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Interval lengths and barriers to care for cervical cancer patients from population-based cancer registries in selected African countries

My study aims to conduct an analysis of the time intervals between the diagnosis of cervical cancer and the initiation therapy, as well as identifying the barriers that hinder timely treatment in patients from selected African countries. The research will be conducted using population-based cancer registries (AFCRN) to gather data on the time intervals and the factors that contribute to delays in treatment. The study will focus on selected African countries, where cervical cancer is a significant public health concern for women. The research will be conducted in collaboration with local health authorities and cancer registries to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the data collected.

Secondary objectives:

- 1) analyzing socio-demographic, entity-specific, and regionally associated factors related to the therapy interval
- 2) describing the status quo of concordance with treatment guidelines and patient survival
- 3) analyzing the influence of socio-demographic, entity-specific, and regionally associated factors on survival
- 4) comparing the results with those of Griesel et al. (2010-15) to illustrate changes in therapy and survival on a population-based level

The methodology involves collecting and analyzing socio-demographic and relevant clinical data from cervical cancer patients in eight cancer registries, which are an addition to existing datasets of the participating cancer registries. A telephone follow-up is conducted to determine survival status and patient-reported barriers to therapy initiation. A precise questionnaire is used to assess self-reported barriers to guideline-compliant therapy initiation. The findings of this study will provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by patients with cervical cancer in accessing timely treatment in African countries. The study's outcomes can also contribute to the development of policies and guidelines aimed at improving cancer care in African countries.

Research Task 1

Supervisor: Prof. Eva J. Kantelhardt