



WORLD CANCER DAY

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SUPPLEMENT

PERSONALISED CANCER CARE in Bangladesh

Labaid Cancer Hospital and Super Speciality Centre

FARHAN MUSFIQUE

As World Cancer Day 2026 underscores the theme "United by Unique", attention is turning to how cancer care systems respond to a simple truth: no two patients experience the disease in the same way. In Bangladesh, where cancer cases continue to rise and late diagnosis remains common, this idea is reshaping how hospitals think


about treatment and support.

Labaid Cancer Hospital and Super Speciality Centre now offers diagnosis, surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and supportive services under one roof to reduce fragmentation and delays that frequently worsen outcomes. Leadership reports better results where patients receive timely, coordinated care, especially for cancers that respond well to early intervention.

CHANGING CANCER PATTERNS RAISE NEW CONCERNS

Shifting patient patterns worry clinicians. Sakif Shamim, Managing Director of Labaid Cancer Hospital and Super Speciality Centre highlights a rise in younger breast cancer patients, underscoring the need for earlier awareness and screening tailored to age-specific risks. This trend strengthens the hospital's emphasis on outreach and risk-based screening programmes for breast, cervical and colorectal cancers.

Early detection is central to the hospital's strategy. Screening and awareness campaigns are combined with clear referral pathways so patients move swiftly from screening to confirmed diagnosis and treatment planning. To shorten the interval between symptom onset and treatment, the hospital coordinates imaging, pathology and specialist consultations to minimise waiting times and unnecessary repeat visits which is helping patients transition faster from suspicion to care.



Cancer care must be affordable and tailored to each person's journey. We strive to ensure early detection and accurate diagnosis, alongside the full spectrum of modern treatments, in a compassionate environment without placing unnecessary financial hardship on families.

SAKIF SHAMIM,
Managing Director
Labaid Cancer Hospital and Super Speciality Centre



ILLUSTRATION:
E. RAZA RONNY

CARE DELIVERED BY TEAMS, NOT INDIVIDUALS

Cancer treatment here is delivered by multidisciplinary teams like surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, pathologists, nurses and psychosocial support professionals whose decisions reflect clinical needs and patients' emotional and family contexts. The hospital regards psychosocial care as an essential component of treatment rather than an optional extra.

Affordability remains a barrier to early detection. To counter the belief that screening and diagnosis are prohibitively expensive, the hospital highlights low-cost options—Pap smears, HPV tests, faecal occult

blood testing and basic imaging—and provides counselling and pricing strategies to help patients navigate costs. Shamim stresses that screening is often far more affordable than people assume and that early detection is usually more cost-effective than treating late-stage disease.

