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Epidemiology Note

Cancer Incidence and Incidence Rates in Japan in 2003: Based on Data from 13 Population-based Cancer Registries in the Monitoring of Cancer Incidence in Japan (MCIJ) Project

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The Japan Cancer Surveillance Research Group is involved in cancer monitoring in Japan (1–3). This group estimated the cancer incidence in 2003 as part of the Monitoring of Cancer Incidence in Japan (MCIJ) project, on the basis of data collected from 13 of 31 population-based cancer registries: Miyagi, Yamagata, Chiba, Kanagawa, Niigata, Fukui, Shiga, Osaka, Tottori, Okayama, Hiroshima, Saga and Nagasaki. If data from all 31 registries were used, this would have led to a large underestimation of national cancer incidence because of under-registration. The methods of registry selection, estimation of incidence and the limitations of these methods have been explained in previous studies (4–6). There were two major methodologic changes in the present study: (i) this was the first time we invited all 31 population-based cancer registries in Japan to participate, and from these we selected the 13 cancer registries with high-quality data in order to estimate the national incidence, and (ii) in consideration of timeliness, we did not apply the moving average which calculates the annual mean incidence rates of a year by using preceding and following years, and we used 2003 data alone for the national estimation. Because of the enlargement of the coverage area, Hiroshima prefecture was newly selected as one of the registries with high-quality data for the national estimation, but the other registries remained since the previous estimations. In 2007, we estimated incidences with and without the moving average based on the same registry data to compare the two methods. In conclusion, the estimated incidence without the moving average was comparatively unstable from year to year, but the gaps of the incidence numbers between the two

estimations were subtle. These new methods therefore do not bring about changes in the estimated incidence numbers.

The number of incidences, crude rates, age-standardized rates and completeness of registration in 2003 are shown in Table 1, and the age-specific number of incidences and the rates according to sex and primary site are shown in Tables 2 and 3. The total number of incidences in Japan for 2003 was estimated as 620 011 (C00–C96). The time trends of age-standardized incidence rates for the five major sites and male- and female-specific sites in 1975–2003 are shown in Fig. 1 (standard population: the world population) and in Fig. 2 (standard population: the 1985 Japanese model population). The leading cancer site according to the crude and age-standardized incidence rates was the stomach for men and breast for women, as shown in Figs 1 and 2. The apparent increase in age-standardized incidence rates in 2003 is considered to be caused primarily by the development of hospital-based cancer registry in designated cancer care hospitals. The estimated cancer incidence data in Japan by sex, site, 5-year age group and calendar year during the period 1975–2003 are available as a booklet (7) and as an electronic database on the website (<http://ganjoho.ncc.go.jp/professional/statistics/statistics.html>).

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Table 1. Incidence, completeness of reporting and accuracy of diagnosis in Japan according to sex and primary site, 2003

Primary sites	ICD-10th	Number of incidence	Crude rate ^a	Age-standardized rate ^a		Completeness of reporting		Accuracy of diagnosis	
				World population	Japanese 1985 model population	DCO/I (%)	I/M	DCO/I (%)	MV/I (%)
Male									
All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96, D00-D09	372 374	597.7	288.0	409.8	16.5	1.99	74.8	
All sites	C00-C96	364 072	584.3	281.4	400.5	16.8	1.95	74.4	
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	7835	12.6	6.7	9.1	11.7	1.94	81.0	
Esophagus	C15	13 658	21.9	10.8	15.1	15.5	1.45	78.3	
Stomach	C16	73 798	118.4	57.1	81.1	13.8	2.30	82.4	
Colon	C18	35 262	56.6	27.0	38.5	11.9	2.74	82.6	
Rectum and anus	C19, C20	21 892	35.1	18.0	24.8	11.1	2.68	84.2	
Liver	C22	29 126	46.7	22.7	31.9	25.2	1.25	38.4	
Gallbladder etc.	C23, C24	8755	14.1	6.1	9.2	27.2	1.20	46.0	
Pancreas	C25	12 511	20.1	9.5	13.7	28.7	1.11	37.0	
Larynx	C32	3921	6.3	3.1	4.3	7.3	4.24	88.5	
Trachea, bronchus and lung	C33, C34	55 928	89.8	39.6	59.5	24.2	1.34	69.8	
Skin	C43, C44	3325	5.3	2.6	3.6	7.1	6.08	90.6	
Prostate	C61	40 062	64.3	27.3	41.4	9.5	4.76	85.7	
Bladder	C67	12 646	20.3	9.3	13.6	11.1	3.40	84.7	
Kidney, renal pelvis, ureter etc.	C64-C66, C68	8217	13.2	6.7	9.3	16.0	2.27	74.3	
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	2571	4.1	3.1	3.5	27.5	2.95	65.3	
Thyroid	C73	2023	3.2	2.0	2.6	5.9	4.53	90.2	
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85, C96	12 881	20.7	11.6	15.5	17.0	2.65	79.9	
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	2251	3.6	1.6	2.4	30.6	1.20	65.8	
All leukaemias	C91-C95	5606	9.0	5.8	7.0	25.3	1.37	82.9	
Female									
All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96, D00-D09	269 220	412.2	193.9	260.8	17.1	2.20	73.6	
All site	C00-C96	255 939	391.9	179.3	242.5	17.9	2.09	72.4	

