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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Trends in Incidence of Prostate Cancer in Iran and Its 31 Provinces During 2003 - 2016

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

0 comments

No public comments in this round.

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

In the Name of the Most High

,Respected Editor-in-Chief

With greetings and respect, and with thanks for sending the review comments on the article " Trends in Incidence of Prostate Cancer in Iran", which have certainly led to an increase in the quality of this article, we would like to inform you that all corrections suggested by the respected reviewer have been answered carefully and separately, and the corrections made have been marked in a distinct colour in the text. Below, the list of the respected reviewer's questions and the authors' responses is :presented to you in order

Respected reviewer's comment: The time [period] should be added to -1 .the title of the article

Authors' response: The title was corrected; in addition to adding the time of conducting the study, the title of the article also refers to the provinces Trends in Incidence of Prostate Cancer in Iran and Its 31 Provinces during 2003-2016

Respected reviewer's comment: Compared with the article Cancer in -2 Iran 2008 to 2025: Recent incidence trends and short-term predictions of ?the future burden, what is the added knowledge of this article

Authors' response: The most important difference of this article is the presentation of ASIR in all provinces of the country, which reveals new information about the status of the disease in the country, identifies the high-risk areas of the disease, and can lead to generating hypotheses for conducting studies of prostate cancer risk factors in different regions of .the country

Respected reviewer's comment: In the Methods part of the abstract, -3 .only the data are introduced. It should be completed

Authors' response: The Methods part of the abstract was completely .corrected and is marked in green in the text

Respected reviewer's comment: The Results part of the abstract is -4 .written very briefly and does not convey the main points to the reader

Authors' response: The Results part of the abstract was fully corrected and .is marked in green in the text

Respected reviewer's comment: In the Conclusion part of the abstract, -5 The incidence of prostate cancer displays an increase of 4 times: how? ?Compared to what time

Authors' response: The incidence rate in the last year of the study (2016) was more than 4 times that of the first year of the study (2003). The relevant sentence in the abstract was corrected and marked in green.

-6 Respected reviewer's comment: In the Conclusion part of the abstract, could this increase in incidence not be due to increased coverage in data registration?

Authors' response: Certainly, the increased coverage of data registration has been effective in the increase of prostate cancer incidence statistics; however, compared with the slope of the incidence trend of other cancers, which is referred to in the article Roshandel et al 2021, the incidence of prostate cancer may become one of the health problems in the future. The respected reviewer's comment has been included in the Conclusion part of the abstract as well as in the Conclusion section of the article and has been marked in a different colour.

-7 Respected reviewer's comment: In the Methods section, did the data not need cleaning?

Authors' response: Fortunately, while managing the file and entering the data, the authors did not commit structural errors, and they removed duplicate or irrelevant observations. All outliers that had occurred due to operator error during data entry were corrected. Most of the missing data, which were few in number, were replaced based on the mean of the other observations. Regarding data quality, given the sensitivity of the subject and the enquiries made, the authors concluded that the data obtained from the Ministry of Health are very close to the actual values.

-8 Respected reviewer's comment: In the Methods section, regarding The ??????? number of country and provinces population

Authors' response: The sentence was completely corrected and marked in green.

-9 Respected reviewer's comment: In the Methods section, province has been mentioned twice in this sentence.

Authors' response: The repeated word was deleted.

-10 Respected reviewer's comment: The Results section is much richer than the Methods, and in fact the Methods do not reflect the work done and should be made more complete.

Authors' response: The Methods section was corrected, and the new parts, which are 3 paragraphs, were marked in green in the text.

-11 Respected reviewer's comment: In the Results section, which year?

Authors' response: The relevant values and years were entered in the text and marked in green.

-12 Respected reviewer's comment: In the Results section, the trend by women and men should also be added to the chart.

Author's response: This cancer is specific to men

-13 Respected reviewer's comment: Given the low frequency in some years and some provinces, it is suggested that the ASIRs be calculated by period, for example two- or three-year periods.

Authors' response: The authors of the article consider this detailed examination more useful for future studies examining prostate cancer risk factors in each province; in addition, the absence of data in some provinces was due to the separation of provinces from each other in some years, which was added to the end of the relevant table.

With many thanks

2 Revision 1

0 comments

No public comments in this round.

3

Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Editor

Hi

Thank you for allowing us to correct our manuscript. Definitely, the comments of referees led to the article's quality improvement. Here, we provide a careful point-by-point answer for the reviewer's comments and all associated changes are highlighted in the text.

