

Ethnic Disparities in Breast Cancer Outcomes in Europe

A Call for Standardized Data to Achieve Health Equity



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The Challenge

Significant disparities in breast cancer outcomes exist across Europe linked to ethnicity and migration. However, fragmented and inconsistent data collection by national cancer registries makes these inequities difficult to measure, compare, and address, leaving vulnerable populations invisible in cancer policy.

Methods



Registry Analysis: Review of national and ENCR datasets.



Literature Review: Analysis of registry practices and published studies.



Case Studies: Evaluation of outcomes where data is available.

Key Findings on Data Gaps

INCOMPLETE DATA

Most European cancer registries do not routinely collect self-reported ethnicity data.

INCONSISTENT PROXIES

Reliance on varied proxies like 'nationality' masks true health disparities across outcomes.

"INVISIBLE" POPULATIONS

This lack of data prevents targeted policymaking, leaving at-risk groups unaccounted for.

The Path Forward: Policy Recommendations for an Equitable Europe



Standardize Variables

Establish a minimum set of ethnicity/migration variables for all cancer registries.



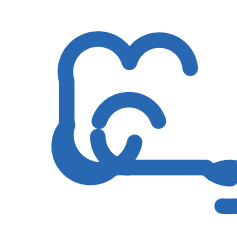
Fortify Data Linkages

Strengthen privacy-compliant connections between registries and health datasets.



Harmonize Procedures

Align data quality standards, privacy protocols, and disaggregation methods.



Engage Communities

Involve affected communities to ensure ethical and effective data collection and use.