



European
Commission

Cancer cases in migrant population

Notification

In many European countries, the number of migrants (including refugees) is increasing and cancer registries have to decide whether to register these migrants or not. For population-based cancer registries the following rules should be applied:

- An incident cancer in a legal resident of the area of the cancer registry should be registered (even if the diagnosis and/or treatment is outside the area)
- If a person with cancer was not a legal resident of the area at the date of incidence, the cancer does not have to be registered. If however, for some reason, the cancer is registered, it should not be included in the cancer incidence.

The moment that a refugee becomes a legal resident is different for each country and therefore no recommendation can be made for the registration of refugees in general.