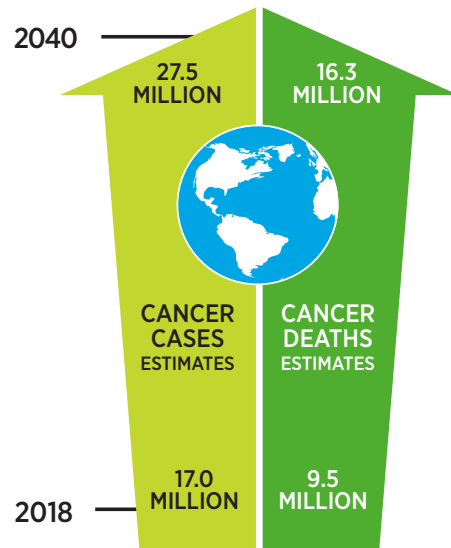


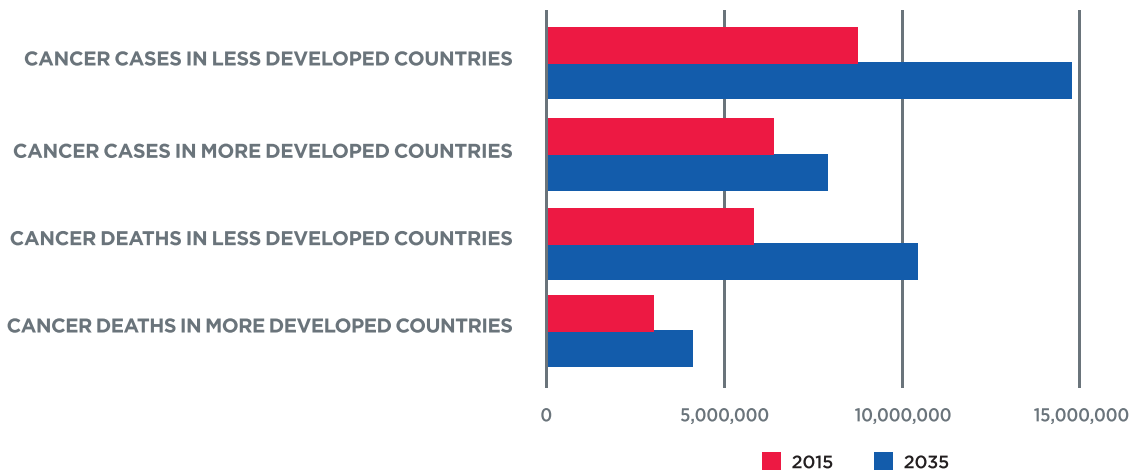
# CANCER: A GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE

The global public health challenge posed by cancer is growing.

Cancer is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality around the world, accounting for about 16 percent of deaths worldwide (5). The devastating impact of cancer is predicted to grow significantly in the coming decades unless new and more effective approaches to cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment are developed and effectively implemented. The increase in the global burden of cancer will largely be fueled by overall population growth and expansion in the segment of the world's population most likely to develop cancer, those age 65 and older.



The increasing global burden of cancer is expected to be shouldered more by less developed regions of the world.



Given the growing global burden of cancer, it is imperative that the international biomedical research community work together to drive down cancer incidence and mortality. One area in which progress is urgently needed is the establishment of population-based cancer registries in all countries because the

collection of high-quality cancer surveillance data is essential for developing effective national cancer control plans. Currently, only one in five low- and middle-income countries has the necessary data to drive policy and reduce the burden and suffering due to cancer, according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (6).

Adapted from (7)