

Cancer policy framework in Ireland and current issues



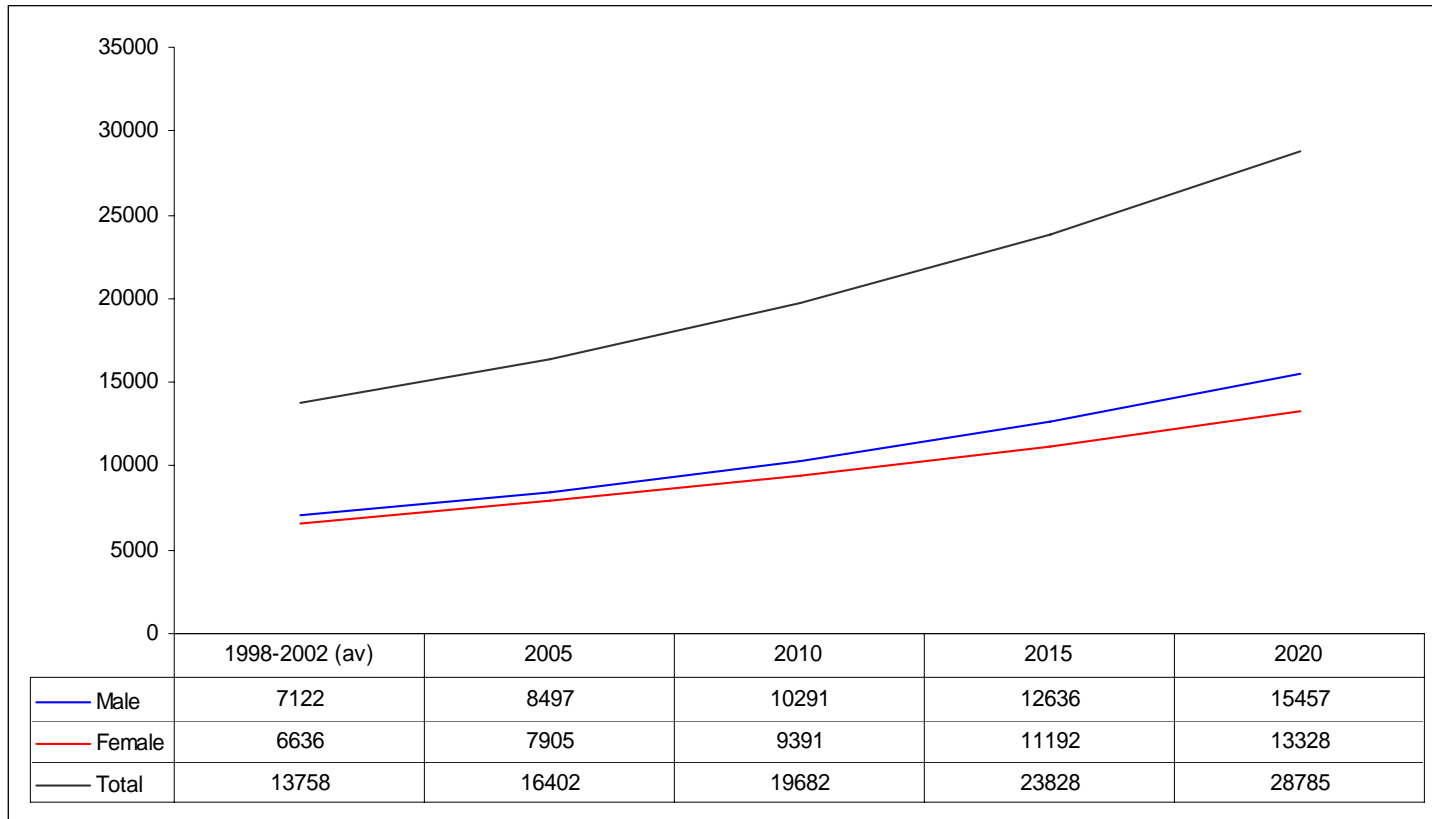
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Department of Health and Children
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Context

- Substantial achievements following first National Cancer Strategy
- Major strides have been taken
 - Significant investment has taken place
 - Many patients experiencing care on a par with best in the world
 - Many key clinicians of international standing
 - Results are improving
- BUT...

Cancer projections to 2020





Major challenges still exist

- Capacity
- Equity
- Outcomes variable and sometimes poor
- Efficiency poor
- Fragmentation of services
- Unnecessary competition
- Human resource and IR issues
- ICT environment



Vision

“Ireland will have a system of cancer control which will improve our cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality rates relative to other EU15 countries by 2015. Irish people will know and practice health promoting and cancer preventing behaviours and will have increased awareness of and access to early cancer detection and screening. Ireland will have a network of equitable accessible state-of-the-art cancer treatment facilities and we will become an internationally recognised location for education and research into all aspects of cancer”



Prevention

- Health Promotion- tobacco, UV radiation
- Breast, cervical, colorectal screening
- Opportunistic testing (e.g. prostate)
- Early detection



Managed Cancer Control Networks

- Organisation of services where skills of professionals are grouped around population & service needs
- Full spectrum of care from primary to palliative care
- Forum recommends 4 networks
- 4 key elements:
 - Primary Care
 - Hospitals
 - Palliative and Supportive Care
 - Underpinned by system of Quality and Clinical leadership.



Framework for Quality in Cancer Control

- System of licensing and accreditation –public/private
- Quality in cancer control groups for each site specific cancer
 - Getting research, evidence and knowledge into practice
 - Standards and performance measures
 - Monitoring outputs and outcomes
 - Inequalities
- Information model and infrastructure
 - Information and ICT
 - Surveillance and registration
 - Needs assessment
- Model of Health Technology Assessment



Information model and infrastructure

- Cancer surveillance to build on registry
- Mandatory notification
- Minimum national cancer dataset
- Information
 - public/patients
 - health professionals
 - managers and policy makes
 - Information for research



Key challenges

- People
- Process
- Technology