Global data from the International Agency for Research on Cancer shows 18.1 million new cases and 9.6 million cancer deaths in 2018. Here we look at rates for the most prevalent types of cancer. For more on the role of optics in early cancer detection, which can significantly improve survival rates, see this month’s cover story, beginning on p.26.

Cancers of the lung, female breast and colorectum together are responsible for 1/3 of world cancer incidence and mortality burden.

1 in 5 men & 1 in 6 women worldwide will develop cancer over the course of their lives.

Tobacco use, alcohol use, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity are major cancer risk factors worldwide.

~300,000 children are diagnosed with cancer each year.

Sources: International Agency for Research on Cancer, World Health Organization / Infographic by Alessia Kirkland