# Advocacy session #1 – Best practice

## Addressing Health Inequities through social participation in Brazil
## Brazilian Lymphoma and Leukemia Association - ABRALE

**Catherine Moura**
**CEO**

# Brazil - Context

- Brazil is the largest country in South America and in Latin America. Is the world's fifth-largest country by area and the seventh most populous.
- Population: **220,051,512 inhabitants**
- Its capital is Brasília, and its most populous city is São Paulo.
- The federation is composed of the union of the 26 states, the Federal District and a total number of **5,565 municipalities.**
- The official language is Portuguese.
- Brazil is one of the most multicultural and ethnically diverse nations, due to over a century of mass immigration from around the world.

# Public Health System

Photo: Everson Bressan/SMCS

The Brazilian health system is mixed: private (20%) and public (80%)

**80%** of population relies exclusively on the public health services.

The Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS) is Brazil's national health system that reaches universal health coverage within the country. It is decentralized with **administrative responsibilities at all levels of government: federal, state, and municipal.**

The SUS has a strong pillar of **social participation,** through the design, implementation and monitoring of health policies in 3 levels of governmental management (federal, state and municipal health councils).

# Scenario: Cancer Impact in Brazil

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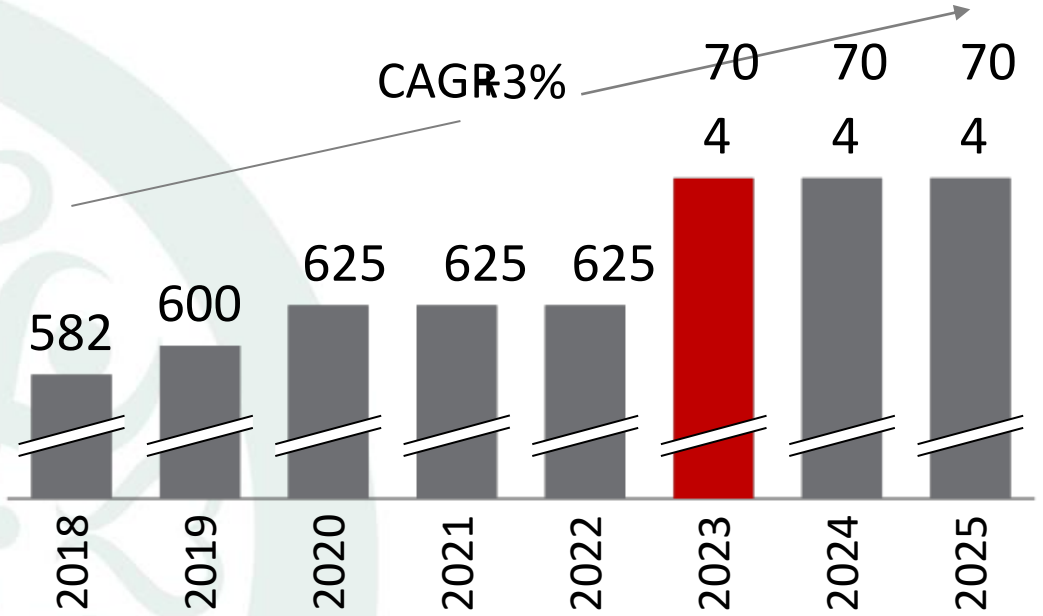
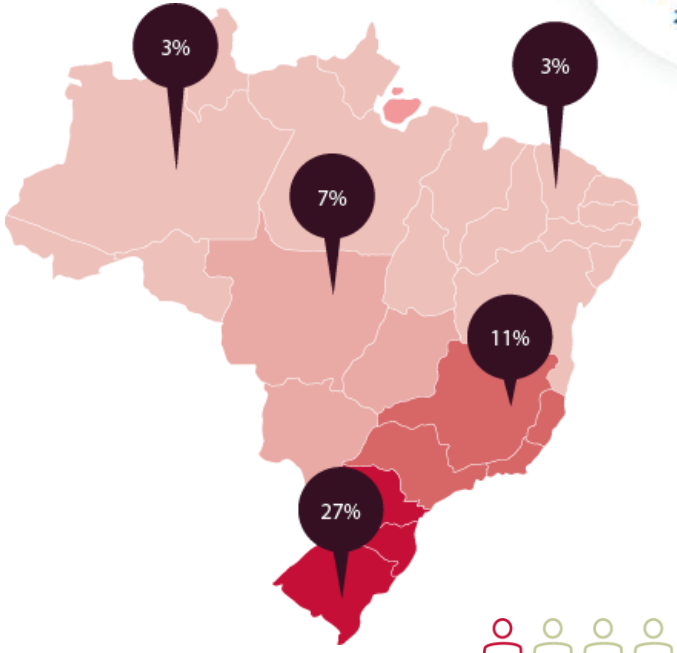
## New cases of cancer in Brazil

*Estimate in thousands, INCA*




**704.000 new cases** of cancer in Brazil/year and growing



**1 in every 7 deaths** in Brazil is due to **cancer**; of these **30%** are people aged **up to 60 years old**

Cancer is the **first cause** of death in **606 municipalities (almost 229.253 deaths/2023)**

*Câncer como a primeira causa de morte nos municípios Brasileiros, Observatório de Oncologia*

