





Deficits and research priorities across the cancer continuum for people with intellectual disabilities

Breaking Barriers: Enhancing Cancer Care for Individuals with ID

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COI

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 Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw)



Standard of care



'It was becoming distressingly clear that the standard of care — if it were to be responsive to Deborah's needs — was simply out of reach.'

'Neither breast cancer nor intellectual disability is rare.'





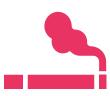
Why of interest?



Genetic and biological factors

Potential causal link between syndrome and tumor development





Lifestyle

Less aware of health risks, less prevention





Health(care) disparities

Communication
Health skills and literacy
Diagnostic overshadowing





Cascading problems

'A failure in a system of interconnected parts in which the failure of one or few parts leads to the failure of other parts, growing progressively'



RESEARCH REVIEWS 12: 70-82 (2006)

MENTAL RETARDATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

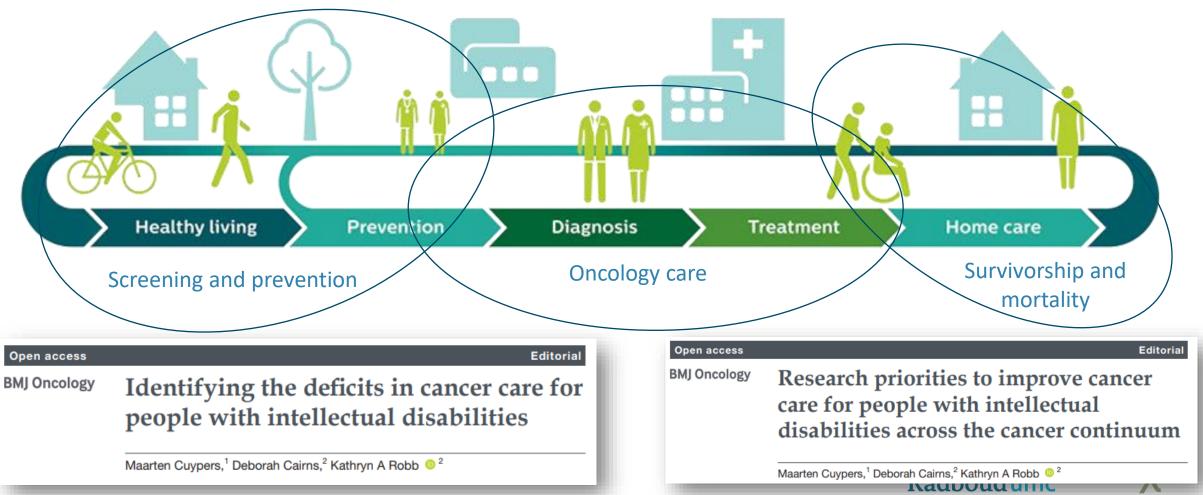
A Cascade of Disparities: Health and Health Care Access for People with Intellectual Disabilities

Gloria L. Krahn,* Laura Hammond, and Anne Turner

Child Development and Rehabilitation Center, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Oregon



Challenges throughout cancer continuum



(early) detection

Disability and Health Journal 8 (2015) 9-16

Review Article

Barriers to cancer screening for people with disabilities:

A literature review

Julie Williams Merten, Ph.D., M.C.H.E.S. a,*, Jamie L. Pomeranz, Ph.D. b, Jessica L. King, M.S., C.H.E.S. Michael Moorhouse, Ph.D. and Richmond D. Wynn, Ph.D. a

^aDepartment of Public Health, University of North Florida, 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224, USA

- Low participation and barriers in population screening
 - Consistent findings across Europe, North America, Australia, and Asia

Satgé et al. BMC Cancer 2014, 14:150



Disability and

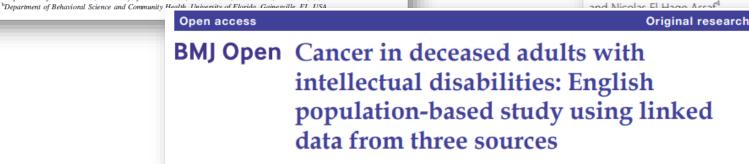
Health Journal

www.disabilityandhealthjnl.com

Age and stage at diagnosis: a hospital series of 11 women with intellectual disability and breast carcinoma

Daniel Satgé^{1*}, Eric-André Sauleau², William Jacot³, Fernand Raffi⁴, Bernard Azéma⁵, Jean-Claude Bouyat⁶

