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Retrospective descriptive study of Cancers treated at Teaching Hospital Jaffna from 2015 to 2019.

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Introduction Cancer is a major health problem worldwide and the second leading cause of death globally. Cancer surveillance is an essential strategy to implement evidence based cancer control programmes and is done by the National Cancer Control Programme in Sri Lanka.

Objectives Describe the trend and pattern of cancer patients and the influence of socio demographic factors on the trend and pattern of cancers reported to histopathology unit, Teaching Hospital Jaffna (THJ)

Methodology This study is a hospital based descriptive cross sectional study based on secondary data obtained from the records from 01st of January 2015 to 31st of December 2019 at the histopathology laboratory, THJ. The data collection and analysis were done from the above reports from October 2020 to March 2021.

Results The study was done on a total of 3266 cancer incidence data which showed a male preponderance of 55%(n=1797). Oro-pharynx was the most common site of occurrence with 22.75%(n=743). Oesophageal and breast cancers were the second and third commonest with 12.49% (n=408) and 9.34% (n=303) respectively. The highest incidence was in the age group 61-70 years with 33.60% (n=1098). Males were highly accounted with oro-pharyngeal cancers 33.56% and other cancers like oesophageal cancers and prostate cancers took the 2nd and 3rd places with 12.63 % and 7.68% respectively. In female population, breast cancers took the highest position with 20.63%. Oesophageal cancer and cancers of thyroid gland were the second and third most occurring cancers with 12.32% and 11.64% respectively.

Conclusion Cancers were common among males than females and most common among 50-80 years of age irrespective of sex. Highest recorded cancers to THJ were oropharyngeal, oesophagus, breast, colorectal and lung. Oesophageal carcinomas had an increased predominance in our study irrespective of sex when compared to national data. Breast cancers predominate among females and oropharyngeal among males.