Continued

Table 1. Continued

Primary sites	ICD-10th	Number of incidence	Crude rate ^a	Age-standardized rate ^a		Completeness of reporting		Accuracy of diagnosis	
				World population	Japanese 1985 model population	DCOI (%)	I/M	MV/I (%)	
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	3180	4.9	2.2	2.9	15.0	2.01	76.6	
Esophagus	C15	2742	4.2	1.7	2.3	20.0	1.66	69.3	
Stomach	C16	36 525	55.9	22.1	31.2	17.9	2.10	78.3	
Colon	C18	29 859	45.7	17.4	24.7	15.8	2.30	77.1	
Rectum and anus	C19, C20	11 902	18.2	7.9	10.9	13.1	2.43	81.5	
Liver	C22	13 535	20.7	7.0	10.4	29.3	1.26	32.8	
Gallbladder etc.	C23, C24	10 200	15.6	4.7	7.1	32.3	1.18	40.5	
Pancreas	C25	10 371	15.9	5.5	7.9	34.0	1.05	30.1	
Larynx	C32	448	0.7	0.3	0.4	3.8	7.34	91.4	
Trachea, bronchus and lung	C33, C34	22 817	34.9	12.8	18.4	25.1	1.51	66.5	
Skin	C43, C44	4497	6.9	2.5	3.4	9.6	8.52	89.2	
Breast (incl. CIS)	C50, D05	45 716	70.0	43.4	56.1	5.6	4.66	90.5	
Uterus (incl. CIS)	C53-C55, D06	24 240	37.1	25.5	32.3	7.4	4.57	88.9	
Uterus (only invasive)	C53-C55	17 285	26.5	16.1	20.8	10.0	3.26	85.7	
Cervix uteri	C53	8674	13.3	8.8	11.3	7.1	3.65	89.4	
Corpus uteri	C54	7430	11.4	6.5	8.5	5.6	5.41	89.6	
Ovary	C56	7946	12.2	7.2	9.2	17.2	1.88	77.0	
Bladder	C67	3713	5.7	1.8	2.7	18.8	2.19	74.5	
Kidney, renal pelvis, ureter etc.	C64-C66, C68	4689	7.2	3.0	4.1	18.3	2.38	71.7	
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	2034	3.1	1.8	2.1	24.6	3.10	60.2	
Thyroid	C73	6046	9.3	5.6	7.2	7.6	6.17	87.4	
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85, C96	8592	13.2	6.1	8.2	16.8	2.36	80.8	
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	2234	3.4	1.2	1.7	34.4	1.23	62.3	
All leukaemias	C91-C95	3951	6.0	3.8	4.3	25.2	1.35	81.0	

ICD-10th, International Classification of Disease, 10th Revision; DCOI, proportion of cases with the death certificate only to incident cases; I/M, number of incidence/number of deaths; MV/I, proportion of microscopically verified cases to incident cases; CIS, carcinoma *in situ*.

