

Digestive diseases and cancers:

Uncovering the burden and economic impact

Country report: Poland

Digestive diseases and cancers exert a substantial public health and economic burden across Poland. Unfortunately, despite their impact, they remain poorly understood, attracting relatively little attention in terms of policy, funding and research.

Digestive disease burden

In 2019, there were approximately:

3,584,449

Incident cases

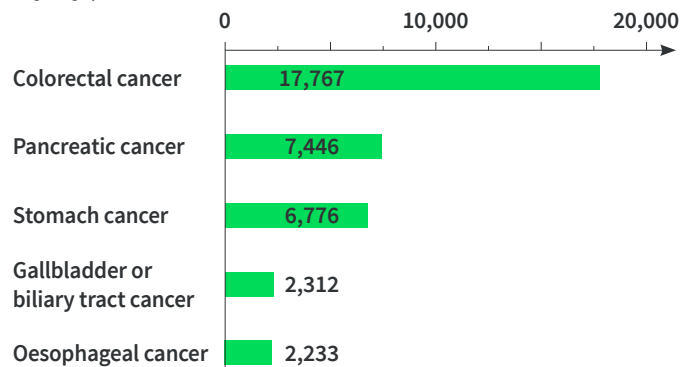
18,145

Deaths

with a notable increase in prevalent cases seen for major diseases including liver cirrhosis caused by non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and peptic ulcer disease between 2000 to 2019.



Highest number of cancer mortality by type in 2019



Economic impact of digestive diseases

In 2019, Poland's expenditure on digestive diseases comprised:

€ 3305.3 million in indirect costs

€ 528.2 million in direct costs



Digestive cancer burden

In 2019, there were approximately:

43,220 Incident cases

37,990 Deaths



Risk factors

A high proportion of digestive diseases and cancers are caused by modifiable risk factors:

48.5%

of the proportion of pancreatitis age-standardised DALY rates* are associated with alcohol use

14%

of the proportion of colorectal cancer age-standardised DALY rates are associated with a high BMI**

23%

of the proportion of stomach cancer age-standardised DALY rates are associated with smoking

14%

of the proportion of liver cancer age-standardised DALY rates are associated with drug use

Urgent action must be taken to improve digestive health. Learn more about our research and funding priorities, as well as our recommendations for action, in our latest White Book...



*Disability-adjusted life years (DALY): A measure which combines years of life lost to premature mortality and years of healthy life lost due to disability.

**Body mass index (BMI).