Stomach cancer incidence among males in Golestan province, Iran

Cancer is the third most common cause of death in Iran and annually 30000 of Iranian die due to cancer.1 We evaluated province-specific estimates of incidence of stomach cancer in men in Golestan province of Iran in 2004.

Golestan province is located in north of Iran, in the south east of Caspian Sea. Stomach cancer data were identified and collected through the 18 Pathology Laboratory centers, where male populations are referred. Using a structured questionnaire, trained personnel conducted in-person interviews to collect information on stomach cancer. Newly diagnosed cases which were detected by histologic or cytological examinations, were sent to the Cancer Registry Office of the province and to the registry unit in the Health Deputy. Age-specific rates, annual age-adjusted rates (ASRs) per 100,000 person-years were calculated using the direct methods of standardization to the world population.

Four hundred and nine patients with cancer from all sites were seen in 2004; 56 (13.7%) of them had stomach cancer. The pathologic diagnosis in these cases was adenocarcinoma (44, 10.8%), carcinoma (8, 2.0%), and one each of undifferentiated carcinoma, mucinous adenocarcinoma, signet ring cell carcinoma and malignant lymphoma. The overall stomach cancer incidence was 11.23/100000 persons. The highest stomach cancer incidence was in age range 80-84 years and was lowest in age range 40-44 years. Stomach cancer was the second (after skin cancer) common cancer among males.

Comparison of the ASR for stomach cancer (age specific) among males in Golestan province with those of stomach cancer worldwide show that the Golestan province is one of the high-risk areas. The incidence of stomach cancer in Golestan province is lower when compared with cancer registry in other countries such as Japan in 1994 (ASR: 66.6/100,000 and in age 80-84 ASR: 701.1/100,000 population)2 and China in 2005 (ASR: 37.1/100000 and in age 75+ ASR: 261.2/100,000 populations.3

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References

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