

The Registry has begun a broad-based programme of research. Most of this work is in the early stages and details of results will not be presented here. Details of work in progress, as well as copies of papers published or presented, will be posted on our website at www.ncrirl.org/research.htm as they become available. We are interested in hearing from researchers who might wish to use our data in their own projects or in collaboration with the Registry. Projects in progress* or due to begin shortly** are as follows:

2.1. DESCRIPTIVE AND METHODOLOGICAL WORK

- * Time trends in cancer mortality in Ireland, 1951 to 1999.
- * Rates of radiotherapy treatment and future projections of need.
- * Development of new statistical approaches to small area variation in cancer incidence and mortality (Collaborations with Department of Mathematics, University of Limerick, Department of Statistics, University College, Cork, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Trinity College, Dublin).
- ** Time trends in leukaemia and lymphoma incidence and survival for Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland, 1974 to 1997 (Collaboration with Northern Ireland Cancer Registry).

2.2. HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

- * Effects of treatment, hospital and consultant workload on breast cancer survival.
- * Variation in cancer incidence with deprivation – an analysis at ward/DED level (Collaboration with Department of Geography, TCD).
- * Variation in treatment of the commoner cancers by age and sex (Collaboration with Department of Family and Community Medicine, TCD).
- * Relative costs of surgery and radiotherapy for non-melanoma skin cancer.
- * Screening history of cases of carcinoma of cervix in MWHB (Collaboration with Dr. Marian O'Reilly, Cervical Screening Project).
- * Patient delay in presenting with signs/symptoms of colorectal cancers (Collaboration with Dr. Joe Moran, Department of General Practice, University College, Cork).
- ** Delays in diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer – patient and system factors.
- ** Differences in breast cancer by age, stage and other prognostic factors between Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland, with reference to screening (Collaboration with Northern Ireland Cancer Registry).
- ** Evaluation of National Cancer Strategy.

2.3. AETIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

- * Geographical variation in some childhood and adult cancers, with focus on Louth, Down and Armagh (Collaboration with Northern Ireland Cancer Registry, the North-Eastern Health Board and the Department of Family and Community Medicine, TCD).
- ** Radon and lung cancer in non-smokers – descriptive and case-control studies (Collaboration with Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland).
- ** Drinking water fluoridation and cancer in Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland (Collaboration with Northern Ireland Cancer Registry).
- ** Genetic predisposition to ovarian cancer and its interaction with the oral contraceptive pill.
- ** The effects of alcohol intake and folic acid levels on the incidence of breast cancer in Irish and American women (Collaboration with National Cancer Institute, USA).
- ** Risk factors for cancer in agricultural workers.