

### 3.28 Rare cancer sites and non-melanoma skin cancer

#### Rare malignant tumours

A good 5% of all malignant neoplasms excluding non-melanoma skin cancer affect sites which have not been covered in the preceding chapters. Of these, approximately half again are malignant tumours of unspecified site (C80) or other and ill-defined

sites (C26, C76). The remainder are presented in Table 3.28.1. Detailed results regarding estimated nationwide incidence and mortality, for instance according to age group and year of diagnosis, can be found at [www.krebsdaten.de](http://www.krebsdaten.de).

Table 3.28.1

Frequency, median age at diagnosis and survival rates for rare malignant tumours in Germany (2010)

Cancer site	ICD-10	Incident cases		Deaths		Ø age at diagnosis		rel. 5-Y-SR <sup>1</sup>
		Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Small intestine	C17	990	840	255	254	68	70	57
Nasal cavity, nasal sinuses and middle ear	C30–C31	510	320	125	56	64	65	58
Mediastinum and other intrathoracic organs	C37–C39	300	210	189	138	67	70	46
Bone and articular cartilage	C40–C41	400	350	239	197	51	57	62
Soft tissue (without Mesothelioma)	C46–C49	2,010	1,870	660	760	66	68	57
Vagina and other female genital organs	C52, C57–C58		1,020		478		71	53
Penis and other male genital organs	C60, C63	890		199		70		70
Urinary tract exc. kidney and bladder	C65–C66, C68	1,480	940	1,878	883	73	75	44
Eye	C69	440	410	117	120	65	65	65
Adrenal gland and other endocrine glands	C74–C75	160	200	263	252	55	60	46
Waldenström macroglobulinaemia <sup>2</sup>	C88, C96	170	140	86	70	69	72	78

<sup>1</sup> relative 5-year survival rate in percentage, men and women, period 2009-2010

<sup>2</sup> and other malignant neoplasms of lymphoid, haematopoietic and related tissue 170 890

#### Non-melanoma skin cancer

Non-melanoma skin cancers can mainly be divided into basal cell carcinomas (basaliomas) and squamous-cell carcinomas, both of which occur particularly in advanced age (Table 3.28.2). The most important risk factor for both forms is the long-term impact of the ultraviolet part of sunshine, which is why they are particularly located on the face or on the head and neck.

The basalioma metastasises only in very rare exceptional circumstances and therefore is not usually life-threatening. It can however grow destructively in the surrounding tissue and can considerably affect quality of life given an unfavourable site. The relative survival rate of over 100% for basalioma can

be probably be explained by the fact that suspicious skin changes especially in old age are more likely to heal completely in otherwise healthy people.

In the case of squamous-cell carcinoma, metastases occur somewhat more frequently, the prognosis is however generally good. An acquired immune deficiency and/or suppression through medication, for example following transplant surgery, can encourage the occurrence of this tumour.

Rare forms of skin cancer include, amongst others, Merkel-cell tumours, fibrosarcoma and carcinoma of the sebaceous and sweat glands. In cause of death statistics, no differentiation can be made between the various forms of non-melanoma skin cancer.

Table 3.28.2

Frequency, median age at diagnosis and survival rates for types of non-melanoma skin cancer in Germany (2010)

Cancer site	ICD-O-3	Incident cases		Deaths		Ø age at diagnosis		rel. 5-Y-SR <sup>1</sup>
		Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Basaliomas	809-811	77,800	73,800			71	71	104
Squamous cell carcinomas	805-808	22,000	14,700			76	79	95
unspecific histology	800-804	400	300			75	78	80
other types	other	900	700			73	75	81
total	all	101,100	89,500	346	275	72	72	102

<sup>1</sup> relative 5-year survival rate in percentage, men and women, period 2009-2010