



REGIONAL CANCER CENTRE (RCC), THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

- **Profile**

Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram (RCC), is an autonomous institution sponsored jointly by Government of Kerala and Government of India. The Centre was established as per Govt. of India letter No. T. 20012/5/79-R of October 1980 as one among 6 such centres in India. Subsequently, the Centre became an 'autonomous institution' vide Government of India Letter No. T. 20012/5/79-R Dtd 31 January 1981. The Centre was registered under Travancore Cochin Literary Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act 1955 vide No. 567/81 dated 02.09.1981. It has been designated as a Science and Technology Centre in health sector by State Government as per G. O. (Rt) No. 1521/85/11 H & FWD dated 18.11.1985. The Centre has been elevated to the status of 'State Cancer Institute' by Government of India.

Regional Cancer Centre is governed by a Governing Body chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala and an Executive Committee chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala.

RCC pursues its 'Crusade against Cancer' with the following Vision and Missions:

Vision

- To emerge as a global leader in cancer control

Mission

- Deliver highest quality cancer care at affordable cost
- Create cancer awareness among public and health professionals
- Generate trained manpower in cancer control
- Organize outreach programmes in cancer control
- Conduct focused cancer research relevant to our society

- Lead cancer control activities in the state

As a premier Regional Cancer Centre in the country, RCC has several FIRSTS to its credit:

- One of the first comprehensive cancer centres in the country
- First exclusive Paediatric Oncology Division (1982)
- India's first Community Oncology Division (1985)
- The 'Cancer Care for Life' scheme – onetime payment insurance policy (1986)
- 10 year Action plan for cancer control in Kerala (1988)
- First organized cancer pain clinic in the country (1998)
- First Cancer Centre to manufacture oral morphine solution and capsules (2006)
- First Bone Marrow Transplant Unit in a government setup in India (2007)
- First Cancer Centre in the public sector in the country to receive NABH accreditation (2014)
- First PET-CT scanner installation in public health care sector in the State (2016)
- First Robotic surgery unit in public health care sector in the State (2024)

Over the past Forty years, RCC has contributed significantly to the increasing cancer care needs of the state of Kerala and adjoining areas of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maldives, providing state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment facilities at affordable cost. Till 2023-24, the Centre registered 4,35,307 new cases and provided services on 52,51,750 patient visits. In addition, RCC has been committed to cancer control activities among the public, human resource development in various specialities of oncology and in conducting basic, clinical and translational cancer research.

The clinical services of RCC are supported by Departments of Radiation Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Medical Oncology, Paediatric Oncology, Pathology, Radiodiagnosis and Anaesthesiology and Divisions of Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Physics, Microbiology, Transfusion Medicine, Laboratory services and Nursing services. The centre also has

separate divisions for Community Oncology Services, Medical Records, Cancer Registry, Cancer Epidemiology, Cancer Research, Pain and Palliative Care, Dental Care, Library and Information Services and Computerised Hospital Information System management. RCC has three Outreach Centres at Palakkad, Ernakulam and Karunagappally.

RCC also provides site-specific, multi-disciplinary cancer care (Multi-Disciplinary Tumour boards-MDTs) with Medical Oncologists, Radiation Oncologists, Surgical Oncologists and Oncopathologists for the management of cancers. There are seven site-specific Clinics, designated as 'Haematological, Lymphoreticular, Bone & Soft tissue Sarcoma' (A), 'Head & Neck' (B), 'Breast & Central Nervous System' (C), 'Gynaec, Genitourinary & Others' (D), 'Chest & Gastrointestinal' (E), 'Paediatric Oncology' (F), and 'Thyroid' (G).

RCC has implemented several schemes for providing economic assistance, free food, free drugs and various rehabilitation facilities for patients and their families through programmes supported by Central and State governments and non-governmental agencies. At RCC, nearly 53% patients receive free treatment and another 27% in the middle income group receive treatment at subsidised rates.

RCC has been playing a key role in generating trained manpower in cancer control through conducting National Medical Commission (formerly MCI) approved broad speciality postgraduate (MD Radiotherapy, MD Anaesthesia, MD Pathology) and Superspeciality (MCh Surgical Oncology, MCh Head and Neck Surgery, MCh Gynaecological Oncology, DM Medical Oncology and DM Paediatric Oncology) courses. These are in addition to the doctoral, post-doctoral, fellowship, graduate and diploma level academic programmes.

RCC has collaborative treatment and research programmes with international bodies such as the WHO, International Agency for Research on Cancer (France), International Atomic Energy Agency (Vienna), National Cancer Institute (USA), Institute for Cancer

Research (UK), Medical Research Council (UK), National Cancer Centre (Singapore), Health Research Foundation (Japan) and a host of esteemed national level organisations.

The faculty and students of RCC have published 2710 articles (2204 in indexed peer reviewed journals), 11 patents, 660 conference papers, 100 books/monographs, 263 book chapters. 112 PhDs and 166 international fellowships have been awarded. They have also been awarded 135 international/national awards so far. There are 249 research programmes, which include 34 extramural, 23 Pharma sponsored and 192 Inhouse programmes.

- **Portfolios/Officials**

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