Letter to Editor

Zahedan Journal of Research in Medical Sciences

Journal homepage: www.zjrms.ir



Received: 6 Nov 2012 Accepted: 10 Feb 2013

Available online: 15 Apr 2013

Cancer Incidence in Parsabad-e-Moghan City (2007-2010)

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oday according to the latest statistical and epidemiological studies in Iran, cancer is the third case of mortality after heart-vascular disease and accidents [1]. It is reported that 10 million new cancer cases have diagnosed and near 7 million annually. Cancer is one of the most health problems in Iran. This study aimed to register all cases of Parsabad city in a four years period, and survey has done about amount of cancer outbreak according to age, sex and topography distribution [2]. This study is descriptive-sectional analysis in which all registered cancer cases in public and social security hospital's pathology-laboratory centers during 2008-20011 and also monthly reports of health centers in urban and rural areas were studied. During these years, among the total number of examined samples, 308 cases were stricken to the mentioned cancers (202 cases of occurrence in urban areas, 149 cases in rural areas, and 38 cases in other regions). First the occurrence rates of these cancers are calculated according to; average of region population during the study period, frequency, gender, type of common cancers, and standardized occurrence rate based on world population structure, and then they obtained data statistically analyzed by using SPSS-16 software. According to the findings of this study, total number of cancer patients during 2008-20011 was 389 persons from which 249 persons were male (64%) and 140 persons were female (36%). The total raw annual occurrence rate of these three types of cancers in this city were esophagus cancer (10.5 per 100,000), stomach cancer (8.7 per 100,000), and skin cancer (5.6 per 100,000), and the total raw occurrence rate was 58.4 per 100,000. The most common cancer in both genders was occurred in age group 65-79 years. Moreover, the lowest rate of cancer occurrence in males and female was observed in age group of less than 19 and 9 and more than 85 years respectively.

According to the presented reports the most common cancer in both genders is esophagus cancer; that its occurrence rate is about 10.18 and 7.36 per 100,000 in males and females respectively. The annual occurrence rate of male and female esophagus cancer is reported about 4.5 and 1.2 per 100,000 in the US (California), 5.5 and 3.6 per 100,000 in India (New Delhi), and 6.1 and 0.6 per 100,000 in Turkey (Antalya) respectively [3]. According to the reports, the occurrence rate of esophagus cancer in Parsabad city is higher than the other parts of the world. It is noteworthy that the esophagus cancer is one of those cancers that in addition to the gene impact, some important environmental factors take part in its occurrence. Parsabad city, according to the geographical position, is located in subtropical region of Iran. In this region, most of people engaged in farming and raising

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cancers in this city in contrast with the other regions.

animals; therefore, the encountering of these people with

extermination poisons, used in farming, can be a clear

expression of the higher rate of esophagus and stomach

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Please cite this article as: Dargahi A, Elmi M, Dargahi S. Cancer incidence in Parsabad-e-Moghan city (2007-2010). Zahedan J Res Med Sci (ZJRMS) 2014; 16(1): 103.