



Cancer Survivorship: A Public Health Issue

Leslie Given, MPA

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention
and Health Promotion
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control



A Cancer Survivor Is...

- A person who has been diagnosed with cancer and the people in their lives who are affected by their diagnosis, including family members, friends, and caregivers.
- A survivor from the time of diagnosis through the remaining years of life.

Why Survivorship?



- Cancer is one of the leading causes of death among adults in the United States.



- Cancer affects 1 in 3 individuals.



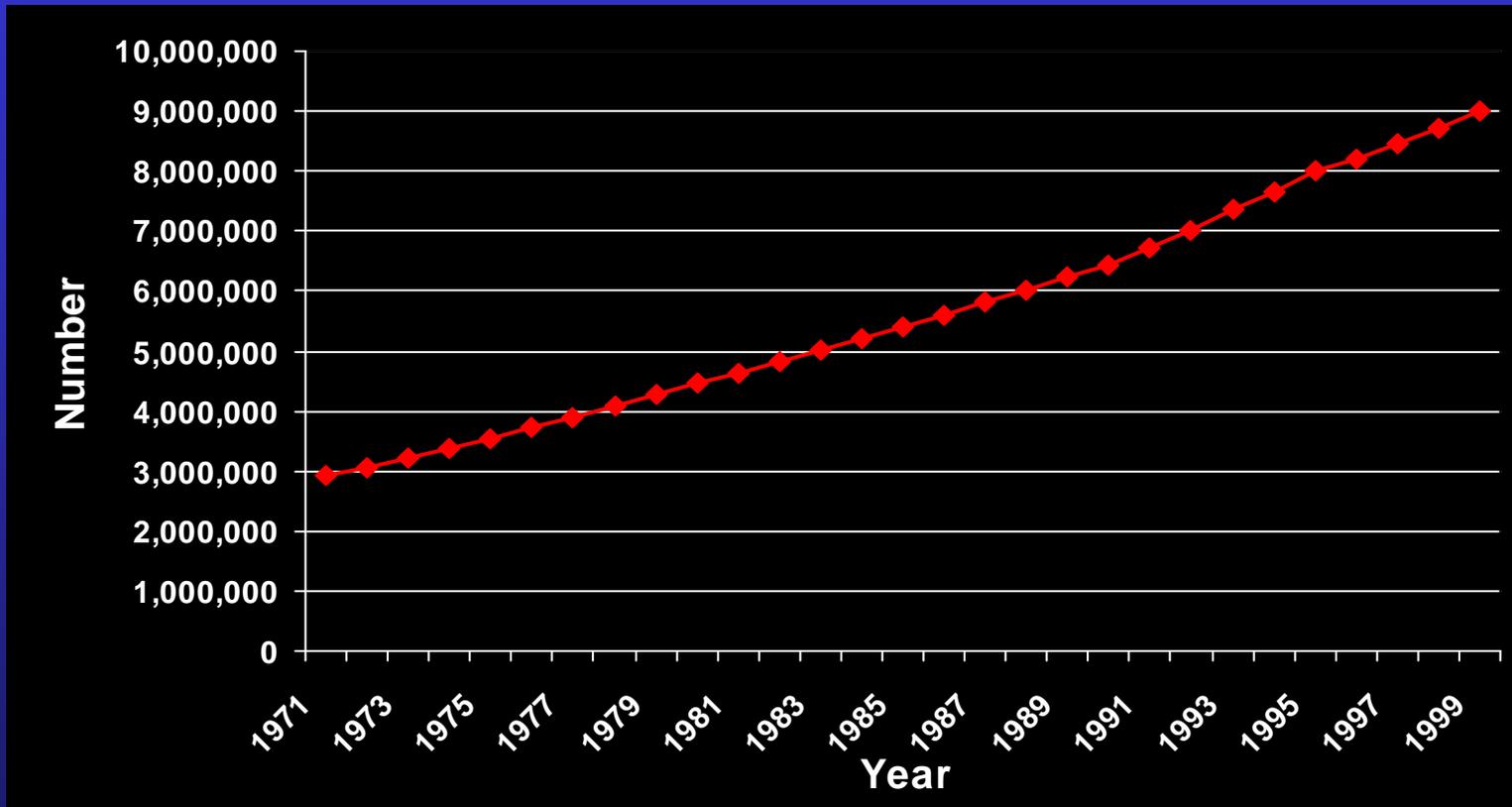
- There are more than 9.6 million cancer survivors alive in the U.S. today.

