

Lung cancer research in numbers: briefing for the USA

Overview

Lung cancer has been the most common cancer in the world for several decades. There were estimated to be 1.8 million new cases globally in 2012ⁱ. It is also the most common cause of death from cancer worldwide, estimated to be responsible for nearly one in five deaths¹. Research is essential to reduce the death toll from lung cancer and drive improvements in cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatmentsⁱⁱ.

However, greater effort must be made to increase lung cancer research, given its global impact. The Global Lung Cancer Coalition (GLCC) commissioned the Institute of Cancer Policy, experts in the study of research systems, to examine the state of global lung cancer research to understand what research is being carried out in lung cancer, by whom, and to ascertain if and where further investment can be made.

The study identified the 24 countries globally with the most extensive research programmes in lung cancer. It analysed whether research outputs had changed over time as well as the focus of the research and how close it is to patients. The findings of the study are intended to guide public policy and highlight where improvements can and should be made.

Call to action

The GLCC welcomes the overall increase in research into lung cancer, which will – ultimately – improve treatment, care and survival for people with lung cancer. Poor lung cancer survival demonstrates that more can be done.

We are calling for every country to:

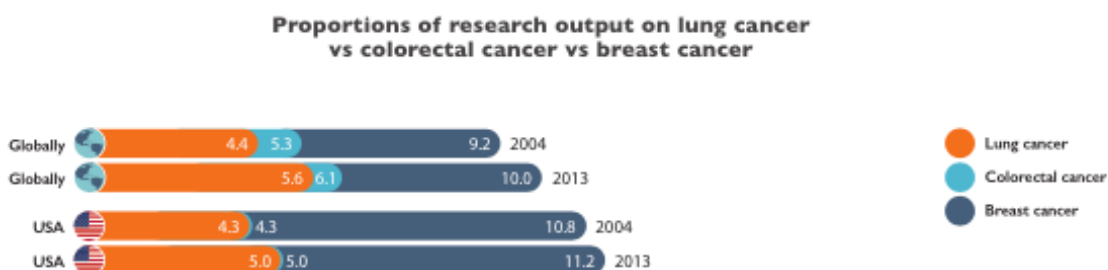
1. Invest more in lung cancer research
2. Increase research in aspects of care that are currently under-researched
3. Collaborate with global partners to share research findings and improve patient care

Key findings

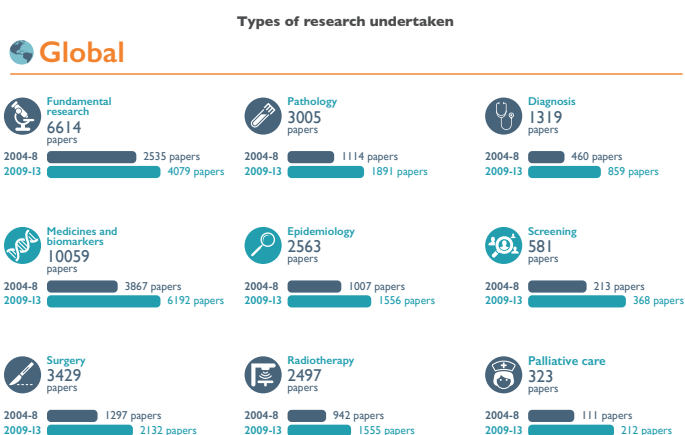
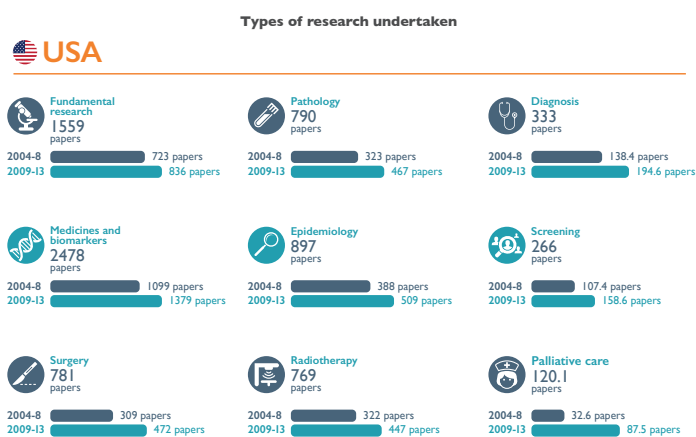
How has research output changed globally and in the USA?



What proportion of research output are for breast cancer vs lung cancer vs colorectal cancer in the USA?



What is the focus of the lung cancer research globally and in the USA?



Contact us

For more information about this project and its findings please contact please contact the GLCC secretariat on glcc@roycastle.org.

ⁱ GLOBOCAN 2012, Lung Cancer, available here: http://globocan.iarc.fr/Pages/fact_sheets_cancer.aspx. Accessed June 2015

ⁱⁱ Yarden Y, Carols C, on behalf of the European Association for Cancer Research, *Basic cancer research: why it is essential for the future of cancer therapy*. European Journal of Cancer 2013, 49 issue 12. Accessed June 2015