



Strengthening cancer care in the Asia-Pacific region

– May 2025

FACTS:

- The global incidence of cancer is projected to reach 24 million new cases annually by 2035, with more than 70% occurring in low- and middle-income countries.
- In 2020, the Asia-Pacific region accounted for 60% of global cancer deaths.
- By 2035, over 5 million cancer patients in Asia-Pacific countries are expected to require radiotherapy services.

PROJECT CYCLE:

2024 - 2028

PARTNERS:

*The George Institute for Global Health,
Australia*

*South Western Sydney Local Health
District, Australia*

*International Atomic Energy Agency,
Austria*

SUPPORTERS:

*The George Institute for Global Health
International Atomic Energy Agency*

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

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BACKGROUND:

- The Asia-Pacific region faces the most significant global shortfall in radiotherapy services, highlighting the urgent need for substantial investments to address the rising cancer burden.
- Robust information systems are critical to delivering effective modern radiotherapy services. Access to reliable, country-specific data on cancer occurrence, treatment practices, and patient outcomes is essential for guiding targeted, cost-effective interventions.

AIM:

- To propose achievable regional standards for radiation oncology data collection across the Asia-Pacific and support their implementation.
- To assess current practices in the use of radiotherapy information systems across the region and identify key gaps to inform future training efforts.

METHODS:

- In collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency, a comprehensive survey will be conducted among radiation oncology professionals across 19 Asia-Pacific countries.
- The first-ever proposed guideline for minimum data collection standards in Radiation Oncology in the region will be developed and refined through an iterative Delphi process, engaging representatives from stakeholder countries and organisations.

IMPACT

- Understanding current data collection practices will reveal opportunities to improve radiotherapy services across the region. These improvements have the potential to enhance cancer care services at both the individual and community levels, leading to better treatment outcomes and improved access to equitable, high-quality cancer care.

CONTACT:

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