

Cancer as a major health problem in Latvia



Asoc.prof., Dr.habil.med.

Dace Baltiņa

RSU

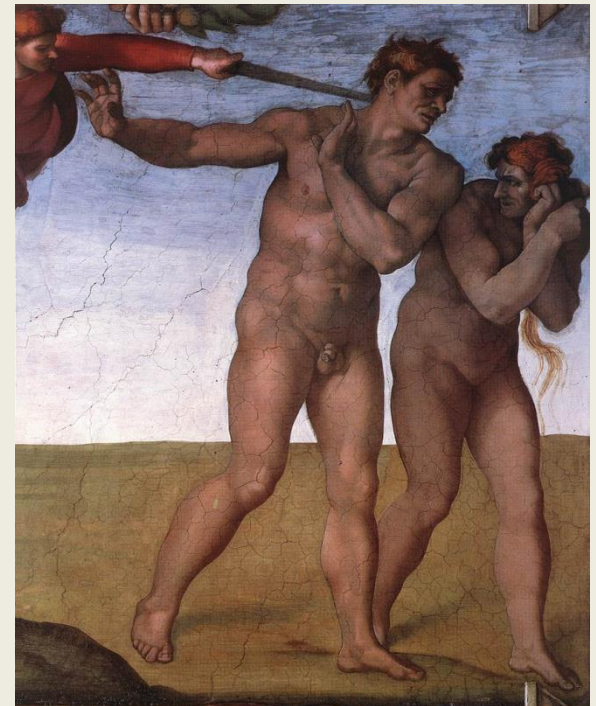
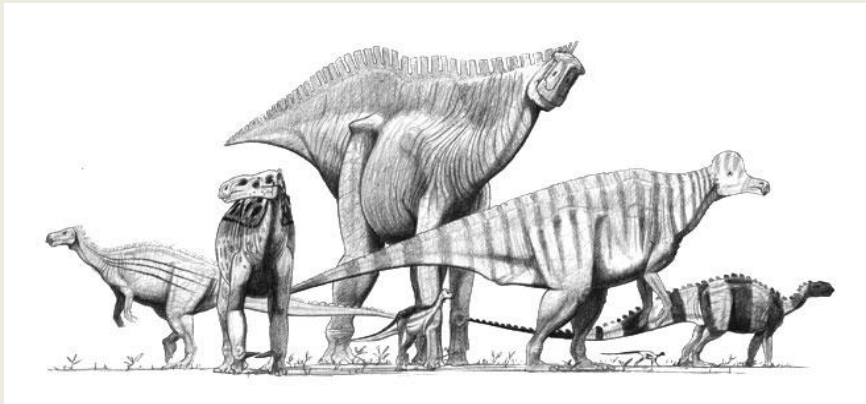
“Illness is the night side of life, a more onerous citizenship. Everyone who is born holds dual citizenship, in the kingdom of the well and in the kingdom of the sick. Although we all prefer to use only the good passport, sooner or later each of us is obliged, at least for a spell, to identify ourselves as citizens of that other place”.

Susan Sontag

How it is today to be a citizen of the kingdom of cancer?

Some facts from history...

- Cancer is not a typical disease of civilisation, it is much older, it is as old as human society.....



Cancer nowadays

- The annual number of new cases in the world is predicted to increase from over 14 millions in 2012 to almost 22 millions in 2030 due to population growth and aging alone.
- Cancer is the number one killer around the world – claiming more lives than tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and malaria combined
- One third of all cancer incidence are preventable and one third are treatable with early detection and proper resources

Cancer Today Worldwide

Cancer	Incidence	Mortality
Lung	(1) 2,094 million 11,6% of all new cases	(1) 1,8 million 18,4% of all cancer deaths
Breast	(2) 2,089 million 11,6% of all new cases	(5) 627 000 6,6% of all cancer deaths
Colorectal	(3) 1,8 million 11,6% of all new cases	(2) 881 000 9,2% of all cancer deaths
Prostate	(4) 1,3 million 7,1% of all new cases	
Stomach	(5) 1,0 million 5,7% of all new cases	(3) 783 000 8,2% of all cancer deaths
Liver		(4) 782 000 8,2% of all cases

Future trends

- The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) estimate that globally:
 - **one-in-five men and one-in-six women worldwide will develop cancer** over the course of their lifetime, and
 - **one-in-eight men and one-in-eleven women will die from their disease.**
- A number of factors appear to be driving this increase, particularly:
 - a growing and ageing global population;
 - an increase in exposure to cancer risk factors linked to social and economic development;
 - Better diagnostics.

