

Oregon Partnership for Cancer Control



Comprehensive
Cancer Control

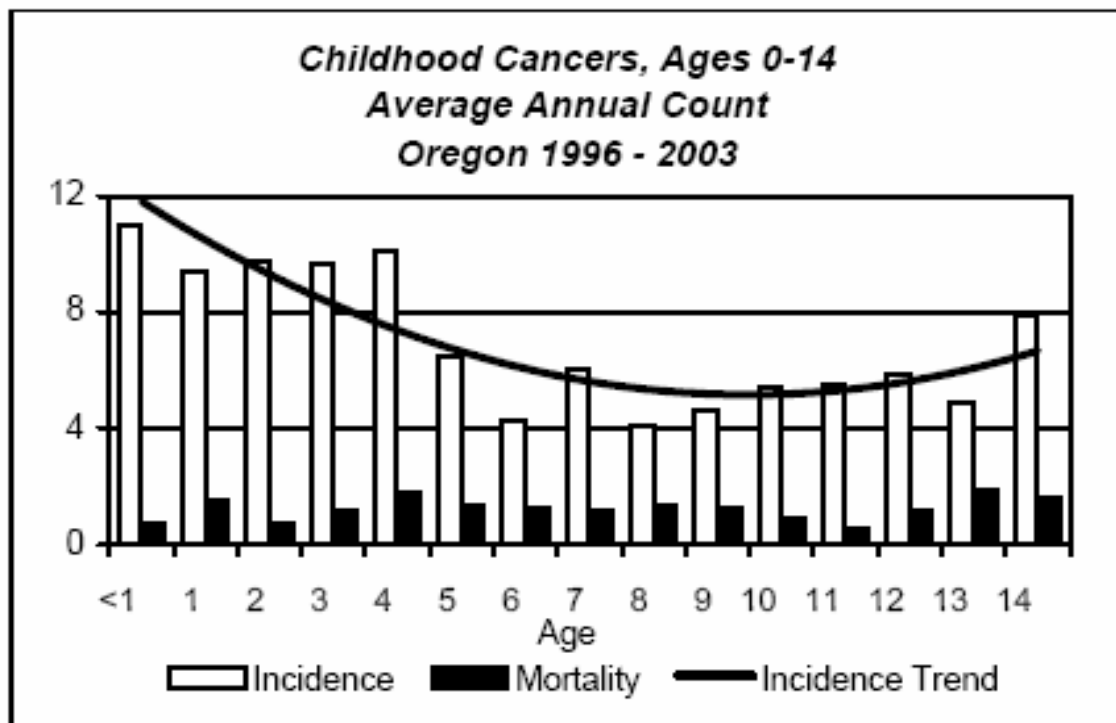
Collaborating to Conquer Cancer



Childhood Cancers in Oregon

- **Leukemia Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL)**
 - Nationally, acute leukemias are the most frequent childhood cancers
 - Boys have a higher incidence than girls
 - Children with certain genetic disorders, particularly Down Syndrome, are at a higher risk
- **Brain and Central Nervous System (CNS)**
 - Nationally, brain and CNS cancers are the 2nd most common cancers among children
 - Boys have a higher incidence than girls
- **Lymphoma Hodgkin-Lymphoma (HL) Non-Hodgkin (NHL)**
 - Nationally, lymphoma is the 3rd most common cancer among children.
 - NHL rates are generally higher among males than females
- **Malignant Bone Cancers Ewing Sarcomas Osteosarcoma**
 - Nationally, bone tumors constitute about 5% of all childhood cancers
 - Osteosarcoma and Ewing sarcoma predominate
- **Cancer incidence and mortality**
 - The incidence of cancers among Oregon children (age 0-14) is low compared to adults
 - There has been about a 1% annual increase in incidence rates for the period 1996-2003
 - During 1996-2003, about half of all childhood cancers in children under 14 years of age occurred in children less than 5, however, mortality among children is low
 - Nationally, childhood cancer survival rates have shown a dramatic increase over the past few decades. Since the 1960's, the five-year relative survival rate has increased from 30% to approximately 70%.

General childhood cancer facts: Typically, the factors that trigger cancer in children are not the same factors that may cause cancer in adults, such as smoking or exposure to environmental toxins. Rarely, there may be an increased risk of childhood cancer in children who have a genetic condition, such as Down syndrome. Children who have had chemotherapy or radiation treatment for a prior cancer episode may also have an increased risk of cancer. In almost all cases, childhood cancers arise from noninherited mutations (or changes) in the genes of growing cells. Because these errors occur randomly and unpredictably, there is currently no effective way to prevent them.



Signs of Childhood cancer include:

Continued, unexplained weight loss

Headaches, often with early morning vomiting

Increased swelling or persistent pain in bones, joints, back, or legs

Lump or mass, especially in the abdomen, neck, chest, pelvis, or armpits

Development of excessive bruising, bleeding, or rash

Constant infections

A whitish color behind the pupil

Nausea which persists or vomiting without nausea

Constant tiredness or noticeable paleness

Eye or vision changes which occur suddenly and persist

Recurrent or persistent fevers of unknown origin

Oregon Partnership for Cancer Control (OPCC) has a mission to enhance cancer prevention activities, increase access to quality services, maximize the quality of life of cancer survivors, promote education about cancer issues and make effective use of data. The Partnership, formed in 2004, created the first cancer plan for Oregon, which serves as a blueprint for action for the state, communities and organizations. Together, we are making a difference!

OPCC, 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 730, Portland, OR 97232 www.healthoregon.org/cancer

Source: Cancer in Oregon 2003, Oregon State Cancer Registry (OSCaR) www.healthoregon.org/oscar

(currently the Oregon Registry does not collect follow-up data, so Oregon-specific survival data are not available)