**ESOPHAGEAL CANCER BY THE NUMBERS**

Esophageal cancer is the 8th most common cancer type and the 6th most common cause of cancer-related deaths around the world, disproportionately impacting Asia.

**WHAT IS ESOPHAGEAL CANCER?**

Esophageal cancer occurs when tumors form in the tissues of the esophagus, which is a muscular tube that moves food and liquids from the throat to the stomach for digestion.

Men are more than twice as likely as women to be diagnosed with esophageal cancer.

**COMMON ESOPHAGEAL CANCER RISK FACTORS**

Risk factors for esophageal cancer may be behavioral, related to pre-existing conditions or genetic. Common risk factors include:

- Obesity
- Alcohol
- Tobacco use
- Diet
- Barrett's esophagus
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease
- Genetics

**SIGNS & SYMPTOMS**

Many esophageal cancers may not cause symptoms until they have reached an advanced stage. Symptoms may also be mistaken for conditions unrelated to cancer:

- Unintended weight loss
- Weakness due to anemia (from blood loss)
- Chest pain in the absence of heart disease
- Difficulty swallowing solid foods
- Heartburn or indigestion
- Coughing or hoarseness

**TARGETED THERAPY**

The main options for treatment of esophageal cancer include:

- Surgery
- Radiation therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Targeted therapy
- Endoscopic treatments

**ESOPHAGEAL CANCER CAUSES AN ESTIMATED 400,000 DEATHS ANNUALLY. THE 5-YEAR SURVIVAL RATES FOR ESOPHAGEAL CANCER VARY GLOBALLY DEPENDING ON THE STAGE AND TYPE:**

*U.S. survival rates

**MEDIAN AGE**

- At diagnosis: 67 years
- At death: 69 years

**CANCER TYPES & INCIDENCE**

The two most common types of esophageal cancers are squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) and adenocarcinoma (AC).

SCC tumors generally form in the flat squamous cells typically lining the upper and middle parts of the esophagus. AC begins in the cells of mucus-secreting glands in the esophagus, typically near the stomach.

87% of esophageal cancer patients have SCC. 11% of esophageal cancer patients have AC.

**MEDIAN AGE**

- At diagnosis: 67 years
- At death: 69 years

**THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION (INCLUDING INDIA) ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 75% OF ALL ESOPHAGEAL CANCER PATIENTS WITH CHINA ACCOUNTING FOR NEARLY 50% OF THE GLOBAL PATIENT POPULATION.**

**5-Year Relative Survival Rates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Survival Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>34.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>340.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Represented in thousands)

**ENDOSCOPY TREATMENTS**

Endoscopic treatments are used as both a diagnostic and therapeutic tool.

**TREATMENT OPTIONS**

The main options for treatment of esophageal cancer include:

- Surgery
- Radiation therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Targeted therapy
- Endoscopic treatments

**5-Year Relative Survival Rates**

- ~41% localized (confined to primary site)
- ~23% regional (spread to regional lymph nodes)
- ~4% distant (cancer has metastasized)

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