



Index of Cancer Preparedness

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The **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)** has created the Index of Cancer Preparedness (ICP).

- It draws on a wide range of **data relevant to cancer policy and control from 28 countries.**
- The aims of the ICP are to allow benchmarking of national efforts and identify best practice in addressing the cancer challenge.

Index of Cancer Preparedness (ICP)

- **Australia tops the ICP, followed by the Netherlands and Germany. Saudi Arabia, Romania, and Egypt face at the bottom in Index.**
- The ICP explores the issue of cancer preparedness through **three broad domains:**
 - policy and planning;
 - care delivery;
 - health systems and governance.
- Four **essentials of cancer preparedness:**
 - essential investment (appropriate spending and resources),
 - roadmap (effective planning),
 - foundation (functioning health systems),
 - intelligence (availability and quality of cancer-related data).

Cancer

- Cancer is a **generic term for a large group of diseases characterized by the growth of abnormal cells** beyond their usual boundaries that can then invade adjoining parts of the body and/or spread to other organs.
- Other common terms used for cancer are **malignant tumors and neoplasms.**
- Cancer is the **second leading cause of death globally** and is estimated to account for **9.6 million death in 2018.**
- **World Cancer Day** is observed on 4th February every year.

Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), created in 1946, is the research and analysis division of The Economist Group and the world leader in global business intelligence.

India and ICP

- India's overall rank **is 19th** with a score of **64.9**.
- India ranks **17th in** cancer policy and planning, but it has a relatively high score of 80.8.
- India's score largely stems from its strong cancer research and tobacco control measures.

It ranked **first for research and third for tobacco control in ICP**.

- India ranks **23rd for its national cancer control plan**.
- With a score of 40.3, **India's healthcare system ranks 25th in the index**, above only Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Egypt.
- India's **healthcare infrastructure is the second worst** among the index countries.
- In its **delivery of cancer care, India ranks 20th with a score of 61.3**.
 - India has a **high standard of clinical guidelines**, a category in which it is ranked first.
 - India falls **short on immunization, screening and early detection**.