

## **Abstract**

Cancer is the second most common cause of death in European countries and, thus, has become an important public health problem in Europe. The objective of this study is to analyse recent changes in regional cancer mortality trends in 4 European countries: Italy, Sweden, Slovakia and the Czech Republic during the period from 80's to the present and compare differences in cancer mortality trends between selected countries. The main part of this study is focused on regional analysis of cancer mortality. The analysis is identifying areas with increased numbers of cancer incidence and mortality. Probable factors causing the increased are identified. Since 80's lower stomach mortality was observed in both, men and women in all countries. In the last 20 years were also lower mortality rates in female colorectal cancer, breast cancer , uterine cancer and male lung and prostate cancer. On the opposite, increased mortality rates were found in female lung cancer, breast cancer and with exception of Italy also in ovary cancer.