BALANCING INNOVATION WITH PRACTICALITY

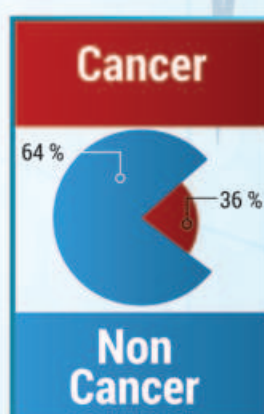
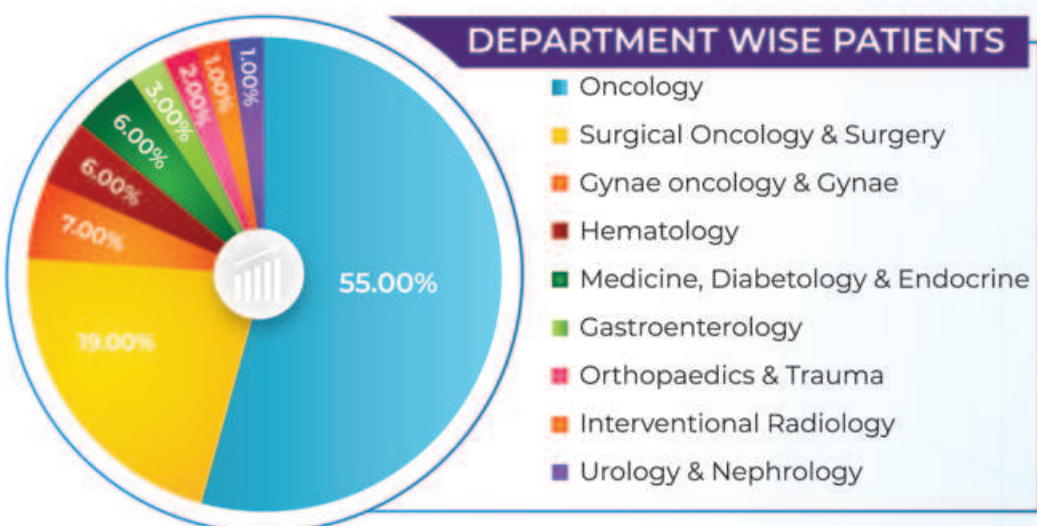
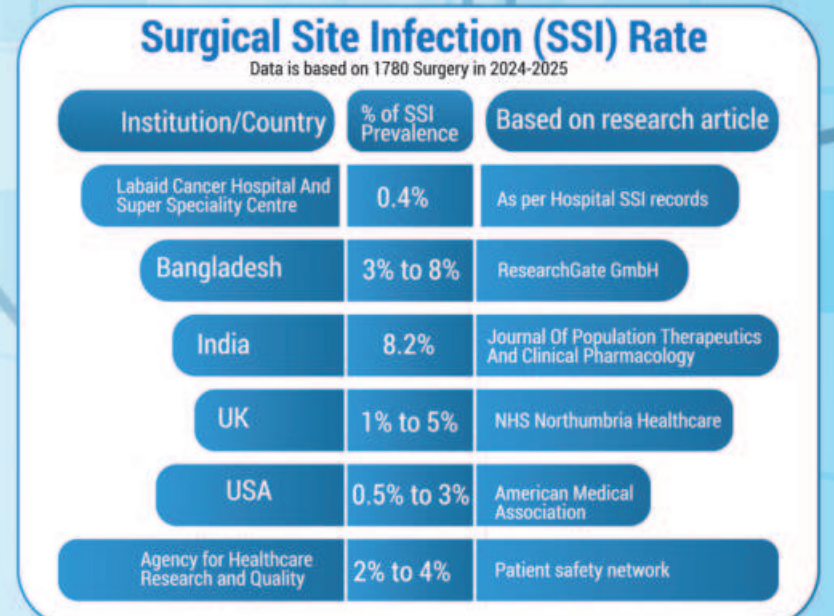
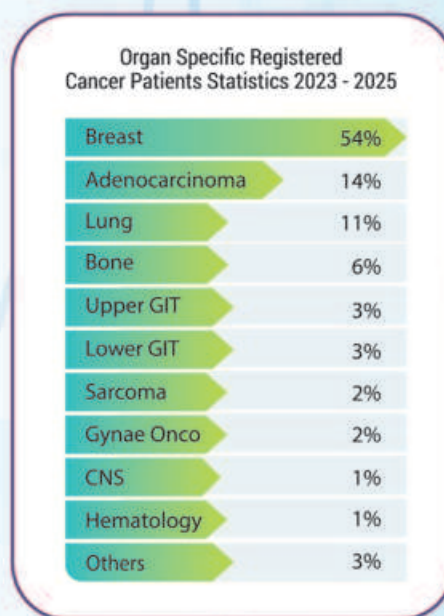
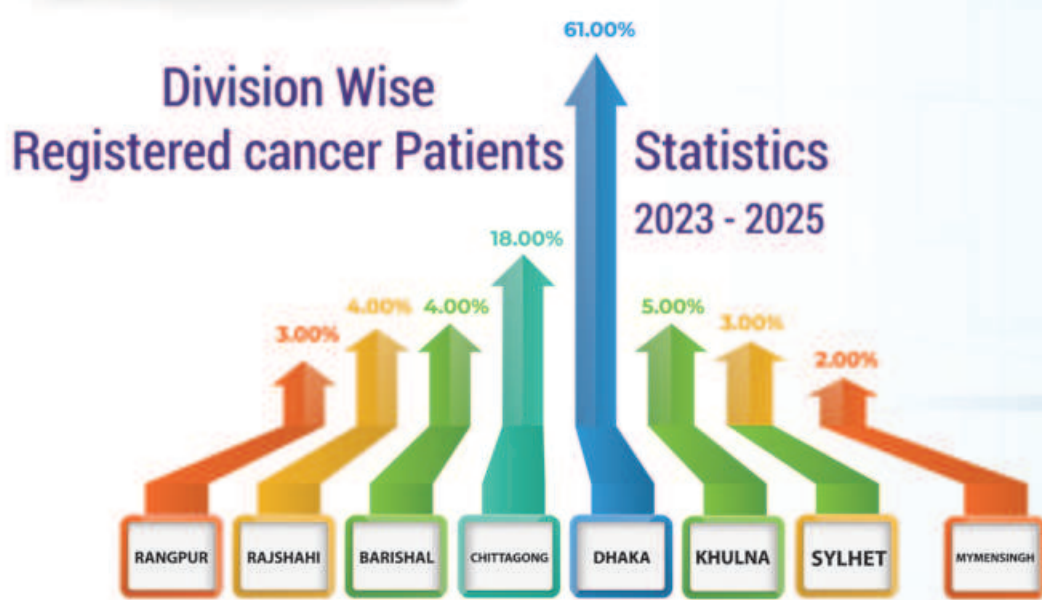
Advanced therapies such as targeted treatments and immunotherapy are discussed increasingly in Bangladesh. Labaid Cancer Hospital and Super Speciality Centre offers selected advanced options when clinically appropriate, with decisions guided by medical evidence, patient condition and

affordability. The hospital pairs clinical judgment with practical financial counselling and partnerships so patients can access suitable treatments without compromising care quality.

Prevention remains a priority. Tobacco cessation, HPV and hepatitis vaccinations, healthy diets, physical activity and regular health checks are promoted as the most practical, population-level ways to reduce cancer risk. On World Cancer Day, the hospital's pragmatic message is simple: seek screening when eligible and act early on symptoms. When systems are designed to respond quickly and support patients throughout their journey, outcomes improve.



HOSPITAL BASED CANCER REGISTRY (HBCR) OF Labaid Cancer Hospital & Super Speciality Centre



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