Just the facts



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Did you know?

In 2007

- 19,736 cancers were registered in New Zealand; 52.8% of the registrations were males, 47.2% for females. (1)
- There was a 22.3% increase in cancer registrations between 1997 and 2007. (1)
- Cancer was the leading cause of death for males and females in New Zealand, accounting for 29.8% of all deaths. (1)
- Between 1997 to 2007, the number of deaths by cancer increased by 17%. ⁽¹⁾
- 15.1% of cancer registrations were for prostate cancer, with colorectal and breast cancer the next two most commonly reported.⁽¹⁾
- For males, prostate cancer accounted for 28.6% of all cancer registrations and for females, breast cancer was the most frequently reported cancer at 27.9%.
- After prostate cancer for men, and breast cancer for women, colorectal cancer and malignant melanoma of the skin were the next most common cancer registrations. (1)

In 2008

- 1 in 20 adults have been diagnosed with coronary heart disease. That's 161,000 adults and includes 118,500 with angina and 89,400 who have had a heart attack resulting in them being hospitalised. (3)
- 1 in 20 adults were diagnosed with diabetes; almost all had type 2 diabetes. (3)
- 1 in 34 (90,000) adults were told by their doctor they have osteoporosis. ⁽³⁾
- 1 in 18 adults and 1 in 59 children used a service at a private hospital. (3)
- Of these adults that used a private hospital 45.2% were admitted for day treatment and 34.6% were admitted as an in-patient. ⁽³⁾
- For medical conditions lasting or likely to last longer than 6 months, neck or back disorders were reported in 24.2% of those surveyed (755,100 adults).

In 2011

- There are an estimated 45,000 stroke survivors in New Zealand, with many disabled and needing significant daily support. (4)
- Stroke is the 3rd largest cause of death in New Zealand (about 2,000 people per year).
- 10% of stroke deaths occur to people under age 65. (4)
- Nearly 2000 (a 1/4 of all strokes) will be suffered by people under retirement age. (4)
- 40 strokes a year in New Zealand are suffered by children. (4)

And...

- Females are 3 times more likely to suffer multiple sclerosis. (5)
- The overall prevalence of multiple sclerosis is 79.1 in every 100,000 people in New Zealand. (5)
- Over 90% of trauma claims are for cancer, cardiovascular, and stroke ⁽⁶⁾
- Cancer is the leading cause of claims for males (46%), with females at 83%.
- Smokers are six times more likely to suffer a heart attack compared to non-smokers. (6)
- Cardiovascular disease (heart attack, stroke and blood vessel disease) is still the leading cause of death in New Zealand accounting for 33% of deaths annually.
- Every 90 minutes a New Zealander dies from coronary heart disease (16 deaths a day).
- Ministry of Health. (2010). Cancer: New registrations and deaths 2007. Wellington: Ministry of Health.
- (2) Hay, D. (2004). Cardiovascular disease in New Zealand 2004: A summary of recent statistical information. Auckland: National Heart Foundation.
- (3) Ministry of Health (2008). Portrait of health: Key results of the 2006/07 New Zealand health survey. Wellington: Ministry of Health.
- (4) New Zealand Stroke Foundation (2011).
- (5) Bruce Taylor, Anne Richardson, Deborah Mason, Ernest Willoughby, David Abernethy, Glynnis Clarke, Clive Sabel (2006). Prevalence of Multiple Sclerosis in New Zealand.
- (6) GenRe, 2010. (March 2010). Risk Matters Oceania.

Partners Life Limited PO Box 33040, Takapuna Auckland 0740 Fax 09 951 5029

0800 14 54 33 partnerslife.co.nz