^aPer 100 000 population.

Table 2. Age-specific incidence in Japan according to sex and primary site, 2003

Primary sites	ICD-10th	All ages Age group (years)																		
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	
Male																				
All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96, D00-D09	372 374	401	290	190	416	656	1021	1510	2353	4422	7922	18 940	29 913	44 332	57 691	72 125	63 779	36 791	29 622
All sites	C00-C96	364 072	401	290	190	405	650	1020	1497	2310	4213	7732	18 421	29 054	43 110	56 281	70 601	62 386	36 217	29 294
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	7835	2	0	2	8	34	39	99	127	117	316	626	924	1180	1342	1220	910	543	346
Esophagus	C15	13 658	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	93	317	850	1629	2351	2281	2621	1945	981	576
Stomach	C16	73 798	0	0	0	17	47	70	154	281	878	1741	4439	6714	9286	12 022	14 013	12 042	6472	5622
Colon	C18	35 262	0	3	0	8	18	54	120	204	339	713	1698	2905	4591	5634	7014	5589	3432	2940
Rectum and anus	C19, C20	21 892	0	0	1	8	5	15	83	158	420	709	1582	2564	3380	3828	3652	2925	1445	1117
Liver	C22	29 126	11	2	3	0	19	12	33	82	266	573	1792	2714	4018	5290	6146	4455	2127	1583
Gallbladder etc.	C23, C24	8755	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	23	57	79	294	410	820	1137	1483	1697	1438	1312
Pancreas	C25	12 511	0	0	0	0	14	4	1	41	157	194	727	1081	1666	1880	2247	2119	1365	1015
Larynx	C32	3921	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	6	31	72	229	434	604	713	746	616	304	147
Trachea, bronchus and lung	C33, C34	55 928	0	0	0	1	5	3	68	175	296	820	1944	3549	5091	7296	11 701	11 923	7446	5610
Skin	C43, C44	3325	0	0	3	0	13	42	68	50	46	77	107	148	349	358	572	590	364	538
Prostate	C61	40 062	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	58	430	1251	3704	6719	9914	9291	4852	3834
Bladder	C67	12 646	7	0	0	10	4	23	32	101	92	229	645	862	1196	1544	2623	2287	1520	1471
Kidney, renal pelvis, ureter etc.	C64-C66, C68	8217	14	5	0	0	26	50	35	70	164	280	648	834	932	1226	1487	1223	760	463
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	2571	67	111	18	45	85	72	88	84	139	146	230	149	319	313	290	202	105	108
Thyroid	C73	2023	0	3	0	1	34	49	44	126	88	137	245	215	224	188	270	193	117	89
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85, C96	12 881	12	38	76	96	113	123	175	307	528	680	791	1184	1415	2002	1705	1680	1107	849
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	2251	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	10	33	88	184	240	344	349	450	304	237
All leukaemias	C91-C95	5606	138	94	50	77	73	162	142	81	200	211	319	459	518	795	844	699	390	354
Female																				
All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96, D00-D09	269 220	397	219	202	332	821	1909	4996	6722	9210	13 421	19 959	22 867	25 392	28 998	34 319	34 339	29 314	35 803
All site	C00-C96	255 939	397	219	202	315	612	1301	3433	5118	7788	12 156	18 900	21 931	24 287	28 108	33 190	33 601	28 888	35 493

