

National law from the Republic of Korea

Government of the Republic of Korea (2024). Excerpts (Section 2: Cancer Research Projects and Section 3: Central Cancer Registration Headquarters, Regional Cancer Registration Headquarters, National Cancer Data Center, and Regional Cancer Centers) from the Cancer Control Act. Enforcement Date 20 September 2024. Act No. 20379, 19 March 2024.

Article 14 (Cancer Registration Statistics Services)

- (1) The Minister of Health and Welfare shall provide services for registration, management and research (hereinafter referred to as “cancer registration statistics services”) to collect statistics on cancer incidence rates and survival rates of cancer patients, etc. through the continuous and systematic collection and analysis of data on risk factors of the development of cancer and the development and cure of cancer. In such cases, the Statistics Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to the collection of statistical data and the compilation of statistics, etc., and any personal information processed to collect statistics shall be deemed personal information to which the Personal Information Protection Act shall not apply, pursuant to Article 58 (1) of that Act. <Amended on Mar. 29, 2011>
- (2) The Minister of Health and Welfare may request medical care providers or medical institutions diagnosing and treating cancer patients, the National Health Insurance Corporation and the Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service under the National Health Insurance Act, Ministry of the Interior and Safety, the Statistics Korea, statistics service agencies under the Statistics Act, and any other corporation, institution or organization conducting cancer-related business to submit data or state opinions necessary for cancer registration statistics services, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. In such cases, a person requested to submit data shall comply with such request, except in extenuating circumstances. <Amended on Apr. 7, 2020>
- (3) Where the Minister of Health and Welfare manages personally identifiable information in connection with cancer registration statistics services, he or she shall take measures necessary to ensure its safety, such as encrypting such information, in order to protect personal information, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. <Newly Inserted on Dec. 29, 2015>

Article 15 (Cancer Information Services)

- (1) The Minister of Health and Welfare shall provide services (hereinafter referred to as “cancer information services”) gathering information on cancer continuously and systematically and providing such information to citizens efficiently.
- (2) The Minister of Health and Welfare may have the National Cancer Center to provide cancer information services in order to efficiently promote cancer information services.
- (3) Cancer information services pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be as follows: <Amended on Apr. 7, 2020>
 1. Production, collection, and management of various information on cancer;
 2. Provision of information on cancer to citizens and consultation with them thereabout;
 3. Development of educational materials on cancer, and education and publicity thereon;
 4. Other services the Minister of Health and Welfare deems necessary for the implementation of the cancer information services.

Article 16 (Epidemiological Investigations)

- (1) The Commissioner of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency or the Mayor/Do Governor may conduct an epidemiological investigation, if he or she deems it necessary for finding causes of the development of cancer. <Amended on Apr. 7, 2020; Aug. 11, 2020>
- (2) The Commissioner of the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Mayor/Do Governor shall each establish an epidemiological investigation team to conduct an epidemiological investigation. <Amended on Apr. 7, 2020; Aug. 11, 2020>
- (3) In order to efficiently conduct the epidemiological investigation under paragraph (1), the Commissioner of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency or the Mayor/Do Governor may request the head of a relevant administrative agency or the head of an institution or organization prescribed by Presidential Decree to submit data necessary for the epidemiological investigation. In such cases, the head of the institution who has been requested to submit data shall comply therewith, unless there is a compelling reason not to do so. <Newly Inserted on Apr. 7, 2020; Aug. 11, 2020>
- (4) In the epidemiological investigation conducted by the Commissioner of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency or the Mayor/ Do Governor, no one shall engage in any of the following acts: <Newly Inserted on Apr. 7, 2020; Aug. 11, 2020>
 1. Refusing, obstructing, or avoiding the epidemiological investigation without good cause;
 2. Making false statements or submitting false data;
 3. Intentionally omitting or concealing facts.
- (5) Matters necessary for the content, time, and method of the epidemiological investigation under paragraph (1) and the composition, mission, etc. of the epidemiological investigation team under paragraph (2) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree. <Newly Inserted on Apr. 7, 2020>

Article 17 (Designation of Central Cancer Registration Headquarters and Regional Cancer Registration Headquarters)

- (1) The Minister of Health and Welfare may designate the National Cancer Center or research institutions specialized in cancer, which meet the standards for facilities, human resources, equipment, etc. prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Welfare as Central Cancer Registration Headquarters in order to provide the following services: <Amended on Apr. 7, 2020>
 1. Collection, analysis, and management of data for calculating cancer statistics such as cancer incidence and survival rates;
 2. Investigations and research related to cancer registration statistics services;
 3. Education and training, and international collaboration related to cancer registration statistics services;
 4. Collection and analysis of cancer registration data for each region and support for the regional cancer registration headquarters;
 5. Other services the Minister of Health and Welfare deems necessary in connection with cancer registration statistics services.
- (2) The Minister of Health and Welfare may designate a regional cancer center pursuant to Article 19 or an institution from among related specialized institutions meeting the standards for facilities, human resources, equipment, etc. prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Welfare as regional cancer registration headquarters of the Special Metropolitan City, a Metropolitan City, Special Self-Governing City, Do, or Special Self-Governing Province (hereinafter referred to as "City/Do"), in order to provide the following services: <Amended on Dec. 29, 2015; Apr. 7, 2020>
 1. Collection, analysis and management of data to collect statistics on cancer, such as a cancer incidence rate, survival rate of cancer patients, etc. of the relevant area;
 2. Investigations and research related to cancer registration statistics services of the relevant area;
 3. Other services the Minister of Health and Welfare or the head of Central Cancer Registration Headquarters deems necessary in connection with cancer registration statistics services.

- (3) Where the Central Cancer Registration Headquarters or a regional cancer registration headquarters falls under any of the following subparagraphs, the Minister of Health and Welfare may cancel designation thereof:
 - 1. Where it fails to provide a service pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2), or to follow the direction and supervision pursuant to Article 18;
 - 2. Where it fails to meet the standards for designation pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2);
 - 3. Where it falls under other grounds prescribed by Presidential Decree.
- (4) Necessary matters concerning procedures for designation of the Central Cancer Registration Headquarters or a regional cancer registration headquarters shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

Article 18 (Direction and Supervision of Central Cancer Registration Headquarters and Regional Cancer Registration Headquarters)

- (1) The head of the Central Cancer Registration Headquarters shall formulate a plan for cancer registration statistics services every year and notify regional cancer registration headquarters, medical care providers or the heads of medical institutions diagnosing and treating cancer patients of details of, standards, etc. for statistical data on cancer registration.
- (2) The head of Central Cancer Registration Headquarters shall integrate and analyze the results of cancer registration statistics services of the preceding year and report the same to the Minister of Health and Welfare by the end of February of the following year and then publish the same every year.
- (3) Where the head of a regional cancer registration headquarters intends to publish the results of cancer registration statistics services, he or she shall consult with the head of the Central Cancer Registration Headquarters in advance.
- (4) The Minister of Health and Welfare may have the head of the Central Cancer Registration Headquarters and the head of a regional cancer registration headquarters report the situation concerning the provision of related services, if necessary in connection with cancer registration statistics services.