Children

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A recent study conducted by **Lancet** pointed out that **82% of cancer cases** among **children** comes from **poorer countries**.

- According to the report, children with cancer in **low-and middle-income** countries are **four times** more likely to die of the disease than children in high-income countries.
- The study quantifies the burden of paediatric cancer in terms of number of healthy years lost for a country.
 - Globally, in 2017, around 11.5 million disability adjusted life years (DALY)s are lost due to childhood cancer.
- The incidence or rate of cancer among India's children is much lower than in the West.
 - The rate of cancer among children in India is **80-90 children** per **1,00,000** while the corresponding figure in the west is around 160.
- In India, many hospitals like All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS, Delhi), Tata Memorial Hospital (Mumbai) and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI-Chandigarh) have cancer survival rates almost equivalent to Western countries.

INDIA AMONG WORST HIT

- In India, cancer is the **9th most common cause** for deaths among children between 5 & 14 years of age
- Over **82%** of children with cancer globally live in poorest countries
- Survival rate in low and middle income countries (LMIC) is around **35-40%**, against **80%** in high income countries
- Over **90%** of children at risk of having cancer live in LMIC
- Globally, in **2017**, about **11.5 million** years of healthy life was lost due to childhood cancer

Cancer in children around
5%
of total cancer burden in India

Globally,
700
children are diagnosed with cancer every day

Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer

- It was launched by **World Health Organisation** in 2018.
- It aims to reach at least a 60% survival rate for children with cancer by 2030, thereby saving an additional one million lives. This target represents a doubling of the global cure rate for children with cancer.

Source: The Times of India