Continued

Table 2. Continued

Primary sites	ICD-10th	All ages Age group (years)																		
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	3180	0	0	2	18	42	23	33	56	74	100	219	248	332	370	363	468	385	447
Esophagus	C15	2742	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14	13	123	140	243	250	378	392	335	323	530
Stomach	C16	36 525	0	0	0	2	17	70	234	418	783	1101	1851	2752	3010	4149	5208	5706	4850	6374
Colon	C18	29 859	0	0	0	2	11	36	121	214	346	634	1480	2021	2853	3709	4420	4681	4120	5211
Rectum and anus	C19, C20	11 902	0	0	0	0	0	12	62	120	239	414	852	1162	1444	1511	1695	1602	1264	1525
Liver	C22	13 535	1	0	11	0	0	12	13	10	36	68	246	575	946	1989	2754	2677	2228	1969
Gallbladder etc.	C23-C24	10 200	0	0	0	4	0	0	6	4	44	108	229	337	609	894	1274	1758	2086	2847
Pancreas	C25	10 371	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	33	69	197	394	551	860	1080	1583	1619	1637	2336
Larynx	C32	448	0	0	2	0	0	0	7	2	0	38	2	37	59	83	47	92	39	40
Trachea, bronchus and lung	C33, C34	22 817	5	0	0	5	0	36	35	126	190	417	955	1525	2005	2774	3558	3831	3272	4083
Skin	C43, C44	4497	10	0	10	7	15	13	24	98	56	90	137	168	250	512	441	561	734	1371
Breast (incl. CIS)	C50, D05	45 716	0	0	0	0	29	222	934	1986	3547	5722	6882	5832	5657	4570	3724	3098	2009	1504
Uterus (incl. CIS)	C53-C55, D06	24 240	0	0	0	8	268	835	2479	2529	2299	2167	2432	2876	2030	1557	1609	1360	899	892
Uterus (only invasive)	C53-C55	17 285	0	0	0	2	77	259	988	1114	1146	1408	1978	2557	1791	1377	1531	1291	879	887
Cervix uteri	C53	8674	0	0	0	2	74	223	791	889	870	832	753	879	701	613	600	552	443	452
Corpus uteri	C54	7430	0	0	0	3	29	29	193	203	245	520	1148	1577	997	661	817	606	248	183
Ovary	C56	7946	0	0	20	40	47	150	182	258	412	683	1183	1183	801	695	761	536	488	507
Bladder	C67	3713	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	10	42	78	136	197	403	608	659	684	880
Kidney, renal pelvis, ureter etc.	C64-C66, C68	4689	17	8	8	4	2	3	26	25	111	95	348	345	441	559	693	737	593	674
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	2034	53	27	27	21	9	28	106	43	46	54	79	156	233	223	217	208	225	279
Thyroid	C73	6046	0	0	11	21	89	133	233	325	339	448	715	716	723	591	704	443	225	330
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85, C96	8592	19	33	13	45	81	86	117	113	217	282	592	637	808	918	1471	1248	969	943
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	2234	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	11	33	20	81	84	200	215	375	378	368	460
All leukaemias	C91-C95	3951	114	98	32	68	81	44	108	96	97	147	289	321	319	411	483	476	378	389

Table 3. Age-specific incidence rate per 100 000 population in Japan according to sex and primary site, 2003