Radboudumc



Pauline Heslop , ¹ Adam Cook, ² Brian Sullivan, ³ Rachel Calkin, ⁴ Johanna Pollard, ⁴ Victoria Byrne ⁴



Cancer screening in The Netherlands

Work by Amina Banda and colleagues

Combined population data on presence of ID with cancer screening

outcomes

• Three programmes:

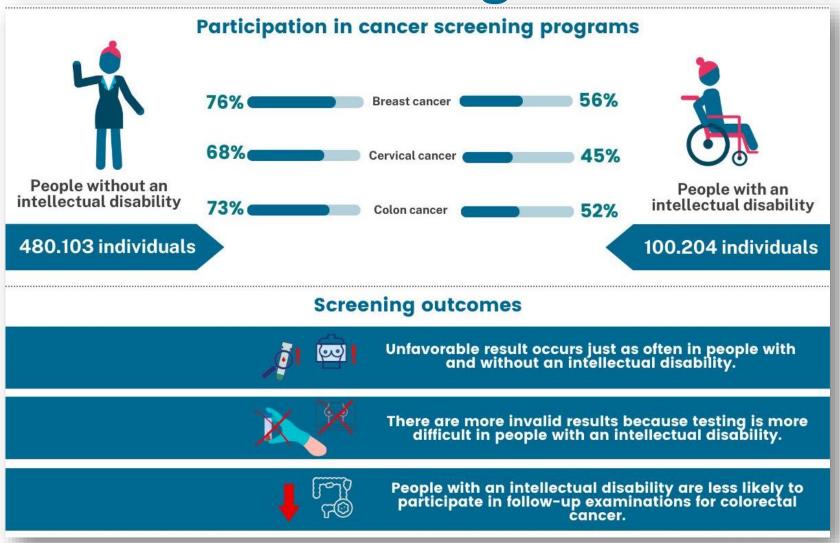
- Breast
- Colon
- Cervix
- 5-6 years of follow-up







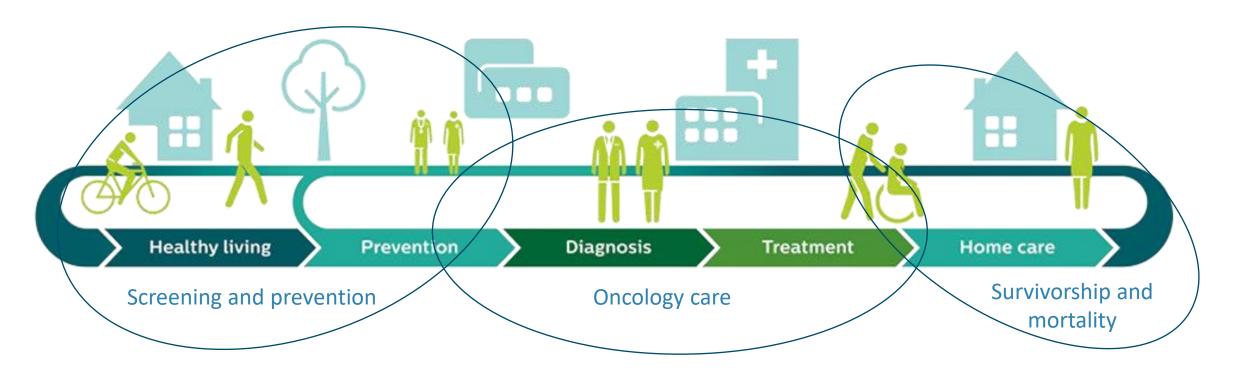
Cancer screening in The Netherlands



- Different programmes
- Different age and sex groups
- Comparable findings
- Consistent with other literature



Oncology care journeys







Oncology care journeys

- Based on (routine) data from The Netherlands, and a literature review:
 - Fewer people with ID receive treatment at oncology department than expected
 - Treatments get adjusted without evidence or reasoning as to why
 - More people with ID die due to cancer than expected





Experiences of ID patients in cancer care



Interviews with 9 ID patients who are post cancer-treatment and reflect on trajectory



Detection: mostly by others, during routine check-ups



Diagnosis: logistic challenges, distress



Difficult to distinguish type of hospital encounters (diagnostics, decision-making, treatment) or phase in process

