

Abstract

In this paper on "The Evolution of Paediatric Oncology Over the Years", a historical perspective is outlined regarding the subspecialty of paediatric oncology on a global basis. The evolution of paediatric oncology units and their role in the progress of cancer management in children is highlighted. It is noted that success in the management of cancer in adults has followed the footsteps of breakthroughs and success in paediatric oncology. The epidemiology of cancer in children in sub-Saharan Africa and the development of paediatric oncology are also highlighted. The development of a paediatric oncology unit at the Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya has been focused on, pointing out challenges, constraints and success that are associated in the initiation and nurturing of such units in developing countries. Lastly, Burkitt's lymphoma is singled out for discussion to illustrate problems that are abundant in cancer management in children in sub-Saharan Africa.