Incidence: In 2017, the American Cancer Society estimated there would be 63,990 new cases of kidney cancer in the United States. This accounts for 4.1% of all reported malignancies in the United States. In South Dakota there were 174 reported cases of kidney cancer in 2017, representing 3.7% of all cancer cases with an age-adjusted rate of 16.8 per 100,000 persons. Kidney cancer develops most often in people over 40. There is no known cause of this disease. Doctors can seldom explain why one person develops kidney cancer and another does not. The median age at diagnosis is 65 in South Dakota, and it was 64 in the United States.

Mortality: This cancer was the tenth leading cause of cancer death for South Dakota in 2017. In the United States, it was the 13th leading cause of death with a median age of death of 72 years.

Risk and Associated Factors: Cigarette smoking increases the risk of developing kidney cancer. The risk seems to increase by the amount one smokes. Obesity is associated with risk, as are exposures to occupational substances such as aniline dyes, benzene, and naphthalene.

Prevention and Early Detection: The main preventive measure is to stop smoking and maintain a healthy weight. It is difficult to diagnose kidney cancer until it becomes symptomatic. There are no known screenings recommended at this time.
Figure 36: Kidney and Renal Pelvis Cancer Number of Cases and Deaths by Age, South Dakota, 2017

Source: South Dakota Department of Health

Rates per 100,000 age-adjusted to 2000 US standard population and SD estimated populations.

Figure 37: Kidney and Renal Pelvis Cancer Cases and Deaths by Year, South Dakota, 2001 - 2017

The incidence peak for kidney and renal pelvis cancer occurred in 2016

Source: South Dakota Department of Health

Figure 38: Kidney and Renal Pelvis Cancer Age-Adjusted Rates, Cases, and Deaths by Year, South Dakota, 2001 - 2017

Rates per 100,000 age-adjusted to 2000 US standard population and SD estimated populations.
Source: South Dakota Department of Health