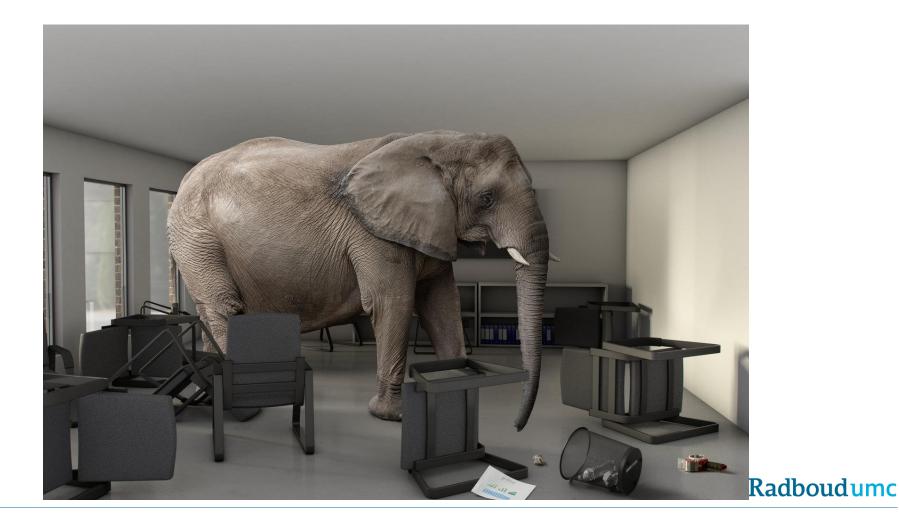


Coordination in informing, decision-making, recognizing key decision moments





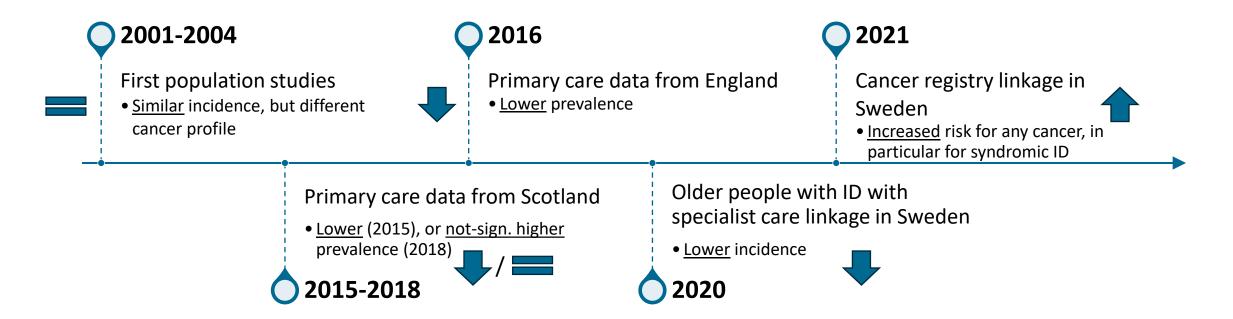
What about the incidence of cancer?





Methodological issues related to measuring cancer incidence

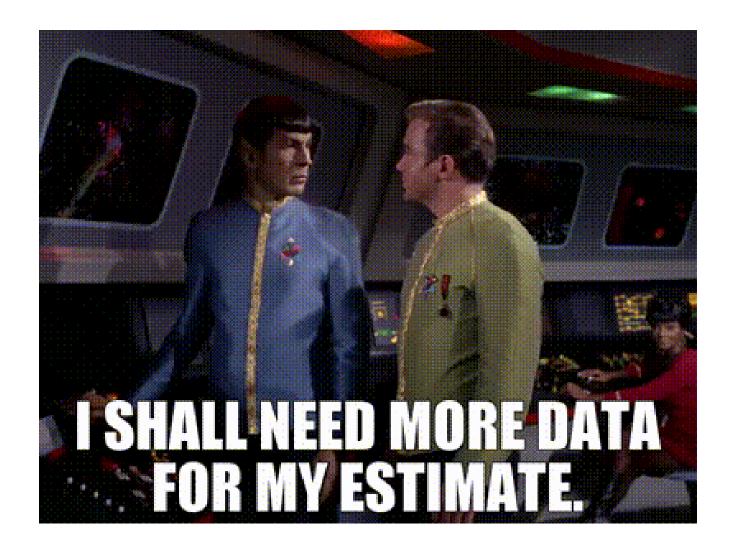
Literature since 2000:



Patja, 2001; Sullivan, 2004; Carey, 2016; Cooper, 2015 and 2018; Satge, 2020; Liu, 2021









