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Aims and Scope

"Iranian Journal of Cancer Prevention" is a quarterly peer-reviewed publication of the Cancer Research Centre (CRC), Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, I.R. of Iran.

Predictive oncology follows a holistic approach in cancer prevention by risk factor management, considering social determinants of health, biological evaluation, assessing carcinogenesis and predisposing factors, early detection and diagnosing precancerous lesions, prognostic evaluation of malignant tumour transformation and progression, control of genotoxic exposures, lifestyle modification, cancer management (surgery, chemoradiotherapy, immunohormone therapy, psychological and spiritual care, *etc*), surviving patients with the highest possible quality of life, rehabilitation and palliative care.

"Iranian Journal of Cancer Prevention" appreciates articles in all aspects of cancer prevention including:

- Risk factor management: Life style, gene-environment interactions, molecular triggers and strategies for reducing risk.
- Public health issues: Epidemiology, cost-effectiveness of procedures, health technology assessment, cancer registry, social determinants of health, health needs and impact assessment, quality of life measurement, public and professional education, and cancer control programmes.
- Cancer diagnosis and prognosis: Molecular markers; diagnostic imaging; defining tumour margins; detecting minimal residual disease.
- New approaches to cancer therapy: Surgery, radiation therapy, rational drug design, gene therapy, immunotherapy, combination therapies, combating drug resistance, targeting therapies to the individual and complementary medicine, spiritual and psychological in particular.
- Experimental systems and techniques: Cell culture and animal models, genomic and proteomic approaches to studying cancer.
- Cancer-associated conditions: Cancer pain, cachexia, symptoms associated with treatment (hair loss, anaemia, gastrointestinal disorders), psychosocial aspects of cancer.
- Ethical and legal issues surrounding cancer research: Trial design, genetic screening, communicating with patients and families, death issues, research policy and advocacy.

"Iranian Journal of Cancer Prevention" focuses on advances in epidemiology, genetics, translational therapeutics, molecular medicine, pathology, new approaches in surgery and radiation therapy, and biotechnologies that have an impact on clinical oncology modalities. All of these goals depend on a combination of basic, applied, and health system research.

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Article within a journal supplement

Safae Keshtgar MR. Current status of sentinel node biopsy in the UK: The national survey. *Iran J Cancer Prev* 2009; 2(Suppl 1):11.

In press article

Akbari A, Akbari ME. Breast Cancer risk reduction by parity and breastfeeding, Islamic Perspective; A Case Control Study, I.R. Iran 2009. *Iran J Cancer Prev*, in press.

Published abstract

Ahmadi M, Bagheri JA, Marinova S, Maini RN: DM and Gastric cancer [abstract]. *Deiabet* 2000, 35:s200.

Article within conference proceedings

Khayamzade M. Burden of Gastric cancer in Iran. In *Proceedings of the First National Conference on Iran: 20-25 June 2001; Shiraz*. Edited by Saremi A; 2003:15-20.

Full text in Persian

Ahmadi A. A New Approach in Cancer Stem Cell. *Iran J Cancer Prev*. 2010;3:23-5(Full text is in Persian or.. .)

Book chapter or article within a book

Akbari ME. Breast cancer in Iran: Ahvaz statistics. *Cancer in Iran*. Volume 2. 3rd edition. Edited by Akbari A. Qom: Darolfekr; 2002:63-75.

Whole issue of journal

Madjd B, Alee Z, Keshmir F (Eds). *Innovative oncology*. In *Breast Cancer Res* 2003; 11:10-72.

Whole conference proceedings

Smith Y (Ed): Proceedings of the First National Conference on Porous Sieves: 27-30 June 2001; Baltimore. Stoneham: Butterworth-Heinemann; 1996.

Complete book

Hassanpoor SE. Breast Cancer. New Haven: Shahid Beheshti University Press; 2003.

Monograph or book in a series

Hunninghake GW, Gadek JE: The alveolar macrophage. In Cultured Human Cells and Tissues. Edited by Harris TJR. New York: Academic Press; 1995; 54-6. [Stoner G (Series Editor): Methods and Perspectives in Cell Biology, vol 1].

Book with institutional author

Advisory Committee on Colorectal Cancer: Annual Report. China; 2000.

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To be or not to be: That's the Question

Death is merely a link in the chain of life. This is the philosophy of biological sciences. Death is physiological and well programmed, yet it is at times induced and thus un-biological which is withdrawn out of life cycle. In biological sciences, the apoptosis is the natural process of death and life, and necrosis is the deviated cell death induced by risk factors and unacceptable intervention by human being and his environment with a comprehensive concept regarding biological, social, psychological and spiritual subjects. All of these risk factors can induce death in an unacceptable way and cause the death at a wrong time. Although this kind of death is sooner than expected, it could cause an un-programmed life as well.

Regarding this kind of cell death, life continues with special features created by the philosophy of being, life style, environment and individual concept of life. Death does not and cannot destroy the totality of a cell; the remains will carry on to be the building blocks of the new cells, hence continuing life. This is a biological standpoint and means that life could be sustained for many years, centuries and even for millennia, provided that one could integrate self, others, nature and cosmos internally.

To prolong this natural process, spiritual, psychological, social risk factors along with biological ones should be considered.

Life and death are two concepts inseparably intermingled: when a cell is dying, for example in a traumatized patient with hemorrhagic shock, the cerebral and brain cells are the first sites which die in an un-programmed manner, though this irregularity occurs completely in a programmed manner which is a natural phenomenon .

In birth, also, after oxygenation of circulating system, the other cells will start to accept the vital roles. Then organs will be responsible for their jobs and finally the birth is evident as an event. Death and birth, both are concurrent processes for life never to end but will continue in another way as a process, programmed or un-programmed.

Mohammad E. Akbari
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Chairman & Editor in Chief