



EPIDEMIOLOGY

SKIN CANCER INCIDENCE TRENDS IN LATVIA 2007-2017

Elina Ozola⁽¹⁾ - Ludmila Viksna⁽²⁾ - Raimonds Karls⁽²⁾

University Of Latvia, Department Of Dermatovenereology, Riga, Latvia⁽¹⁾ - Riga Stradins University, Department Of Infectology And Dermatology, Riga, Latvia⁽²⁾

Introduction: Melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC) are known as one of the most common types of all cancers. Both tumour entities show an increasing incidence rate worldwide.

Objectives: To analyse the time trends in malignant melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers among men and women in different ages in Latvia and assess variances of incidence between geographical regions in Latvia.

Materials and methods: Data from The Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (CDPC) of Latvia for the period 2007-2017 were used to analyse trends in the incidence rates for malignant melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. Age-standardized rates were calculated for both sexes.

Results: Incidence of melanoma has increased from 6.9 in 2007 to 11.8 in 2017 and NMSC from 42.2 in 2007 to 75,3 in 2017 per 100 000 inhabitants. Higher melanoma and NMSC incidence through the years have been among women population. The highest numbers of newly diagnosed skin cancer cases in 2017 was in the age group between 60-and 79 years olds. Cutaneous melanoma mortality rates has decreased from 4,6 in 2009 to 4,0 per 100 000 inhabitants. Through the years the greatest numbers of NMSC has been diagnosed in Kurzeme, region that is located by the sea in Latvia. Most melanoma cases are diagnosed in the capital city of Latvia and it is adjacency because of better specialist accessibility.

Conclusion: There have been more melanoma cases for younger people comparing to previous years. The number of newly diagnosed cases of cutaneous melanoma and other skin cancers keeps increasing every year. Mortality rates continue to decline due to better diagnostics and wider availability of medicines.

