**INTRODUCTION:**

Estimations suggest that every 6th death in the world is due to cancer. Various forms of cancer has killed over 9.6 million people in the year 2017. Cancer is the second major reason of death falling behind cardiovascular disease such as myocardium infraction. Reports by NCRP, ICMR, Bangalore, India, suggest that almost 1300 people die of cancer every day in India. The mortality rate of cancer is very high in India and a rise of 6% was observed from year 2012 to 2014. Out of 2,820,179 patients 491,598 people died of the disease. One of the leading risk factors of cancer is age. 87% of deaths occurred in patients that were above 50 years of age. Almost 46% of the accounted deaths from cancer in 2017 were reported in patients of age 70 years or above. Another 41% constituted of patients in the age group of 50-69 years. Other risk factors of cancer include Tobacco use, alcohol use, lower or higher body mass index, unhealthy diet, poor workout schedule, other chronic infections such as Hepatitis B and C etc. Cancer is caused by the loss of a property called “contact inhibition” in normal cells. The loss of this property result in abnormal cell growth which further results in the deprivation of essential nutrients and oxygen for normal cells. The abnormal growth results in the formation of a mass of cells called tumor. These tumor cells can be malignant or benign in nature. Malignancy is a property of cancer cells which allows them to migrate to other parts of bodies through blood and other sources to form tumor cells elsewhere, thus resulting in other type of cancer. There are almost 200 different types of cancer depending on the part in which their growth occurs. The most common types of cancers, with number of cases and deaths are provided in the table below.