Latvia, number of new cases in 2018, both sexes, all ages (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers)

Cancer	Absolute number	% of all new cases
1. Colorectum	1 550	12,7
2. Prostate	1 380	11,3
3. Breast	1 266	10,4
4. Lung	1 131	9,3
5. Kidney	587	4,8
Other cancers	6 257	51,4

Latvia, number of new cases in 2018, males, all ages (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers)

Cancer	Absolute number	% of all new cases
1. Prostate	1 380	22,7
2. Lung	869	14,3
3. Colorectum	735	12,1
4. Bladder	361	5,9
5. Stomach	310	5,1
Other cancers	2 434	40,0

Latvia, number of new cases in 2018, females, all ages, Latvia (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers)

Cancer	Absolute number	% of all new cases
1. Breast	1 266	20,8
2. Colorectum	815	13,4
3. Corpus uteri	380	6,2
4. Cervix uteri	339	5,6
5. Thyroid	310	5,1
Other cancers	2 972	48,9

Summary statistics from 2018, Latvia

	Males	Females	Both sexes
Population	886 564	1 043	1 929
Number of new cancer cases	6 089	6 082	12 171
Age-standardized incidence rate (World)	375.7	267.6	302.2
Risk of developing cancer before the age of 75 years (%)	36.6	26.3	30.2
Number of cancer deaths	3 223	2 864	6 087
Age-standardized mortality rate (World)	187.9	96.1	129.9
Risk of dying from cancer before the age of 75 years (%)	19.7	10.2	14.0

Summary statistics from 2018, Latvia

	Males	Females	Both sexes
Top 5 most frequent cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer (ranked by cases)	1. Prostate 2. Lung 3. Colorectum 4. Bladder 5. Stomach	1. Breast 2. Colorectum 3. Corpus uteri 4. Cervix uteri 5. Thyroid	1. Colorectum 2. Prostate 3. Breast 4. Lung 5. Kidney

Cancer incidence in Latvia

<i>Gads</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Per 100 000 inhabitants</i>
2008	9 952	457,1
2009	10 359	483,7
2010	11 188	533,4
2011	11 720	569,0
2012	11 644	572,4
2013	11 740	583,3
2014	11 594	581,5
2015	11 405	576,7
2016	11 394	581,5
2017	11 762	605,6

Cancer incidence in Latvia by stage, all cancers, both sexes 2010-2017 (%)

	I	II	III	IV	NA
2010	21,8	20,2	17,7	22,4	17,9
2011	26,6	19,1	17,2	23,6	13,6
2012	28,6	19,4	16,9	20,1	15,0
2013	29,7	19,1	16,2	19,9	15,1
2014	29,4	19,5	16,7	20,7	13,8
2015	27,3	19,9	16,3	20,2	16,3
2016	28,0	19,9	15,9	19,8	16,5
2017	29,6	18,4	15,2	18,5	18,3

First year mortality, all cancers, both sexes, Latvia, 2007-2016

Year	Total	I	II	III	IV	NA	SSK-10	
							C70 – C72	C81 – C96
2007	34,4	4,1	14,0	35,0	77,5	41,6	51,2	29,0
2008	32,1	5,1	10,7	35,3	76,5	37,0	48,4	30,2
2009	33,7	4,9	11,2	30,8	73,5	47,3	50,8	26,5
2010	33,9	3,8	12,8	28,5	75,2	48,0	42,7	27,8
2011	32,8	4,7	12,7	29,1	76,1	45,1	48,6	26,7
2012	30,9	4,0	11,4	30,3	74,1	50,2	41,1	30,1
2013	31,1	4,3	13,4	28,6	75,6	49,7	44,9	33,1
2014	32,3	4,6	13,7	30,6	73,5	57,8	50,5	31,9
2015	32,0	4,1	10,8	31,2	73,0	55,0	46,3	29,9
2016	32,8	4,7	13,8	29,4	72,6	59,3	45,7	38,7

5-year survival by stage in Latvia, all cancers, both sexes, 2005-2012

	Total	I	II	III	IV	NA
2005/2010	40,8	77,8	60,9	26,8	5,9	33,9
2006/2011	42,7	81,9	62,4	30,2	5,3	35,3
2007/2012	43,9	79,9	62,9	34,1	5,8	37,0
2008/2013	46,2	79,3	65,5	32,9	7,3	42,6
2009/2014	45,0	79,5	67,2	37,6	7,6	32,7
2010/2015	45,8	81,4	64,5	39,1	7,6	35,6
2011/2016	46,3	80,2	63,4	38,0	5,9	36,6
2012/2017	48,6	80,8	64,5	39,2	7,7	31,9

A shift from acute to chronic condition

- **An acute condition** until the end of the XIX century
 - usually advanced disease at a late stage with very short expected survival;
 - No curative treatment possible.
- **A chronic condition** in the XXI century:
 - Early detected curable disease;
 - Prolongation of survival is possible even with an advanced stage of the disease;
 - So far there is no life-long treatment to control the disease.

