

POPULATION BASED CANCER REGISTRY

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The Population Based Cancer Registry (PBCR) covering the district of Dibrugarh in the eastern part of the state of Assam was established at Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh in 2003 as a part of North-East Regional Cancer Registries (NERCR) under National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Govt. of India. It caters to the resident population of 13,26,335 (2011 Census Report) in an area of 3381 sq. kms. Dibrugarh is predominantly a rural district where 82% of populations are rural.

Apart from Assam Medical College Hospital (AMCH), Dibrugarh where the PBCR is based, there are many sources of registration both within and outside the registry area. These include, one Govt. Railway Hospital, OIL Hospital, Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. Hospital, Tata Referral Hospital, 32 Nursing Homes, 35 Pathology Laboratories and Imaging Centres and 15 Birth and Death Registration Centres (Vital Statistics Division) located at different PHCs and CHCs of the district. The current number of sources within the registry area from where cancer data are collected stands at 87.

Cancer is not a notifiable disease in India unlike most developed countries. Hence registration of cases are done by active method. The social Investigators personally visit sources of registration and collect data on cancer cases either by interviewing the patients/attendants or from the medical records. The field staff faces tremendous challenge in data collection from most of the private nursing homes, hospitals and laboratories due to their partial cooperation. Most of them do not allow the field staff to go through their records citing privacy issues. Data on cancer mortality are collected from the birth and death registration centres of the district.

The coverage of cancer mortality is far from complete in the registry area. The perennial problem is that the majority of the populations are rural where all deaths are not reported.

Staff of PBCR, Dibrugarh

Mr S. K. Bhuyan, MIT	:	Computer Programmer
Mr C. Hazarika, M.Sc.	:	Statistician
Mrs R. Mahanta, M.Sc.	:	Medical Social Worker
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Mr S. Barua, M.A.	:	Medical Social Worker
Mrs R.D. Singh, MCA	:	Data Entry Operator

**Main Sources of Registration of Incident Cases of Cancer: 2012-2014
Dibrugarh District**

Name of the Institution	Number	%
AMCH, Dibrugarh	1610	56.6
BBCI, Guwahati	216	7.6
Aditya Diagnostic Laboratory	172	6.0
Madona Laboratory	168	5.9
Municipality Board, Dibrugarh	99	3.5
Sankardev Hospital & Research Centre	57	2.0
Cancer Atlas	54	1.9
Oil Hospital, Duliajan	52	1.8
Marwari Arogya Bhawan Hospital, Jyoti Nagar, Dibrugarh	49	1.7
Tengakhat PHC	47	1.7
Brahmaputra Diagnostic & Hospital	42	1.5
Birth & Death Registration, AMCH, Dibrugarh	38	1.3
V.G. Hospital, Convoy Road, Dibrugarh	29	1.0
Naharani CHC	28	1.0
Others	182	6.5
Total	2843	100.0

- 1. Institutions listed have registered at least one percent of all cases in the registry for Selected Year.*
- 2. The numbers and proportion listed are the minimum number of cases. Institutions could have registered/ reported more cases, since duplicate registrations and non-resident/registry cases are not included.*