



Cervical Screening Programme

Department of Health

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Statistics of Cervical Cancer

Surveillance and Epidemiology Branch

Centre for Health Protection

Department of Health

December 2017



Global Burden of Disease

Worldwide, cervical cancer was the fourth most common cancer among females in 2012. There were an estimated 528 000 new cases of cervical cancer, of which around 85% occurred in less developed regions. Around 266 000 females died of cervical cancer, accounting for 7.5% of all female cancer deaths. About 87% of cervical cancer deaths occurred in the less developed regions.¹

Local Burden of Disease

Incidence

In Hong Kong, cervical cancer was the seventh most common cancer among females with 500 new cases in 2015, accounting for 3.3% of all new cancer cases in females. The crude incidence rate was 12.7 per 100 000 female population. The age-standardised incidence rate was 8.4 per 100 000 standard population. The median age at diagnosis was 54 years old.²

Mortality

In 2016, cervical cancer was the ninth leading cause of female cancer death. There were 151 deaths due to cervical cancer, accounting for 2.6% of all cancer deaths in females. The crude mortality rate was 3.8 per 100 000 female population and the age-standardised mortality rate was 2.2 per 100 000 standard population.³

¹ Ferlay J, Soerjomataram I, Ervik M, Dikshit R, Eser S, Mathers C, Rebelo M, Parkin DM, Forman D, Bray, F. GLOBOCAN 2012 v1.0, Cancer Incidence and Mortality Worldwide: IARC CancerBase No. 11 [Internet]. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer; 2013. Available from: <http://globocan.iarc.fr>, accessed on 20/11/2017.

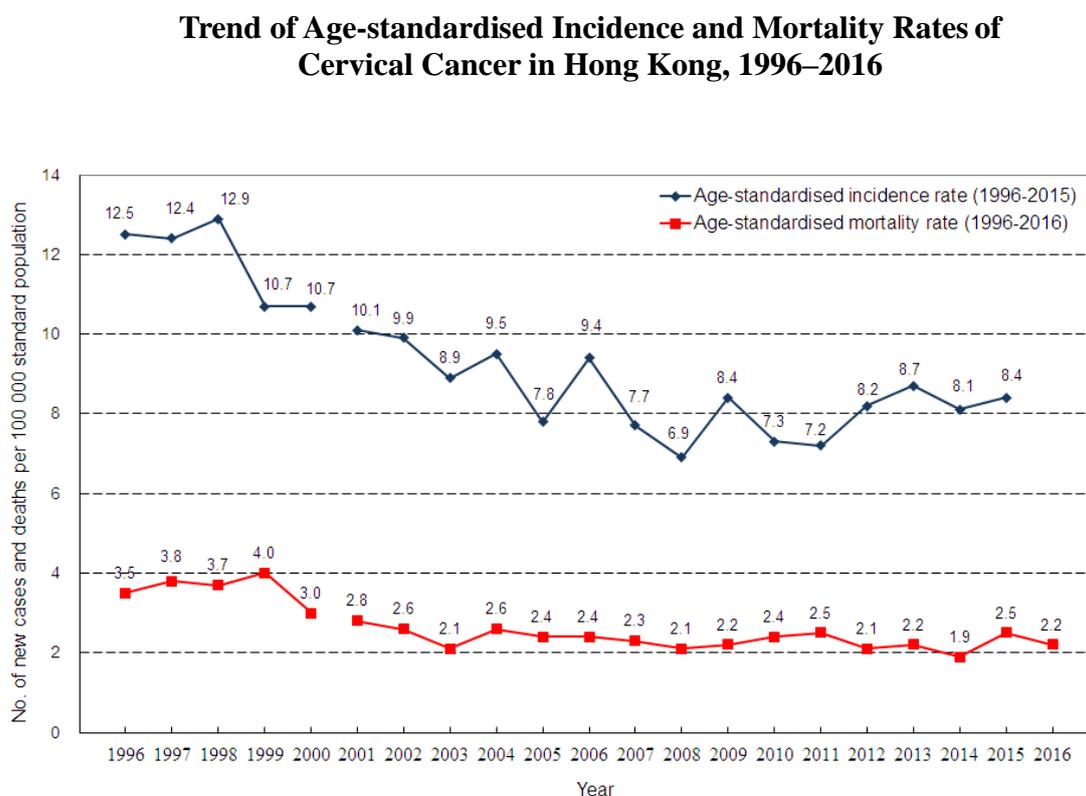
² Source: Hong Kong Cancer Registry, Hospital Authority

³ Source: Department of Health and Census and Statistics Department, HKSAR..

Trends of incidence and mortality

Figure 1 shows the decreasing trend of age-standardised incidence and mortality rates of cervical cancer in Hong Kong between 1996 and 2016. These rates have been adjusted for the effect of changing age structure in the population over the years to allow meaningful comparison.

Figure 1



Footnotes:

1. Data for compiling the age-standardised incidence rate for 2016 has not been published.
2. The calculation of the age-standardised incidence and mortality rates is based on the world standard population specified in GPE Discussion Paper Series: No.31, EIP/GPE/EBD, World Health Organization, 2001.
3. The calculation of the age-standardised incidence and mortality rates is based on the population estimates under the "resident population" approach.
4. From 2001 onwards, figures on new cases and deaths of cervical cancer are based on ICD-10 (C53) and thus may not be comparable with figures from previous years which are based on ICD-9 (180).

