

INCIDENCE OF THYROID CANCER IN CUBA (1998 TO 2008)

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Background/Purpose: The National Cancer Registry of Cuba (NCRC) provides information for the analysis of the incidence of this disease in our country, which is a tool to identify medical assistance needs, to plan the adequate use of resources and lay out strategies on the health care actions to be taken. The purpose of this study was to present and analyze the incidence of thyroid cancer (TC) in Cuba.

Methods: A retrospective descriptive research study of TC was performed from 1988 to 2008, which used variables such as age, sex, place of origin, histological diagnosis and clinical stage contributed by the NCRC. Frequency distributions and adjusted rates were estimated, and data were shown in tables and charts.

Results: Of the total cases, 81.3 % were females and the age average was 45,9 years. The incidence rate sharply rose in 1996 and kept steady but higher figures than in previous years. The incidence in over 75 years-old group were the most affected in males (7.1/100000 hab) whereas the 60-65 and 35-40 age groups was the most incidental among females (12.0 and 11.1, respectively). 42 % of carcinomas was well-differentiated and 40,4% was classified in clinical staging I

Discussion & Conclusion: The increasing trend of TC cancer in the last few years demands improved quality in TC notification in order to raise the level of knowledge about this entity in our country and thus develop adequate prevention and control strategies.