

POPULATION BASED CANCER REGISTRY, ARUNACHAL WEST

Arunachal State Hospital: Naharlagun

Dr Sopai Tawsik, Head, Department of Pathology, Arunachal State Hospital, Principal Investigator

Dr Moji Jini, Chief Medical Superintendent, Arunachal State Hospital, Naharlagun

Dr Shyam Tsering MD, Radio-Oncologist, Co-Investigator

Dr Adishi Kri MD, Radio-Oncologist, Co-Investigator

Dr Gamba Padu, Pathologist, Co-Investigator

The Population Based Cancer Registry (PBCR) located in the department of pathology, Arunachal State Hospital (formerly called General Hospital), Naharlagun started functioning from 1st January 2011. The registry covers eight districts of western zone of Arunachal Pradesh which has an approximate population of 7,59,794 as per 2011 census report.

Arunachal Pradesh “The land of Dawn lit Mountains” is situated at the north-east extremity of the country. Geographically, Arunachal Pradesh is bounded by Bhutan to the west, China to the north and northeast and Myanmar to the east. It shares interstate boundary with Nagaland in the east and southeast and Assam in the south. It has total area of 83,743 sq km and has population of 10,97,968 persons as per 2001 census.

District-wise Population

Names of the Districts	Population		
	Males	Females	Total
Tawang	29361	20589	49950
West Kameng	49568	37445	87013
East Kameng	38974	39439	78413
Kurung Kumey	44226	45491	89717
Lower Subansiri	41935	40904	82839
Upper Subansiri	41974	41231	83205
West Siang	58589	53683	112272
Papumpare	90447	85938	176385
Total	395074	364720	759794

Sources of Registration of Cancer Cases

Public / Private

- 1 General Hospital, Naharlagun
- 2 District Hospital, Tawang, Aalo, Bomdila
- 3 District Hospital, Bomdila, Seppa, Daporijo
- 4 State Referral Authority
- 5 All Community Health Centres
- 6 Ramakrishna Mission Hospital, Itanagar
- 7 Heema Hospital, Itanagar
- 8 Niba Hospital, Pappu Nallah, Naharlagun
- 9 BTM Hospital, Naharlagun
- 10 General Hospital, Pasighat

Private Laboratories

- 1 Ambeelab, Itanagar
- 2 Frontier Diagnostic Centre, Naharlagun
- 3 Capital Diagnostic Centre, Naharlagun
- 4 Hormin Diagnostic Lab, Naharlagun
- 5 N.R. Diagnostic Lab, Naharlagun
- 6 Mediscan Arunachal, Naharlagun

- 7 NIBA Clinic, Naharlagun

List of Source / Institution Outside PBCR

- 1 B.B.C.I, Guwahati
- 2 Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati
- 3 Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
- 4 Apollo Hospital, Chennai
- 5 Apollo Hospital, Delhi
- 6 Christian Medical College, Vellore
- 7 Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh
- 8 Cancer Centre Welfare Home, Thakurpukur, Kolkata
- 9 North East Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Guwahati
- 10 AIIMS, New Delhi
- 11 Super Religare Laboratories Ltd, Mumbai
- 12 Dr. Lals Pathlabs, New Delhi
- 13 Civil Hospital, Tezpur
- 14 Christian Baptist Hospital

The registration of cancer incidence cases is done by active registration as cancer is not a notifiable disease. The state's referral hospitals, nursing homes and private pathological laboratories of the capital, district hospitals and birth and death records office are the sources of data collection. In absence of comprehensive cancer treatment centre in our state most of the cases are referred out of the state for treatment. In view of this, we have established contacts with B. Borooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati, Assam Medical College Dibrugarh, Tata Memorial Hospital Mumbai, where majority of our cancer patients go for treatment and we are getting full cooperation from them. We also conduct direct interviews with the patients and their relatives to collect the necessary information.

Mortality data is collected from the death registers maintained in the hospitals, obituary references/press releases of the newspapers and active follow up through telephone. Since there are no established crematoria in the state and different communities have their own system of disposing dead bodies, we mainly get death reports through regular telephonic contact. All cause mortality data from the department of Economics and Statistics is also collected. As the state has very difficult terrain and villages are scattered with difficult road communication, house visits are not feasible in the view of the vastness in area.

Our Registry is in its infant stage and has just completed one year of data collection. We are striving to develop strategies specific to our state.

Population Based Cancer Registry (PBCR), Naharlagun would like to thank National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) for including us in the PBCR network. We also acknowledge the support of the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Doctors of Arunachal State Hospital Naharlagun, Ramakrishna Mission Hospital Itanagar, private nursing homes, private laboratories, B. Barooah Cancer Institute Guwahati, Tata Memorial Hospital Mumbai and Assam Medical College Dibrugarh for their kind support.

Name of the Registry Staff

Mr Jigonso Tawsik	:	Computer Programmer
Ms Hage Ampa	:	Social Investigator
Ms Habung Pampi	:	Social Investigator
Ms Ngilyang Otung	:	Statistician
Mr Rontu Chena	:	Data Entry Operator