



Global cancer surgery: pragmatic solutions to improve cancer surgery outcomes worldwide

Progress in improving global cancer surgery access and delivery has been too slow to meet rising demand—a new *Lancet Oncology* Commission puts forward pragmatic, geographically contextualised solutions for transformative and equitable change.


Nine crucial domains




Emphasising the role of surgery and surgeons in cancer




Basic requirements for establishing or expanding cancer surgery services




Incorporation of technology in cancer surgery




Other specialties integral to providing optimal cancer surgical care




Patient safety and quality improvement in cancer surgery




Enhancing the role of research in cancer surgery



Education of surgical workforce pertaining to cancer surgery




Economic effect of providing safe, timely, high-quality, and value-based cancer surgery












Scaling up the cancer surgical workforce

Eight actions for progress

Make cancer surgery available, accessible, and affordable













10
15


Train the next generation of cancer surgeons






5
15


Promote cancer surgery research





3
8


Develop a skilled cancer surgery workforce






5
15


Implement principles of patient safety, quality improvement, and value-based care







3
5


Encourage continuous professional development







5
15


Promote wellbeing among the cancer surgery workforce








3
8

Establish cancer surgery delivery platforms in the event of global catastrophic events



2
4

X — X Time frame in years for monitoring progress/eventual attainability in the above eight actions and initiatives within each action

Close-to-implementation regional solutions

Region of the Americas

- >> Emphasising and promoting the importance of oncologically sound cancer surgery
- >> Ensuring uniformity in the delivery and quality of cancer surgical care

European Region

- >> Accreditation of surgical oncology as a subspecialty
- >> Extend EURECCA (European Registration of Cancer Care) initiatives to other cancers

Western Pacific Region

- >> Investments in the surgical ecosystem
- >> Promoting equitable cancer surgical research practices
- >> Streamline the pathways of surgical care

African region

- >> Emphasising cancer surgery in the competing spectrum of other geographically relevant diseases
- >> Investments in cancer surgery professionals and care pathways

Eastern Mediterranean Region

- >> Improvements in infrastructure; specialised cancer centres
- >> Mandating cancer surgery by qualified cancer surgeons

South-East Asian Region

- >> Equal emphasis on regionalisation and decentralisation of cancer surgical services
- >> Performance benchmarking

Read the full *Lancet Oncology* commission for more details

The *Lancet Oncology* commission on Global cancer surgery: pragmatic solutions to improve cancer surgery outcomes worldwide
<https://www.thelancet.com/commissions/global-cancer-surgery-2>