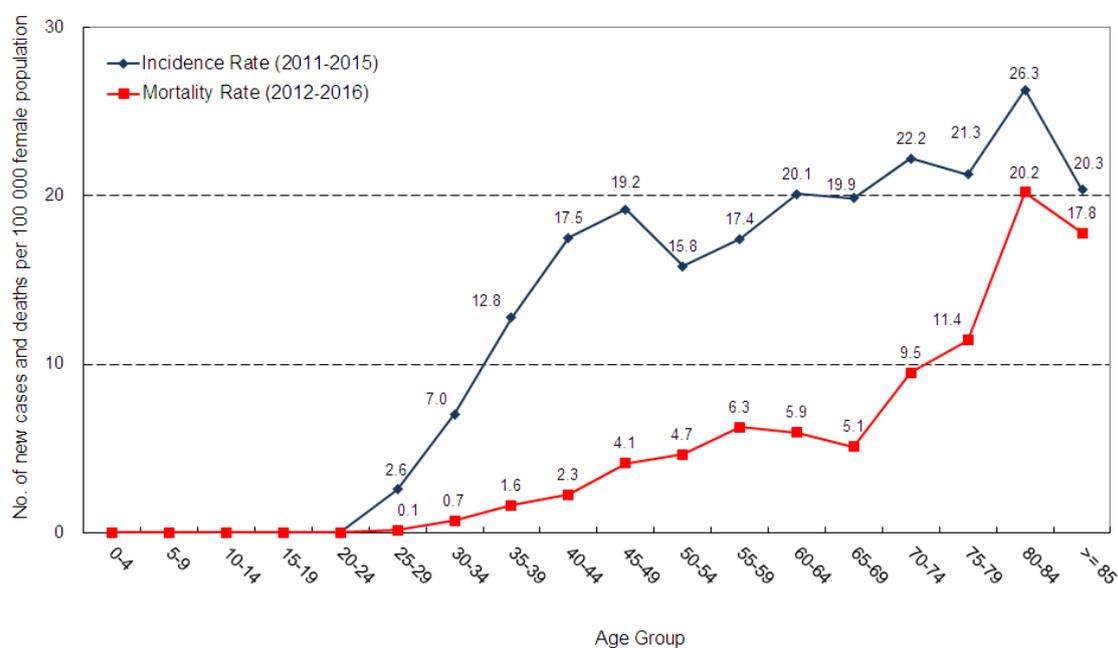
Sources: Department of Health
 Census and Statistics Department
 Hong Kong Cancer Registry, Hospital Authority

Age distribution

Figure 2 shows the average age-specific incidence and mortality rates of cervical cancer in Hong Kong. Both the incidence rate and mortality rate generally increase with age, with a peak at the age group of 80-84 for incidence and mortality. Elderly women are at a higher risk of developing and dying from cervical cancer. The incidence rate is very low for women aged below 25 years.

Figure 2

Average Age-specific Incidence and Mortality Rates of Cervical Cancer



Footnotes:

1. Data for compiling the age-specific incidence rate for 2016 has not been published.
2. The average age-specific incidence (or mortality) rates over a 5-year period are calculated by dividing the average number of new cases (or deaths) over the 5-year average of the female population in the corresponding period.
3. The calculation of the average age-specific incidence (or mortality) rates over a 5-year period is based on the population estimates under the "resident population" approach.
4. Figures on new cases and deaths of cervical cancer are based on ICD-10 (C53).

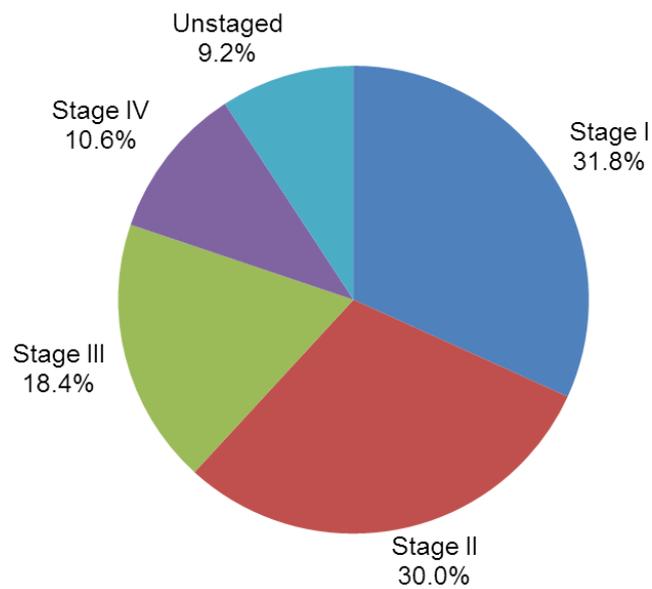
Sources: Department of Health
Census and Statistics Department
Hong Kong Cancer Registry, Hospital Authority

Stage distribution

Figure 3 shows the stage distribution of cervical cancer in 2015. Among the new cases of cervical cancer diagnosed in 2015, 31.8% were stage I, 30.0% were stage II, 18.4% were stage III, 10.6% were stage IV and the remaining 9.2% were unstaged.

Figure 3

Stage Distribution of Cervical Cancer in 2015



Footnote: Cervical cancer is staged primarily according to the 7th edition of the AJCC/UICC TNM system.

Source: Hong Kong Cancer Registry, Hospital Authority