

# Cancer Prevention; Cancer Risk Management

Risk management is one of the important and effective approaches to disease control. This strategy is not well recognized by public health managers throughout the world, and only some of the countries and institutions using a standardized approach to determine the risk factors and managing them.

The term "hazard" refers to a potential cause of illness or injury, but "risk" expresses probability that some specified adverse outcomes will occur in a person or a group exposed to a particular concentration of a hazardous agent over specific time. In the study of 146 breast tumor cases intervals, the burden of cancer does not fall equally on all members of a society; some of them are much more likely to develop cancer than others because of amount and time of exposure to risk factors and genetic response. For risk management, it may be important to distinguish between two exposures that may entail the same "lifetime risk" but that induce death at different ages. For this purpose, predictions of "years of life lost", defined as the difference in life expectancy between an unexposed person and one exposed at a certain age, may be derived. In practice, the terms "exposure" and "dose" are often used interchangeably in quantitative estimation and prediction (QEP) as two important elements in cancer risk management. Cancer is a substantial public health problem for many developing countries, and is likely to become more important in the future as populations age and industrialization proceeds (Tomatis, 1991 and Rastgoy 2002). In countries with fewer resources than those that the developed countries currently possess, cost-effective programs to control cancer are specially important, and finding out the risk factors of cancers and estimation of their weight to prioritize the activities for cancer control program is mandatory. Here in Iran the cancer risk factors are well-known as other countries but those are not quantitative estimated and predicted, so the policy makers and public health managers are not able to work on risk factors for cancer control. Cancer Research Center as a responsible institute is working on cancer risk factors and quantitative estimation to introduce the main route for controlling them. Hopefully these activities will be effective and acceptable for the responsible parties. We will share our research results here in IJCP or other international documents as the first regional experience in cancer risk management in the future.

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