Primary sites	ICD-10th	All ages Age group (years)																		
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+	
Male																				
All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96, D00-D09	597.7	13.5	9.5	6.1	11.6	16.3	22.1	30.8	55.2	111.9	199.2	379.7	661.4	1100.6	1643.2	2488.8	3093.1	3541.0	3954.9
All sites	C00-C96	584.3	13.5	9.5	6.1	11.3	16.2	22.0	30.6	54.2	106.6	194.5	369.3	642.4	1070.3	1603.0	2436.2	3025.5	3485.8	3911.1
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	12.6	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.8	2.0	3.0	3.0	7.9	12.6	20.4	29.3	38.2	42.1	44.1	52.3	46.2
Esophagus	C15	21.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.4	8.0	17.0	36.0	58.4	65.0	90.4	94.3	94.4	76.9
Stomach	C16	118.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.2	1.5	3.1	6.6	22.2	43.8	89.0	148.4	230.5	342.4	483.5	584.0	622.9	750.6
Colon	C18	56.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.4	1.2	2.5	4.8	8.6	17.9	34.0	64.2	114.0	160.5	242.0	271.0	330.3	392.5
Rectum and anus	C19, C20	35.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.7	3.7	10.6	17.8	31.7	56.7	83.9	109.0	126.0	141.9	139.1	149.1
Liver	C22	46.7	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.9	6.7	14.4	35.9	60.0	99.8	150.7	212.1	216.1	204.7	211.3
Gallbladder etc.	C23, C24	14.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.4	2.0	5.9	9.1	20.4	32.4	51.2	82.3	138.4	175.2
Pancreas	C25	20.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	1.0	4.0	4.9	14.6	23.9	41.4	53.5	77.5	102.8	131.4	135.5
Larynx	C32	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.8	1.8	4.6	9.6	15.0	20.3	25.7	29.9	29.3	19.6
Trachea, bronchus and lung	C33, C34	89.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.4	4.1	7.5	20.6	39.0	78.5	126.4	207.8	403.8	578.2	716.7	749.0
Skin	C43, C44	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.9	2.1	3.3	8.7	10.2	19.7	28.6	35.0	71.8
Prostate	C61	64.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.5	8.6	27.7	92.0	191.4	342.1	450.6	467.0	511.9
Bladder	C67	20.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.7	2.4	2.3	5.8	12.9	19.1	29.7	44.0	90.5	110.9	146.3	196.4
Kidney, renal pelvis, ureter etc.	C64-C66, C68	13.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.1	0.7	1.6	4.1	7.0	13.0	18.4	23.1	34.9	51.3	59.3	73.1	61.8
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	4.1	2.3	3.6	0.6	1.3	2.1	1.6	1.8	2.0	3.5	3.7	4.6	3.3	7.9	8.9	10.0	9.8	10.1	14.4
Thyroid	C73	3.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	3.0	2.2	3.4	4.9	4.8	5.6	5.4	9.3	9.4	11.3	11.9
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85, C96	20.7	0.4	1.2	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.7	3.6	7.2	13.4	17.1	15.9	26.2	35.1	57.0	58.8	81.5	106.5	113.4
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8	1.8	4.1	6.0	9.8	12.0	21.8	29.3	31.6
All leukaemias	C91-C95	9.0	4.6	3.1	1.6	2.1	1.8	3.5	2.9	1.9	5.1	5.3	6.4	10.1	12.9	22.6	29.1	33.9	37.5	47.3
Female																				
All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96, D00-D09	412.2	14.1	7.5	6.8	9.7	21.4	42.6	104.0	159.9	235.7	339.5	397.2	492.1	594.0	744.7	991.9	1211.3	1479.0	1904.4
All site	C00-C96	391.9	14.1	7.5	6.8	9.2	16.0	29.1	71.5	121.8	199.3	307.5	376.1	471.9	568.1	721.8	959.2	1185.2	1457.5	1887.9