Data sources



Population registry to generate cohort (N=948,056)

Chronic care and welfare databases to identify persons with ID (N=187,149)

New cancer diagnoses in national cancer registry (2015-2020) (N=50,257)



Cancer incidence in The Netherlands

Lip, oral cavity, and pharynx (C00-C14)

Digestive organs (C15-C26)

Respiratory and intrathoracic (C30-C39)

Bone and articular cartilage (C40-C41)

Melanoma and other malignant skin (C43-C44)

Mesothelial and soft tissue (C45-C49)

Breast (C50)

Female genital (C51-C58)

Male genital (C60-C63)

Urinary tract (C64-C68)

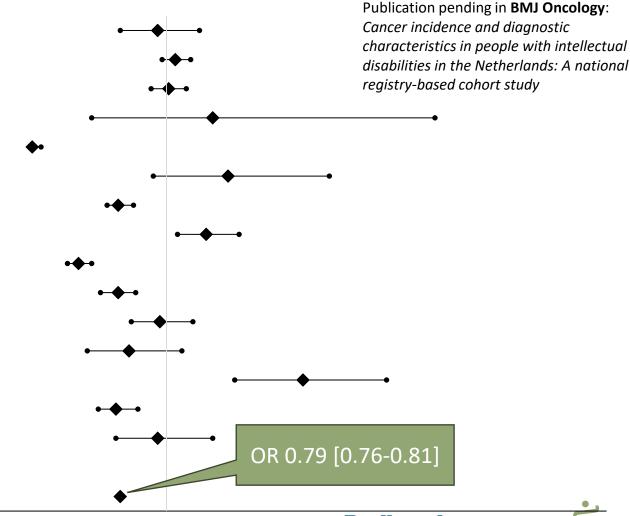
Eye, brain and other CNS (C69-C72)

Thyroid and other endocrine (C73-C75)

Ill-defined and unspecified (C76-C80)

Lymphoid, and haematopoietic (C81- C96)

Uncertain of unknown behavior (D37- D48)



Overall

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STERKER
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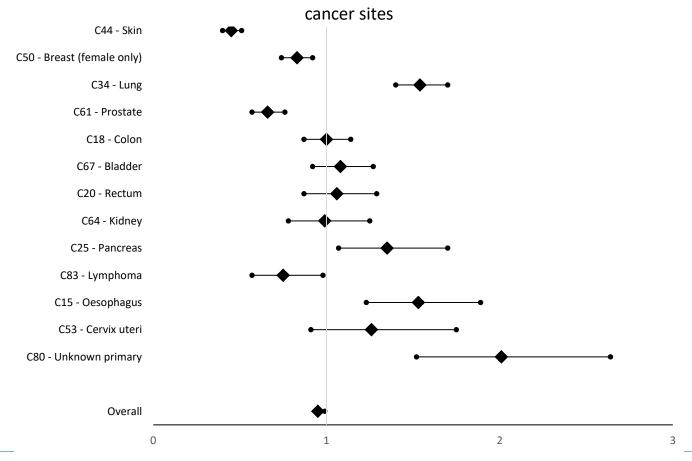
All analyses adjusted for age and sex

17

Findings – Most common sites

Stratified by access to residential care (i.e. proxy for ID severity)

