Short Communication

Cancer: the growing monster in Egypt

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The magnitude of the cancer problem remained unknown until very recently when Egypt national cancer registry program published its results in 2014, after 10years of population-based registration.[1] The published incidence data replaced the hospital-based proportions that wouldn't help to estimate magnitude of the problem.[2] The estimated crude incidence of cancer for 2013 was 115.7/100,000 males and 11o.3/100,000 females. The estimated incident cases were 114,985 in 2013. Assuming that the age specific incidence rates would not change up to 2050; the number of incident cases would increase to 341,169 due to population growth by 160% and aging of the population as shown in the corresponding population pyramids. The main cause of increase was attributed to demographic change rather than population growth. This 3-fold increase varied by site of tumor as shown in the table above. For the most common sites, increase in prostate cancer was highest for prostate cancer (424%) and lowest for breast cancer (253%). This expected increase by site would be reflected on control activities for early detection of breast and other cancers. Control of HCV infection would affect liver cancer.[3] Plans of control of HCV aim at eradication of the infection that would start to be effective by 2018. Interestingly, childhood cancer would increase to 120%; giving chance for proper planning for equity of distribution of services that are currently mainly located in Cairo (Figures 1-7).

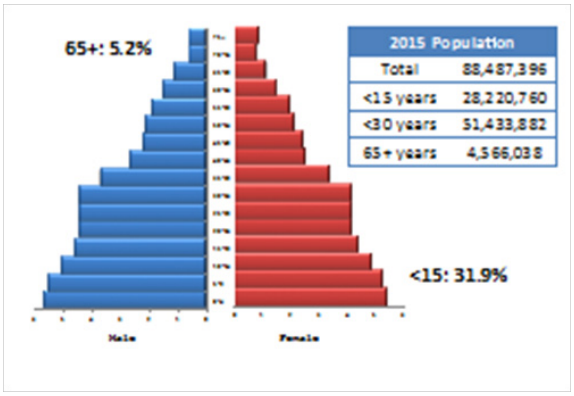

Figure 1 Demographic background of cancer in Egypt.

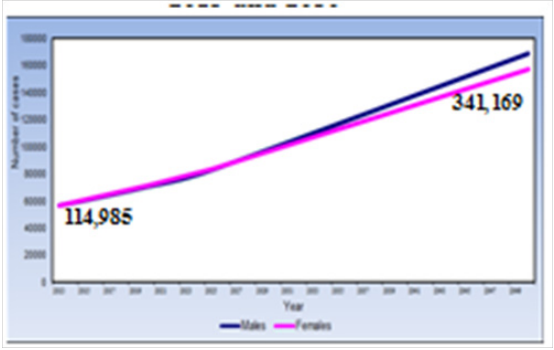

Figure 2 Estimated incident cancer cu0 ases.

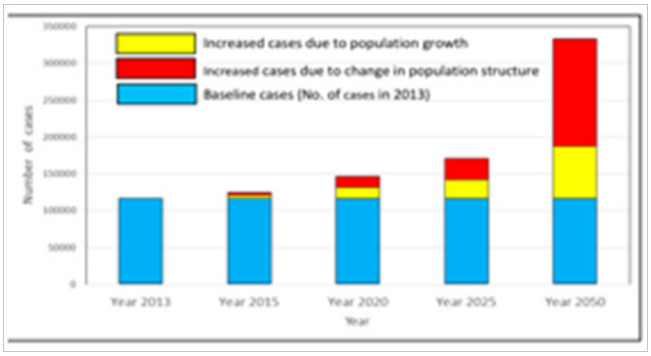

Figure 3 Estimated number of cases in Egypt (2013-2050) and causes of the increase in cases.

