
CANCER REGISTRATION IN ASIA IN THE YEAR 2000: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Symposium held as part of the 22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Association of Cancer Registries, Khon Kaen, Thailand, 8-10 November 2000

D Maxwell Parkin¹, Vanchai Vatanasapt²

Abstract

The 22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Association of Cancer Registries was held in Khon Kaen, Thailand, in November 2000. This was the first meeting in Asia since 1994 and the Executive of the Association had suggested to the organisers that it would be appropriate to dedicate one of the sessions to a review of the current situation with respect to cancer registration on the continent. The decision was made to hold a special poster session to which participants with a sound knowledge of cancer registration in their country would be invited to contribute. Guidelines were proposed with respect to the content of the poster. The posters were on view during the conference and a special plenary session in the afternoon of the second day was dedicated to them. During this session, the Chairman highlighted aspects of registry practice and of the resulting data, which emerged from the poster presentations.

At the time of preparing the posters, all of the contributors had been asked to prepare also an "extended abstract" which

Asian Pacific J Cancer Prev, 2, IACR Supplement, 1-2

would include a rather structured account of cancer registration activities in the country. Thus, they were asked to outline:

Σ A summary of the history of cancer registration in the

country;

Σ The present status of registration (with map, if regional coverage) and the size of population covered by each registry;

Σ Any national policy for registration. Cancer Registry Associations, if any;



1 Unit of Descriptive Epidemiology, International Agency for Research on Cancer, 150, cours Albert Thomas, 69372- Lyon cedex 08 France Fax: 33-4-72 73 86 50 E-mail: parkin@iarc.fr *2* Cancer Unit, Srinagarind Hospital Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University Khon Kaen 40002, Thailand Tel & Fax: 66-43-243 088



Emphasis on Cancer in Asia

- Σ Incidence data: a summary of the national profile and of regional variations;
- Σ Studies of survival with results;
- Σ Other studies:
 - Epidemiological
 - Prevention
 - Screening
 - Medical care
- Σ Significant publications: reports, peer-reviewed articles (references);
- Σ Contact details and Internet websites.

The participants were asked to prepare figures and graphs to illustrate their abstract (these were often from the posters themselves) and to provide a table of incidence, if possible for the country as a whole, using real data or estimate, if necessary.

Eighteen participants contributed abstracts (and posters) which have been edited and are reproduced in this supple-

ment. These give a comprehensive overview of the cancer registry situation in their countries and, usually, some current data on cancer incidence that has not hitherto been published. We believe that the supplement will therefore provide an extremely valuable resource for persons seeking data on cancer in Asian countries, or who wish to know what is going on with respect to epidemiological research on cancer, or the planning of cancer control activities. The contact details of the cancer registries in each country are included, so that those interested in pursuing these topics further, may directly reach the registry directors concerned.

The editors would like to thank all of the contributors for their work and hope that the special symposium, and this supplement, will contribute to furthering the role of cancer registration in research and health care planning and evaluation in Asia.

Questions and Discussion