- 62% of cancer survivors are expected to live at least 5 years after diagnosis.



- Cancer for many has become a chronic illness.

Estimated Number Cancer Survivors in the United States from 1971 to 1999^{1,2}



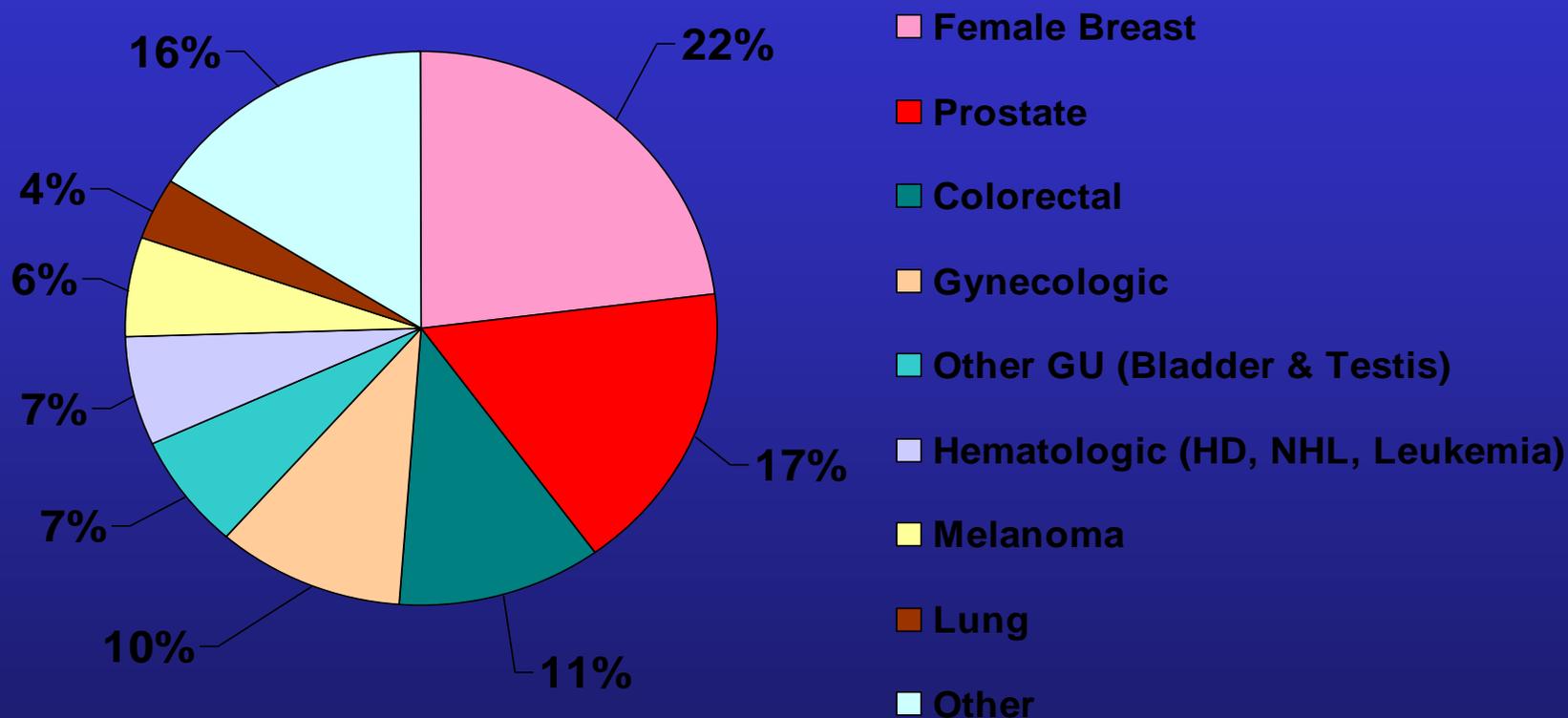
1. Increases reflect changes in the population size and the changes in incidence and survival rates over time.