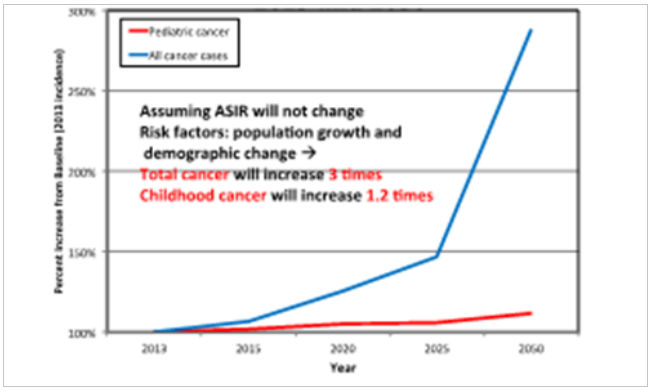

Figure 4 Percentage increase in incident cancer cases 2013 and 2050.

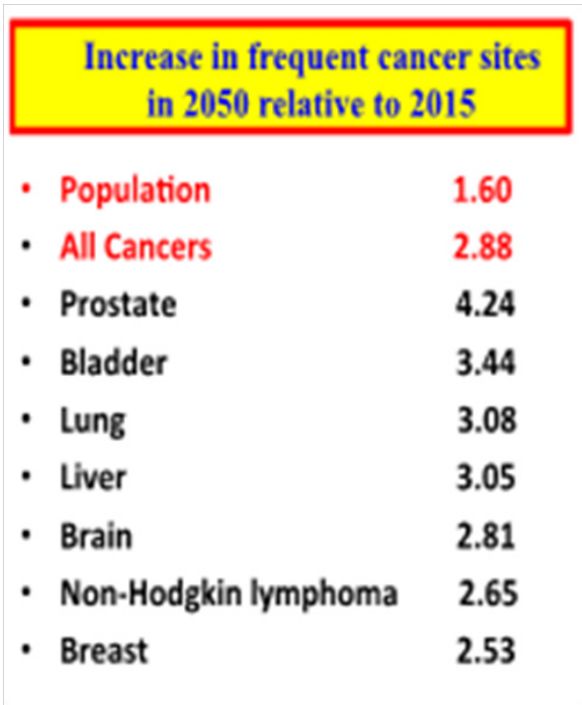

Figure 5 Increase infrequent cancer sites in 2050 relative to 2015.

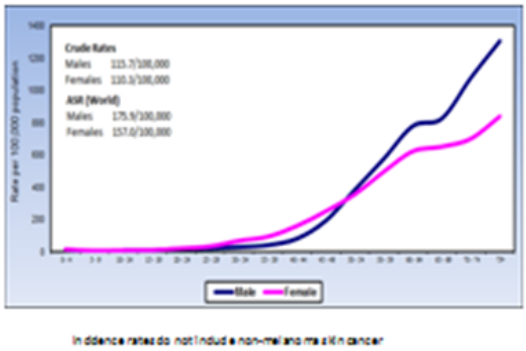

Figure 6 Age-specific incidence rate/100000 populations.

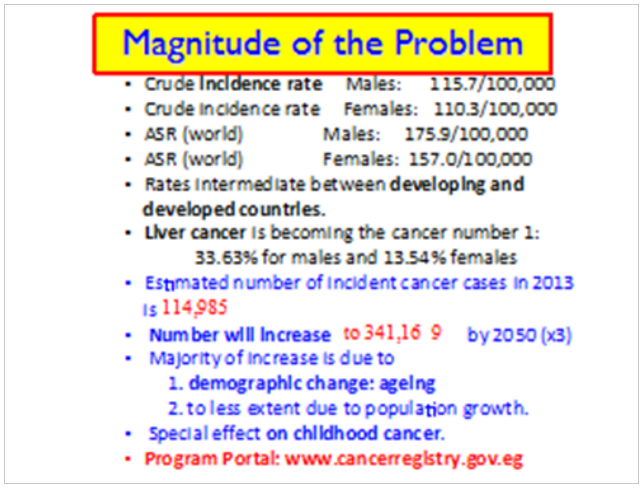

Figure 7 Magnitude of the problem.

Acknowledgments

None.

Conflicts of interest

Authors declare there are no conflicts of interest.

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