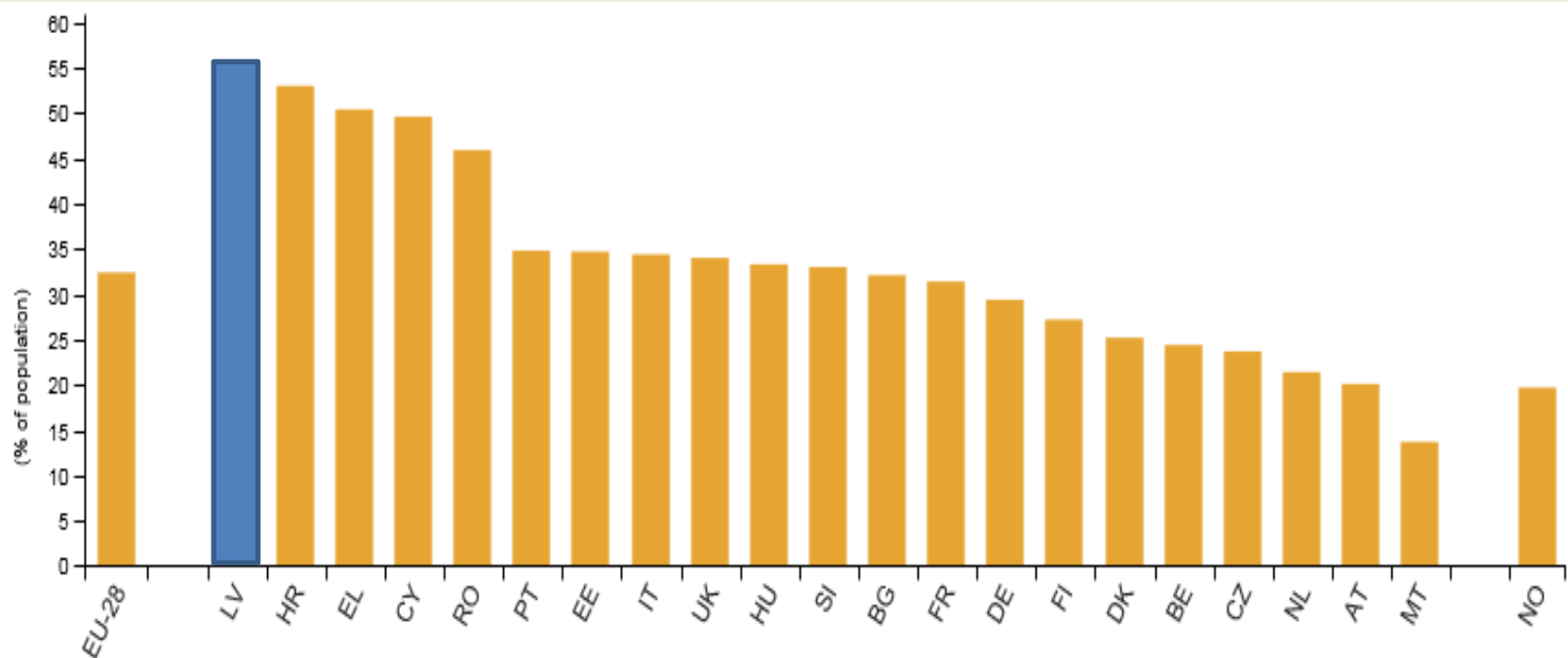
Cancer and poverty

- People who are poorer tend to come with cancer far later. Cancer patients with low income are several times more likely to die earlier from their disease than high-income patients.

Poor patient + poor state = more earlier deaths from cancer + more financial problems for the remaining

- Besides well known chemical – physical, chemical and viral - **poverty is a social carcinogen**

Population unable to face unexpected financial expenses, 2018, Latvia



The main reason for not having medical examination or treatment in Latvia, 2018

<i>Reasons</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Urban areas</i>	<i>Rural areas</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Could not afford (too expensive)	38,3	33,5	49,2	32,9	42,7
Waiting list	12,7	12,6	13,0	11,2	13,9
Could not take time because of work, care for children or for others	10,8	11,9	8,1	11,6	10,1
Too far to travel/ no means of transportation	4,8	4,5	5,4	3,2	6,1
Fear of doctor/ hospitals/examination/ treatment	2,3	2,4	2,1	2,6	2,0
Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own	24,7	27,4	18,8	32,7	18,4
Did not know any good specialist	4,3	5,0	2,7	3,4	5,1

Share of population at risk of poverty by age and sex; 2017

	Total	Males	Females
Total	23.3	20.4	25.8
0-17	17.5	16.9	18.1
18-24	19.6	20.1	19.0
25-49	13.8	14.0	13.6
50-64	23.8	23.7	23.9
65+	45.7	37.5	49.8

Numbers at glance (GLOBOCAN 2018)

	World	Latvia
Total population	7 632 819 272	1 929 940
Number of new cases	18 078 957	12 171
Number of deaths	9 555 027	6 087
Number of prevalent cases (5-year)	43 841 302	31 387

Fight against cancer could be devided in two fronts – not to get the desease and not to die from it.

Occupational cancer belongs to avoidable cases and as such it should be avoided.