# Public Policies & Advocacy

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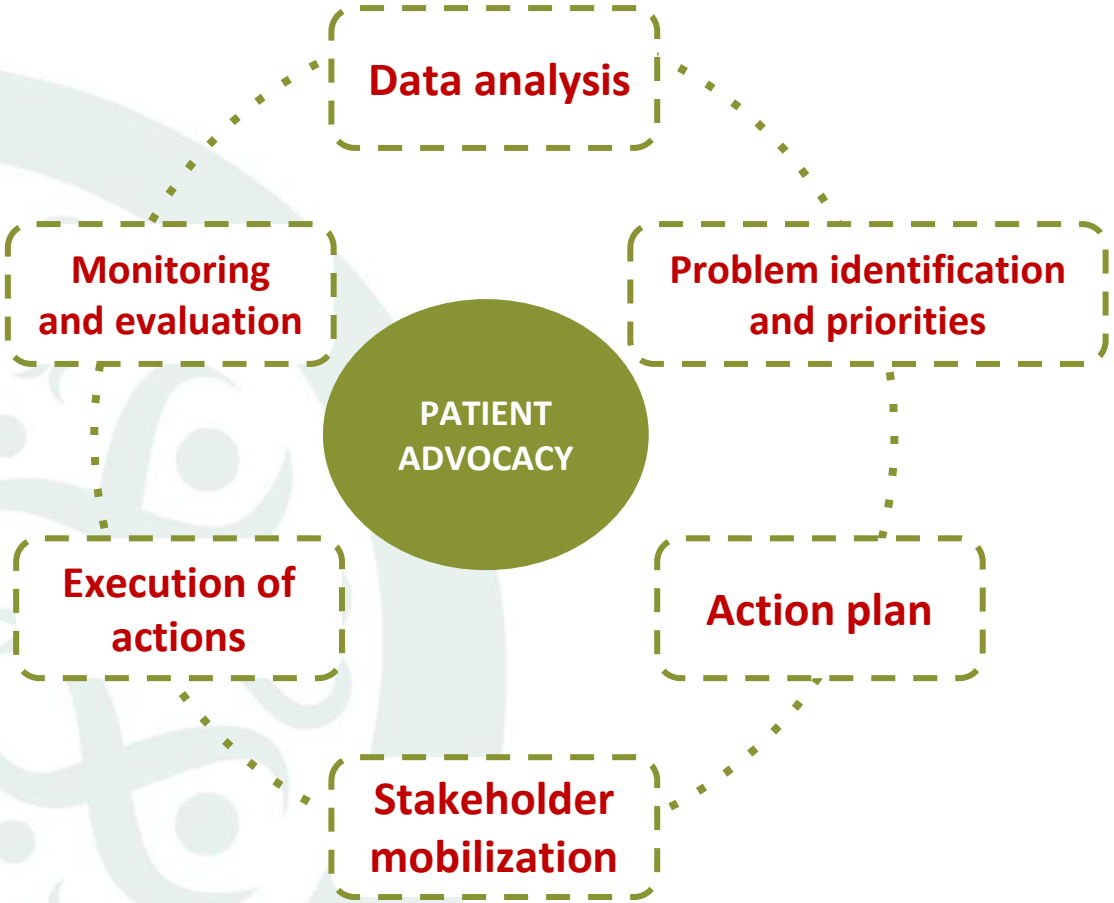


**Defense of patients' rights & improve cancer care in the Brazilian health system**

- Focus on patients' needs and preferences
- Empower and engage patients
- Support health leaders in building strategic planning
- Develop proposals to improve cancer care, based on real world evidence
- Improve social participation in the construction of public health policies
- Expanding the use of data: communication strategies, such as awareness campaigns and events

# Public Policies & Advocacy

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## National Cancer Prevention and Control Policy Bill in Brazil

**Abrale presented a proposal to improve the original version of the Bill for the "Brazilian Cancer Prevention and Control Policy" that was accepted by the Chamber of Deputies in August 2023.**

Mobilization: **+10** meetings held with strategic stakeholders, including the special committee of cancer care policies of the Chamber of Deputies, health managers, and the Ministry of Health.

2022 - Participation in **public hearings** to discuss the situation of oncology care.

Dec, 2022 - Special Committee for Cancer Care of the Chamber of Deputies **presents the Project Bill.**

Aug, 2023 - Abrale presented a **proposal to improve the bill and reduce inequalities** and **local barriers** to access to integrated cancer care.

Aug, 2023 - Text approved by the Chamber of Deputies.

Nov, 2023 - Bill **approved** without changes by the National Congress.

# Public Policies & Advocacy

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## Regulation of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Public Policy in Brazil - Federal Law 14.758/2023

- Public discussions with society and specialists about the regulation steps of the national law;
- Meetings with the Ministry and Health to present the patient unmet needs, perspectives and priorities. “Declaration of proposals” to improve public cancer care services/centers;
- Permanent seat on the Advisory board of the National Cancer Institute (discussions and vote for priorities in cancer plans for the regions);
- Participation in the thematic working groups to present regulatory proposals, led by the National Cancer Institute.

# Public Policies & Advocacy

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## Important points of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Policy Bill in Brazil - Low 14.758/2023

- Implement a National Navigation Program for People Diagnosed with Cancer.
- Improvement of the official oncology databases (public and private sources) and patient care information.
- Public new models of financing oncology services and cancer care plans in the country.
- Palliative care centers and services in all 5 regions.

**Next step: action to make the law effective based on priority themes - Mobilization of the All Together Against Cancer movement (TJCC) network and working groups**

# Challenges and Opportunities

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**Increase public awareness** based on information generated by studies

**Continuously improve the quality of registered open data** and educate about its importance

**Seek access to data from the Private System** and data on treatment outcomes

Develop studies on **Patient Experience to understand the challenges in diagnosis, treatment, quality of life**

**Increase transparency** in Public Policies for oncology

**Raise awareness among strategic stakeholders** about the Oncology cause

**Impact public policies** so that Oncology is a priority in public health in Brazil, with the appropriate allocation of resources

**A new Cancer Prevention and Control Policy** in Brazil is being processed in the National Congress

abrale
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DE LINFOMA E LEUCEMIA

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# Thank you!


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