

EDITORIAL

APJCP Report for 2008

Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention

The core responsibility of the APOCP and the UICC-Asian regional Office for Cancer Control (UICC-ARO) is to publish the Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, presently as an electronic journal with quarterly preparation of Mini-Abstract files. The decision to adopt electronic publication was made in consideration of publication and postage costs and the increasing numbers of papers published in the journal. The fact that the APJCP is accessible on both PubMed and Science Citation Index Expanded means that the international profile is now well established. The total number of papers accepted for 2008 was 160, details as to countries of origin and fields covered being provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Contributions to APJCP Papers 2008

Fields	Turkey Arabia	Iran	Central* Pakistan	South Asia** India	Thailand Myanmar	Brunei Malaysia	China Vietnam	Japan Korea	Editors West [#]	Total (%)								
Education/Smoking	5	0	1	1	0	5	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	4	24 (12)
Epidemiology	2	1	13	4	2	17	0	0	5	4	0	2	3	4	4	3	0	65 (37)
Secondary Prevention	2	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	16 (15)
Toxicological Pathology	0	1	5	2	0	2	0	0	9	3	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	29 (14)
Clinical	5	0	4	2	0	4	0	0	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26 (22)
Total	14	2	27	10	2	28	1	0	30	12	2	2	4	4	11	7	4	160 (100)

*Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia, **Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal, [#]Western World, Australia, USA and Europe

We might still wish for more papers relevant to smoking control and a number of countries have not been active, either in their total research output (like the Arab countries, Central Asia, South Asia other than India and Pakistan, many countries of South-East Asia) or because of very few submissions to the APJCP (Korea, China and to a very large extent Japan).

Research Meetings

The second aim of the APOCP/ UICC-ARO is to participate in and organize meetings. As a representative of the UICC, Malcolm Moore took part in the International Atomic Energy Agency organized impACT visit to Sri Lanka on January 14-18th. In February-March a fact-finding mission to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan was conducted, with a view to planning of a research meeting for Central Asia in 2009. On April 17-19th there was a UICC-ARO co-sponsored meeting on Nutrition and Cancer in Izmir, Turkey. Representation was also made at the UICC World Cancer Congress in Geneva, August 27th-31st, and an Asian Cancer Registry Network Meeting

in Seoul, September 26th. For this latter purpose a review of the present situation of cancer registration in Asia was drafted (Moore et al, 2008). The 4th APOCP General Assembly Conference was held in Beijing, October 11-13th, with Dr Ping Zhao as the President and You-lin Qiao as the Secretary. This three day event at the Beijing Guangxi Hotel featured over 70 oral or poster presentations.

At the 67th yearly Japanese Association for Cancer Research meeting in Nagoya, a UICC-ARO Discussion Forum was included, primarily to publicise the UICC World Cancer Declaration and assess its possible impact in different countries of Asia.

In November, in addition to attendance at an Indonesia Dharmas Natonal Cancer Institute meeting and the 1st

Asia Pacific Conference on Health Policy and Planning in an Era of Emerging Technology and Cancer, organized by the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, the UICC-ARO co-organized a Breast Cancer Consortium Research Conference with the University of Malaya Medical Center. This was attended by almost 150 delegates from 7 countries in the region.

Research Projects

Another area of activity for the UICC-ARO is in developing research projects, applying for funding and conducting research. In 2008 funding was obtained from the BUPA Foundation in England for support of 'Multi-professional Intervention and Training for Ongoing Volunteer-based Community Health Programs in the North-East of Thailand' in collaboration with colleagues from Khon Kaen University. Originally envisaged as a UICC-ARO project it has been transferred to the University for Management because of the legal status of the UICC-ARO.

An application for funding has also been made for

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'Establishment of an International Comprehensive Case Database for Breast Cancer in North-East and South-East Asia' with Cheng Har Yip, Professor, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya.

Future Prospects

Since the UICC-ARO is now housed within the JFCR Cancer Institute it is hoped that funding can be raised for the JFCR Cancer Institute NGO but specifically for use by UICC-ARO. A important liaison is with Hideyuki Akaza of Tsukuba University who is the President of the Asian Pacific Cancer Congress meeting which is scheduled for November of 2009. The theme is 'Cancer Control - Setting the Focus on Unique Asian-Pacific Contributions'. Keun-Young Yoo and Malcolm Moore also recently visited Turkey to meet with Murat Tuncer, President of the APOCP, to discuss the next General Assembly Conference, to be held in Istanbul in April, 2010. Then the theme will be 'Bridging Continents for Cancer Control'. I look forward to seeing all the members of the APOCP at one or both of these events and, as always, continuing to receive submissions of novel research findings to the APJCP.

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References

Moore MA, Shin H-R, Curado M-P, Sobue T (2009). Establishment of an Asian Cancer Registry Network - problems and perspectives *Asian Pacific J Cancer Prev*, **9**, 815-32.