

Trends in net survival from esophageal cancer in six European Latin countries: results from the SUDCAN population-based study

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Esophageal cancer represents a major clinical challenge because of its poor prognosis. The aim of the SUDCAN collaborative study was to compare the net survival from esophageal cancer between six European Latin countries (Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Switzerland) and report the trends in net survival and the dynamics of excess mortality rates (EMRs) up to 5 years after diagnosis. The data were extracted from the EUROCARE-5 database. First, net survival was studied over the period 2000–2004 using the Pohar-Perme estimator. For trend analyses, the study period was specific to each country. The results were reported from 1992 to 2004 in France, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland and from 2000 to 2004 in Belgium and Portugal. These trend analyses were carried out using a flexible excess rate modeling strategy. There were some differences between countries in age-standardized net survival (2000–2004). The 5-year net survival ranged between 9 (Spain) and 21% (Belgium). The small increase in net survival from 1992 and 2004 was mostly observed at ages 55 and 65, but was less marked at age 75. There was a slight decrease in EMR between 1992 and 2004 until ~ 24 months after diagnosis. Beyond this period, the decrease in the EMR was moderate and the same in all

countries irrespective of the year of diagnosis. Some improvement in the 5-year net survival was observed in all countries limited to the 24 months after diagnosis. However, survival differences between countries persisted. Further improvement is expected from innovative treatments. *European Journal of Cancer Prevention* 25: S24–S31 Copyright © 2016 Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. All rights reserved.

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