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## Burden of Cancer in India

The NCRP data that has accrued over the years is essentially that of selected urban centres and only one rural registry that covers part of a district. Therefore it would be difficult to provide valid estimates of the burden of cancer of the entire country with over 70% of the population of India residing in the rural areas. Nonetheless, limited exercises (Murthy *et al.*, 1990; Yeole and Jussawalla, 1992) have been carried out, by scientists in the NCRP, and these figures vary from 700-900,000 new cancer cases in India every year.

**Estimated number of new cancers diagnosed in India every year: 700 - 900,000.**

## Future of the NCRP

**The future of the NCRP lies in the following areas:**

1. Further expansion of the network of cancer registration so as to cover more areas of the country;
2. Undertake research studies supported by in-depth laboratory component;
3. Establish closer coordination in planning, monitoring and evaluating the activities under the National Cancer Control Programme;
4. Involve clinical colleagues in assessing and evaluating patient care through the registry network.
5. Continue development and strengthening of human resource development in cancer registration and epidemiology.