Non-residential care ID population odds ratios for most common



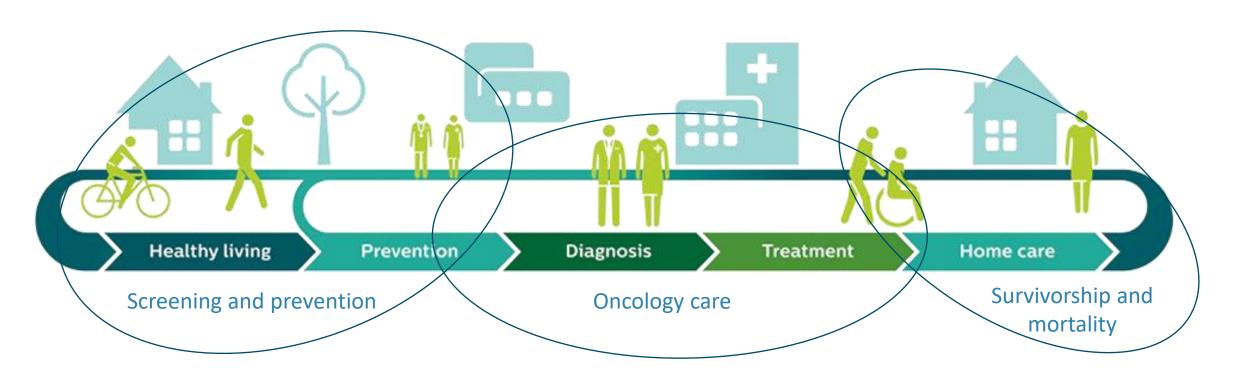


Research challenges related to cancer incidence

- Literature is inconclusive
 - Depends on which groups are studied and compared
- Aetiology
 - Genetic subgroups can have specific risks
 - Down's syndrome lower risk for solid tumors, increased leukemia risk
 - Challenging to identify ID population
 - Impossible to compare ID groups across countries by ID definition
- Demographical differences
 - Different age profiles
 - Between 5 and 12 years younger at diagnosis
 - Lower life expectancy (i.e. affects prostate cancer incidence)
 - Length of follow-up
- Different cancer types and stage at diagnosis



Palliative care





Palliative care

And cancer survivorship

Palliative Medicine

Volume 34, Issue 8, September 2020, Pages 1006-1018 © The Author(s) 2020, Article Reuse Guidelines https://doi.org/10.1177/0269216320932774



Review Article



The palliative care needs of adults with intellectual disabilities and their access to palliative care services: A systematic review

Emily Adam (D) 1, Katherine E Sleeman (D) 1, Sarah Brearley 2, Katherine Hunt (D) 3, and Irene Tuffrey-Wijne 4

samenvatting richtlijn

Palliatieve zorg voor mensen met een verstandelijke beperking PERSPECTIVE | APRIL 01 2021

Are Researchers Addressing Cancer Treatment and Survivorship Among People With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the U.S.? A Scoping Review ≒

Grace Samtani

; Tamsen L. Bassford; Heather J. Williamson; Julie S. Armin

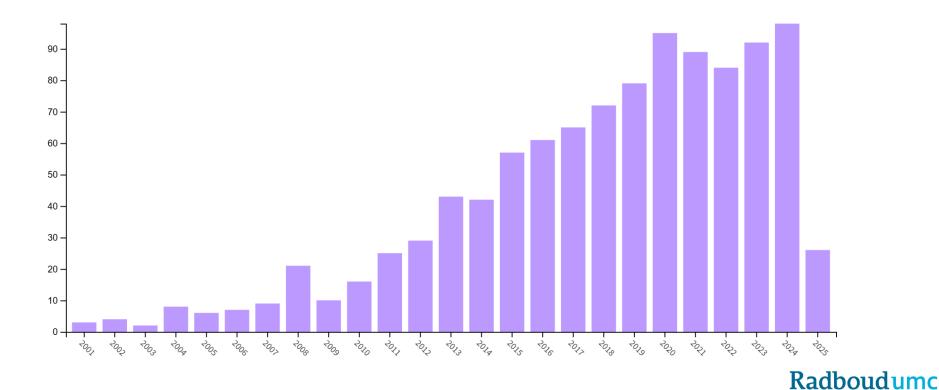
Intellect Dev Disabil (2021) 59 (2): 141−154.

https://doi.org/10.1352/1934-9556-59.2.141 Article history ©



Bridging research gaps

Publications on (Cancer) AND (Intellectual disability)





Bridging research gaps

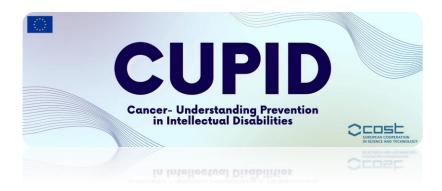
- Attention by government and policy makers
 - UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
 - EU Beat Cancer Plan
- Engagement and inclusion of people with ID in research and implementation
- Broader dissemination and implementation of interventions that work:
 - Decision-support
 - Reasonable adjustments





European network: COST Action

- CUPID: Cancer Understanding Prevention in Intellectual Disabilities
- >200 associated members
- Review in which countries there is policy or guidance











Standard of care



'I don't know whether Deborah would still be alive had there been more information and guidance available.

...

Not so much to suggest that the health care system was functioning for people with intellectual disabilities, but simply to have someone there. Someone who could have offered a slate of workarounds to make these onerous treatments feasible..'





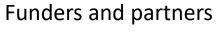
Thank you for your attention

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27 29 mei 2025