

LIVER DISEASE: THE LOOMING LIVER HEALTH CRISIS IN AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIANS LIVING WITH LIVER DISEASE



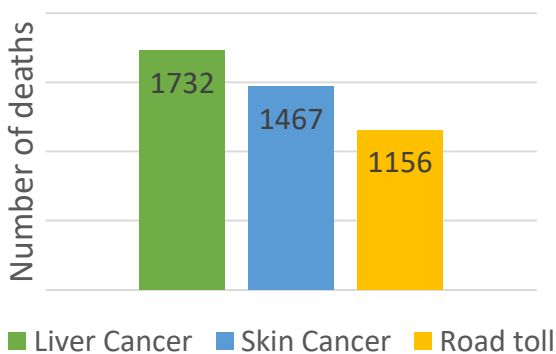
Liver disease affects an estimated 6 million Australians. This equates to the entire population of Victoria⁽¹⁾

LIVER DISEASE ECONOMICS

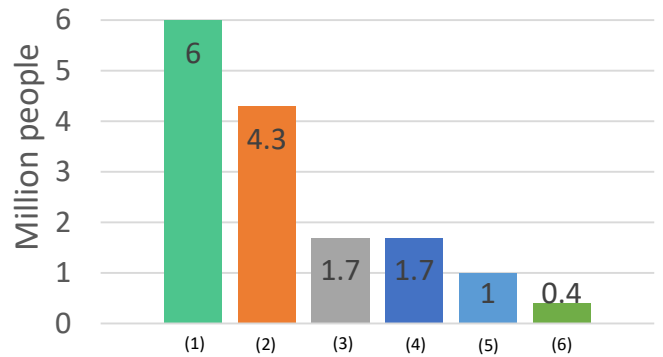


Costs Australia \$5.4 billion annually⁽⁷⁾

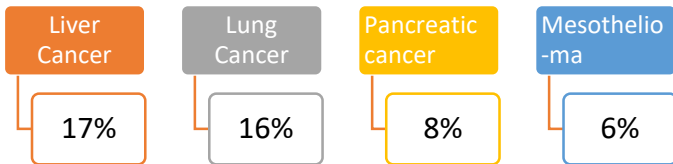
NATIONAL ANNUAL DEATH TOLL (2018)^(9,10)



COMPARATIVE PREVALENCE IN AUSTRALIA

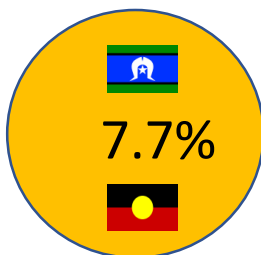


FIVE YEAR SURVIVAL RATE⁽⁹⁾



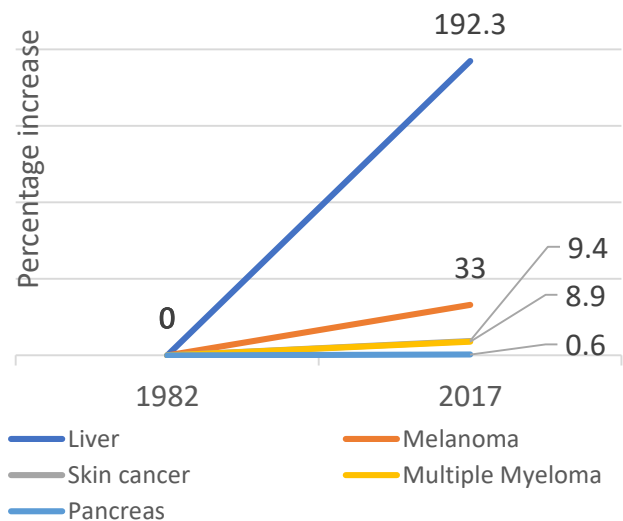
Cancers with the lowest survival rate include liver (17%), lung (16%), pancreas (8%) and mesothelioma (6%)

SURVIVAL RATE IN THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY⁽⁹⁾



5 year relative survival rate is 7.7% in Indigenous Australians. This is less than half the survival in non-Indigenous Australians.

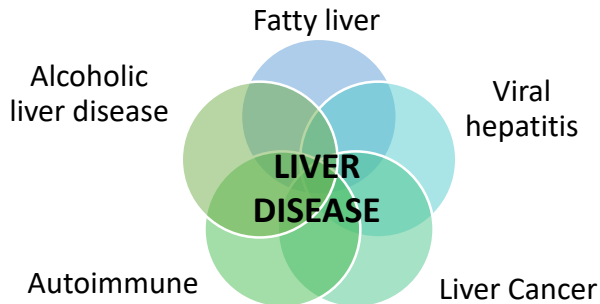
INCREASING CANCER DEATHS⁽⁹⁾



Liver cancer is the fastest **known** increasing cause of cancer death in Australia.

LIVER DISEASE: THE LOOMING LIVER HEALTH CRISIS IN AUSTRALIA

WHAT DOES LIVER DISEASE ENCOMPASS?



PROGRESSION OF LIVER DISEASE



INFLAMMATION

Caused by alcohol, virus, toxins.
Can be treated.

FIBROSIS

Healthy soft tissue begins to scar and harden.
Can be treated.

CIRRHOSIS

Liver tissue is fully scarred.
Treatment can prevent further scarring, and protect healthy tissue.

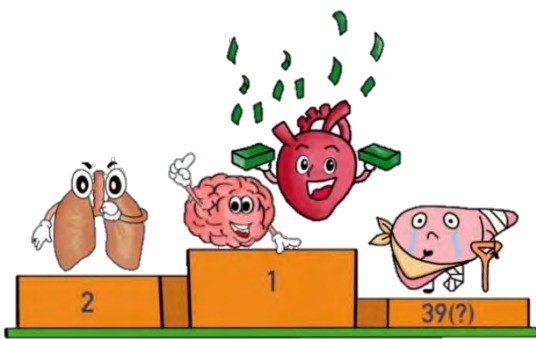
LIVER CANCER

Risk of liver cancer is higher with pre-existing cirrhosis.
Cancer can be managed if detected early.

LIVER FAILURE

Liver stops functioning, urgent medical care is needed.
A liver transplant might be an option.

PRESTIGE OF DISEASES (7)



In terms of prestige among health workers, the liver is consistently near the bottom of the hierarchy.

BURDEN OF LIVER CANCER⁽⁸⁾



The age-standardised incidence rate is 2.4 more likely for Indigenous than for non-Indigenous Australians



Australians living in remote areas were 2.1 times as likely to be diagnosed with liver cancer.



Australians in the lowest socio-economic group were 1.5 times as likely to be diagnosed with liver cancer.

REFERENCES

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