

María José Sánchez<sup>1,18</sup>; Jaume Galceran<sup>2,19</sup>; María Ramos<sup>3</sup>; Rafael Marcos-Gragera<sup>4,18,19</sup>; Carmen Navarro<sup>5,18</sup>; Antonio Mateos<sup>6</sup>; Marcial Argüelles<sup>7</sup>; M. Crescencia Tobalina<sup>8</sup>; María Dolores Rojas<sup>9</sup>; Ana Torrella<sup>10</sup>; Matilde Chico<sup>11</sup>; María Luisa Vicente<sup>12</sup>; José María Díaz<sup>13</sup>; Josefina Perucha<sup>14</sup>; Rafael Peris Bonet<sup>15,19</sup>; Pilar Rodrigo<sup>16</sup>; and Eva Ardanaz<sup>17,18</sup> (on behalf of the REDECAN)

1 Granada Cancer Registry; 2 Tarragona Cancer Registry; 3 Mallorca Cancer Registry; 4 Girona Cancer Registry; 5 Murcia Cancer Registry; 6 Albacete Cancer Registry; 7 Asturias Cancer Registry; 8 Basque Country Cancer Registry; 9 Canary Islands Cancer Registry; 10 Castellón Cancer Registry; 11 Ciudad Real Cancer Registry; 12 Comunitat València Childhood Cancer Registry; 13 Cuenca Cancer Registry; 14 La Rioja Cancer Registry; 15 Spanish National Childhood Cancer Registry (RNTI-SEHOP), Universitat de València; 16 Zaragoza Cancer Registry; 17 Navarre Cancer Registry; 18 CIBERESP; 19 RTICC

## Background

As in France or Italy, Spain has a large number of provincial or regional population-based cancer registries (PBCRs) which cover near 30% of the population of the whole state (Figure 2). During recent years, several projects have been carried out among all or the majority of the registries. As one of the results of this collaboration, a monographic issue on cancer control in Spain was published in 2010 in *Annals of Oncology*. An increasing need to work in a coordinated way has been perceived and, for this reason and others, the Spanish Network of Cancer Registries (REDECAN) was created in November 2010 integrated by all Spanish PBCRs and RNTI (Childhood National Cancer Registry).



Figure 1. 1st Network meeting

## Objectives

The aim of REDECAN is to strengthen the role of the Spanish PBCRs and of the RNTI as a main element of the cancer information system in order to contribute to general objective of the surveillance and control of cancer in Spain. REDECAN provides a continuous and organized framework for the activities of the PBCRs of Spain and of the RNTI.

Their specific objectives are:

- To contribute to the comparability and standardization of the registration systems.
- To facilitate the training of the scientists and technicians of cancer registries.
- To strengthen the role of the cancer registries' professionals.
- To give support to new PBCRs.
- To encourage cooperative studies.
- To assure the quality of data of the Registries belonging to REDECAN.
- To obtain and provide to the health authorities and to the scientific community with population-based epidemiological information on cancer (incidence, survival, mortality and prevalence) in Spain.
- To promote, facilitate, carry out and publish research on cancer using data of cancer registries.
- To improve the visibility of the Spanish PBCRs, both to the health authority level, and to the health professionals and the general population.
- To promote the cooperation with the PBCRs of Latin-America.

