

Incidence cancers trends in the "oldest-old" population: A population base study 1987-2020, in Hérault, France

Gras-Aygon C., Foucan A.-S., Trétarre B.
 Registre des tumeurs de l'Hérault, Montpellier, France
 tretarre.brigitte@registre-tumeurs-herault.fr



Introduction and Method

Ageing of the population

Adults aged 85 years and older "the oldest old" are the fastest-growing age group in France. In 2022, 21.0% of people in France are aged 65 and older, 3.4% of those over 85. Little is known about their cancer burden.

The main objective of this study is to analyze specificities of trends over time cancer incidence in "oldest old" population in an administrative district in France.

Data

Incidence data for 1987-2020 were obtained from the Hérault Cancer Registry for age older than 65 years.

Topography CIM-O3 : C00-C80 except non melanoma skin cancer

Population data from the Institut national de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (Insee).

Age The age group of the elderly has been classified into 2 groups:
 • 65-84 years
 • "the oldest old" 85 years and older

Age-standardized incidence rates

Age-standardized cancer incidence rates per 100,000 by sex using the World Standard population by sex. Truncated age-standardized incidence rates by age group.

Time-trends expressed from the Annual Percent Changes (APC) in age-standardized incidence rates and Average Annual Percent Change (AAPC) during the complete period. They were quantified using the NCI's Joinpoint Regression Program (version 4.6.0.0).

* means statistically significant

Results

Adults aged 85 years and older represent **2.8%** of the 65 years and older Hérault population but **13.8%** of all new cancer diagnoses.

1987-2020	Men		Women		All	
	Nb	%	Nb	%	Nb	%
65 - 84 years	54,749	62.2	33,320	37.8	88,069	100
85+ years	6,675	47.4	7,404	52.6	14 079	100
65+ years	61,424	60.1	40 724	39.9	102 148	100

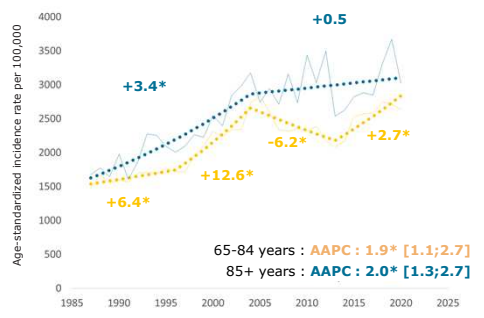
Men : Localisation by age



Women : Localisation by age



Men : all sites



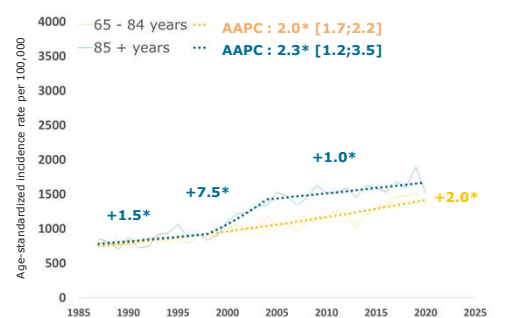
For men

- Over the total period, the rates increased similarly for the 2 age groups.
- The overall incidence rate in men aged 85 years and older increased sharply until the 2004 (APC +3.4%) then the increase has continued less rapidly but non significantly (APC +0.5%).

For women

- Between 1987-1998, the incidence rate has increased similarly for the 2 age groups.
- Women aged 85+ years rates increased sharply during 1998-2005, probably linked to that of pancreatic cancer (APC +18.6%) and Cancer of unknown primary site (CUP).
- From 2004, rates increased similarly in 85+ (APC +1%) increased less slowly than 65-84 years (APC +2%).

Women : all sites

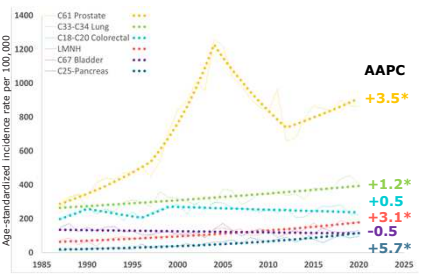


85 + years

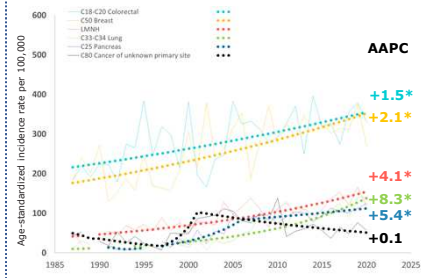


Men

65 - 84 years

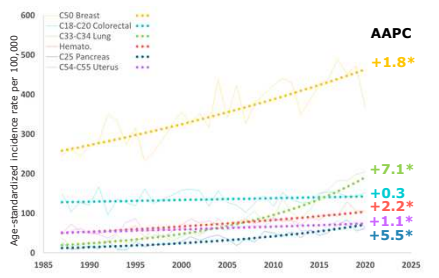


85 + years



Women

65 - 84 years



- The incidence rate of prostate cancer has decreased since 1998 (APC -2.6%) to become less common than colorectal cancer (APC +1.5%) from 2014.
- The incidence rate of bladder cancer had the faster increase (APC +5.4%).

- The incidence rates of pancreatic cancer has increased strongly (APC +5,7%).
- The colorectal rate remained stable over the period.
- For prostate cancer there was a re-increase in rates from 2012 (APC +2.7%).

- For 85+ years women, the incidence rate of lung cancer had the fastest increase APC +8.3%.
- Since 1987, colorectal cancer was the most common cancer, but due to a faster increase in breast cancer (APC +2.1% vs +1.5%), it could be overtaken by cancer breast from 2020.

- For the 65-84 years women, the incidence rates of lung cancer has increased strongly (APC +7.1%) as for pancreatic cancer (APC +5.5%).
- The colorectal rate remained stable.

Conclusion : This population-based study provides information on cancer incidence in adults aged 85 years and older in the Hérault district. The specific features of cancer in the "oldest old": cancer trends for all sites are similar to those in the younger (ages 65-84 years) for each gender; faster increase for lung and pancreas cancer for women; faster increase for lung and bladder cancer and decrease for prostate cancer for men; Similar increase for both gender for colorectal cancer that become on the last period the more frequent cancer.

This work must be continued by more specific studies on the stages of diagnosis and the therapeutic management of the « oldest-old »