Best Regards

Dr. Laleh Sharifi & Dr. Saied Bokaie

1- Referee's comment: The time should be added to the title of the article.
Authors' answer: The title was modified, in addition to adding the study time; the provinces are also mentioned in the title of the article: "**Trends in Incidence of Prostate Cancer in Iran and Its 31 Provinces during 2003-2016"**

2- Respected reviewer's comment: Compared to the article "Cancer in Iran 2008 to 2025: Recent incidence trends and short-term predictions of the future burden", what is the added knowledge of this article?

Authors' answer: The most important difference of this article is the presentation of ASIR in all the provinces of the country, which specifies new information about the state of the disease in the country and identifies the high-risk areas of the disease, and can lead to the creation of hypotheses for studies of prostate cancer risk factors in different regions of the country. to be

3- Rreviewer's comment: In the method section of the summary of the article, only the data has been introduced. Completed the section.

Authors' response: The method section of the abstract of the article has been completely revised and is highlighted in green in the text.

4- Reviewer's comment: The summary results section of the article is written very briefly and does not convey the main points to the reader.

Authors' response: The summary results section of the article has been completely revised and is marked in green in the text.
5- referee's comment: In the conclusion section of the article summary, "the incidence of prostate cancer displays an increase of 4 times", how? compared to when?

Authors' answer: The incidence rate in the last year of the study (2016) was more than 4 times that of the first year of the study (2003). The relevant sentence in the summary of the article has been corrected and highlighted in green.

6- Referee's comment: In the conclusion section of the summary of the article, could this increase in incidence occur due to the increase in coverage in data registration?
Authors' answer: The increase in registration coverage has definitely been effective in increasing the incidence of prostate cancer, but compared to the slope of the incidence of other cancers, which is mentioned in the article of Roshandel et al 2021, the incidence of prostate cancer in the future can be one of the health problems. The opinion of the respected referee is included in the conclusion section of the summary of the article as well as the conclusion section of the article and is marked with a different color.

7- Referee's comment: In the method section, did the data not need to be cleaned?
Authors' response: Fortunately, the authors did not commit structural errors during file management and data entry and deleted duplicate or unrelated observations. All outlier data that occurred due to operator error during data entry were corrected. Most of the missing data, which were small in number, were replaced based on the mean of other observations. Due to the importance of the subject and the curiosities made by the authors about the quality of the data, the authors concluded that the data obtained from the Ministry of Health are very close to the actual values.

8- Referee's comment: In the working method section, the number of country and provinces population ???????
Authors' answer: The sentence has been completely corrected and highlighted in green.

9- Referee's comment: In the method section, the province is mentioned twice in this sentence.
Authors' answer: The repeated word was removed.

10- Respected referee's comment: The results section is much more complete than the method, and in fact, the method does not represent the work done and should be made more complete.

Authors' answer: The methodology section was modified and the new sections, which are 3 paragraphs, were highlighted in green in the text.

11- Respected judge's comment: In the results section, which year?

Authors' answer: The corresponding values and years were entered in the text and marked with green color.

12- Respected referee's opinion: In the results section, the trend should be added to the graph separately for men and women.

Author's answer: This cancer is specific to men

13- Respected referee's opinion: Considering the small frequency in some years and some provinces, it is suggested that ASIRs be calculated periodically, for example, in two or three-year periods.

Authors' answer: The authors of the article consider this scrutiny more useful for future studies on the investigation of prostate cancer risk factors in each province. In addition, the lack of data in some provinces is due to the separation of the provinces from each other in some years, which is added to the end of the relevant table.

14- Respected referee's opinion: Spatial models should be used in drawing the map so that the estimated ASIR can be adjusted according to spatial correlation and sparse cases.

Authors' answer: In this study, the data of the cancer registration system was used, in which the exact location information of people with cancer is not collected. Since points are needed in the spatial models, this action was not possible with these data. According to the facilities, the coloring maps are the basis for comparing the standardized incidence rate based on the population, which can be a correct representation of the state of different provinces of the country.

3 Revision 2

1 comment · 20 Sep 2023

Morteza Fallah Karkan Reviewer

ACCEPT 20 Sep 2023

Thank you for your thoughtful and careful responses to the critiques and comments offered with your initial submission. Your edits have been very helpful in making your paper easier to understand. The manuscript has been much improved and is in good condition now.