2. Data sources: 1995-1999 SEER 20-years prevalence estimates. 1971-1994 CT 30-years prevalence estimates Method: Estimates are corrected to represent prevalence of all past diagnoses and extrapolated to the US population.



Estimated # of Persons Alive in the U.S. Diagnosed with Cancer in By Site¹

Invasive /1st Primary Cases Only (N = 9.6 Million)



Data Sources: November 2002 Submission. US Estimated Prevalence counts were estimated by applying US populations to SEER 9 Limited Duration Prevalence proportions. Populations from January 2000 were based on the average of the July 1999 and July 2000 population estimates from the US Bureau of Census.



Issues for Cancer Survivors



Physical

pain, fatigue, nausea, and hair loss



Psychological

fear, stress, depression, anger, and anxiety



Social

limited time to spend with loved ones



Spiritual

renewed vigor and sense of purpose

Economic

financial burdens from health care costs, and income loss resulting from work limitations



The Question

*Is Public Health prepared for the
upsurge of cancer survivors?*





Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease
Prevention and Health Promotion
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control

Mail Stop K-64
4770 Buford Highway, NE
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717
(770) 488-4751
Voice Information System 1 (888) 842-6355
Fax (770) 488-4760
cancerinfo@cdc.gov
<http://www.cdc.gov/cancer>

Lance Armstrong Foundation

*Enhancing the quality of life for those living with,
through and beyond cancer.*

1221 South MoPac Expressway
Suite 320
Austin, TX 78746
(512) 236-8820
Fax: (512) 236-8482
info@laf.org
www.laf.org

A National Action Plan for Cancer Survivorship: Advancing Public Health Strategies



Partners in the Creation of the Action Plan

Cancer Survivors

Clinical and behavioral science researchers

Federal agencies

State Cancer Control Coalitions

Non-profit and social service organizations

Advocacy groups

Policy makers



Purpose of the Action Plan

- Preventing secondary cancers and recurrence
- Promoting appropriate management of cancer patients following diagnosis/treatment.
- Minimizing preventable pain, disability, and psychosocial distress
- Supporting cancer survivors in accessing the resources and the family, peer, and community support



Outcomes of the Action Plan

- Laying the **foundation for public health activities** in cancer survivorship
- Identifying, discussing and prioritizing strategies to **expand and enhance the role of public health** in cancer survivorship
- Facilitating the development and enhancement of **collaborations and partnerships** that will assist with the expansion of public health's role in cancer survivorship
- **Enhance the quality of lives** for those living with, through and beyond cancer



Priority Actions

The plan identifies and prioritizes cancer survivorship needs and proposes strategies for addressing those needs within four core public health components:

- **Surveillance and Applied Research**
- **Communication, Education, and Training**
- **Programs, Policies, and Infrastructure**
- **Access to Quality Care and Services**



Action Plan Recommendations

- Infrastructure for a comprehensive database
- Patient navigation systems
- Clinical practice guidelines
- Public education programs
- Evaluation of all activities
- Research on preventive interventions
- Educate policy and decision makers
- Empower survivors with advocacy skill
- Support for quality and timely service provision



CDC addresses Survivorship by...



- Strengthening use of cancer data to explore survivorship issues
- Defining public health objectives related to enhancing the quality of life for people affected by cancer
- Learning from and building partnerships with those for whom survivorship is a personal reality and/or a professional passion
- Assisting grantees and partners to network and share needs, experiences and resources