Continued

Table 3. Continued

Primary sites	ICD-10th	All ages Age group (years)																					
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+				
Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.3	1.9	2.5	4.4	5.3	7.8	9.5	10.5	16.5	19.4	23.8
Esophagus	C15	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	3.1	2.8	5.2	5.8	9.7	11.3	11.8	16.3	28.2
Stomach	C16	55.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.6	4.9	27.9	36.8	59.2	70.4	106.5	150.5	201.3	244.7	339.0					
Colon	C18	45.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.8	2.5	8.9	16.0	29.5	43.5	66.7	95.2	127.7	165.1	207.9	277.2				
Rectum and anus	C19, C20	18.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.3	2.9	6.1	10.5	17.0	25.0	33.8	38.8	49.0	56.5	63.8	81.1			
Liver	C22	20.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.9	1.7	4.9	12.4	22.1	51.1	79.6	94.4	112.4	104.7			
Gallbladder etc.	C23, C24	15.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.1	2.7	4.6	7.3	14.2	23.0	36.8	62.0	105.2	151.4				
Pancreas	C25	15.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.8	1.8	5.0	7.8	11.9	20.1	27.7	45.8	57.1	82.6	124.3			
Larynx	C32	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.8	1.4	2.1	1.4	3.2	2.0	2.1			
Trachea, bronchus and lung	C33, C34	34.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.7	3.0	4.9	10.5	19.0	32.8	46.9	71.2	102.8	135.1	165.1	217.2			
Skin	C43, C44	6.9	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.5	2.3	1.4	2.3	2.7	3.6	5.8	13.1	12.7	19.8	37.0	72.9			
Breast (incl. CIS)	C50, D05	70.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	5.0	19.4	47.3	90.8	144.8	137.0	125.5	132.3	117.4	107.6	109.3	101.4	80.0			
Uterus (incl. CIS)	C53-C55, D06	37.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	7.0	18.7	51.6	60.2	58.8	54.8	48.4	61.9	47.5	40.0	46.5	48.0	45.4	47.4			
Uterus (only invasive)	C53-C55	26.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	2.0	5.8	20.6	26.5	29.3	35.6	39.4	55.0	41.9	35.4	44.2	45.5	44.3	47.2			
Cervix uteri	C53	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.9	5.0	16.5	21.2	22.3	21.0	15.0	18.9	16.4	15.7	17.3	19.5	22.4	24.0			
Corpus uteri	C54	11.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.6	4.0	4.8	6.3	13.2	22.8	33.9	23.3	17.0	23.6	21.4	12.5	9.7			
Ovary	C56	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.2	1.2	3.4	3.8	6.1	10.5	17.3	23.5	25.5	18.7	17.8	22.0	18.9	24.6	27.0			
Bladder	C67	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.1	1.6	2.9	4.6	10.3	17.6	23.2	34.5	46.8			
Kidney, renal pelvis, ureter etc.	C64-C66, C68	7.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6	2.8	2.4	6.9	7.4	10.3	14.4	20.0	26.0	29.9	35.9			
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	3.1	1.9	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.6	2.2	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	3.4	5.5	5.7	6.3	7.3	11.4	14.8			
Thyroid	C73	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.6	2.3	3.0	4.9	7.7	8.7	11.3	14.2	15.4	16.9	15.2	20.3	15.6	11.4	17.6			
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85, C96	13.2	0.7	1.1	0.4	1.3	2.1	1.9	2.4	2.7	5.6	7.1	11.8	13.7	18.9	23.6	42.5	44.0	48.9	50.2			
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.5	1.6	1.8	4.7	5.5	10.8	13.3	18.6	24.5			
All leukaemias	C91-C95	6.0	4.0	3.4	1.1	2.0	2.1	1.0	2.2	2.3	2.5	3.7	5.8	6.9	7.5	10.6	14.0	16.8	19.1	20.7			

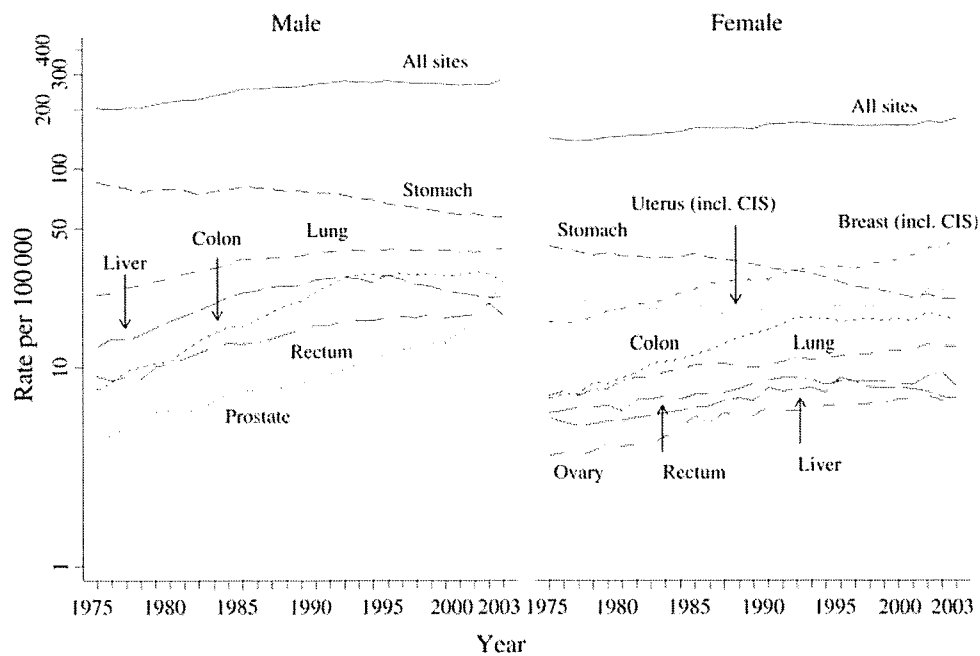


Figure 1. Trends of age-standardized cancer incidence rates for five major sites and specific sites for each sex (standard population: the world population). CIS, carcinoma *in situ*.