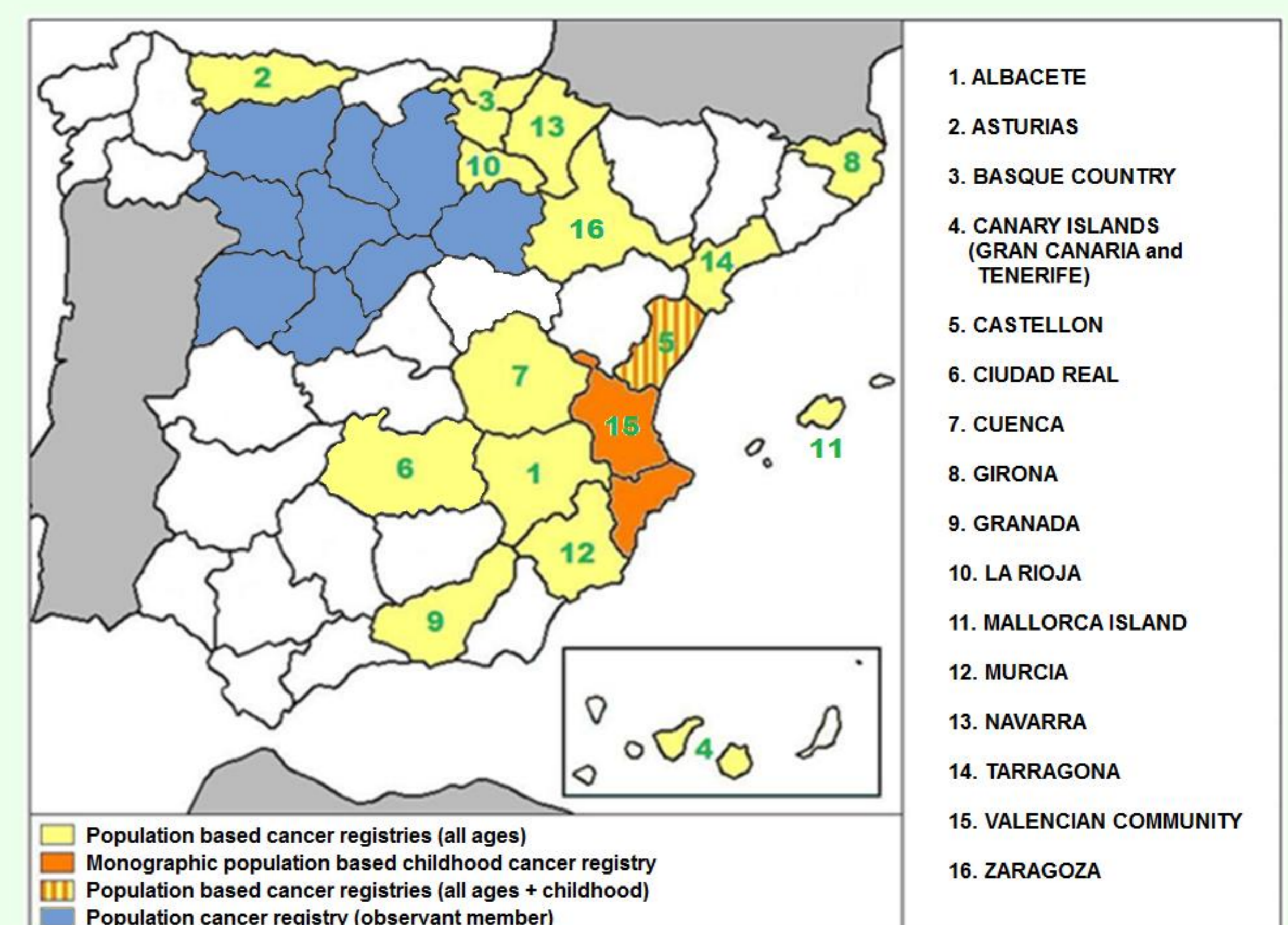


Figure 2. Cancer registries of REDECAN Network



Figure 3. 3rd Network meeting

## Methods

A Board of Directors meets periodically and establishes the network rules (Figures 1, 3 and 5). Some Working Groups on different topics have been set up on Cooperative Projects, Education and Training, Comparability and Quality of Data, Common Database, Demography, National Estimates, Web Page, Funding, Rare tumours and others.

## Results

- Three education and training courses have already been held (1.- Haematological tumours, 2.- Urinary bladder tumours, Staging, 3.- Quality control) (Figure 4).
- The methodology to calculate the national incidence estimates has been defined.
- Two cooperative projects are in progress.
- The creation of a common database is also in progress.



Figure 5. 9th Network meeting

## Discussion and Conclusions

After the good experiences of the two first years, it is expected that REDECAN will achieve an important role in the surveillance and cancer control in Spain, being the reference in population based cancer information and that it will produce many interesting results in the future.



Figure 4. 1st Network course