

Cancer Registry and Epidemiological Study

The cancer burden is becoming more serious in most of the countries in the Asia-Pacific region. For effective cancer control planning and to monitor the efficacy of cancer control interventions, it is important to use quality data on cancer incidence, mortality and survival, generated where possible by population-based cancer registries.

Comparisons of cancer statistics among the various countries in the region should allow us to set priorities to make an impact on promoting cancer control activities tailored to each society with its individual economic and cultural characteristics. In this WG, each speaker will introduce the current situation regarding their cancer registries in brief, and present opinions about what cooperation (i.e. procedure standardization, education, collaborative study, advocacy, financial support, commitment in international association) within Asian-Pacific countries is needed to improve data quality and promote better data usage.

The WG also will be discussing how we efficiently obtain useful epidemiological evidence for cancer prevention in Asia-Pacific region. Recent molecular epidemiological studies showed genetic susceptibility to development of cancer varies among races for some environmental risk factors. To elucidate quantitative relations between for exposure level of environmental risk factors and health outcome, large numbers of study subjects are needed in both cohort and case-control studies. Based on these aspects, international collaborations combining cohort data and genome wide association studies using case-control design are launching. At the present, however, many countries in the region are not involved in such collaborative studies. In the WG, some speakers are expected to introduce the current proceedings of these collaborative studies in connection with Asia-Pacific region to discuss further strategies for obtaining ethnicity-specific, semi tailor-made information for cancer prevention.