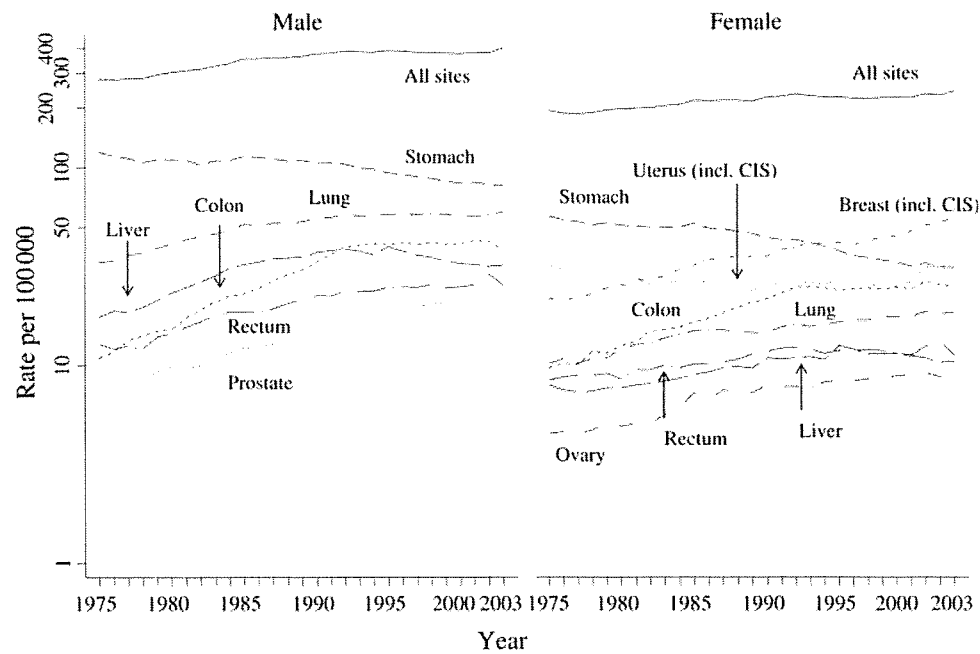


Figure 2. Trends of age-standardized cancer incidence rates for five major sites and specific sites for each sex (standard population: 1985 Japanese model population)

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Conflict of interest statement

None declared.

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Statistical Data

Secular Trends in Neuroblastoma Mortality Before and After the Cessation of National Mass Screening in Japan

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ABSTRACT

Background: In 2003, the Japanese government halted the national mass screening program for neuroblastoma (NB), which had been running since the mid-1980s. It is not known whether the NB mortality rate subsequently increased or decreased.

Methods: Utilizing vital statistics data from 1980 through 2006, we analyzed the secular trends in NB mortality by using cancer of the adrenal gland as a surrogate. We examined the validity of this substitution by comparing the results with data from death certificates. Using a joinpoint regression model, we examined the trends in age-specific mortality rates by calendar year and cumulative mortality rates by birth year. The cumulative mortality rate was analyzed for age under 1 or 2 years for infants born after the cessation of the mass screening program.

Results: The number of deaths from cancer of the adrenal gland was closely correlated with the number of deaths from NB. Significant decreases in the mortality rate were observed from 1980 through 2006 by calendar year for those aged under 1 year, 1 to 4 years, and 5 to 9 years. The cumulative mortality rates by birth year also significantly decreased from the 1980 birth cohort. Although the cumulative mortality rates under the age of 2 appear to have increased after the 2003 birth cohort, the change was not statistically significant.

Conclusions: No significant increase in the NB mortality rate was detected after the cessation of the mass screening program in Japan. However, continuous monitoring is still needed to fully evaluate this health policy decision.

Key words: mass screening; mortality; neuroblastoma

INTRODUCTION

Studies conducted in Germany and in the province of Quebec, Canada showed that screening infants for neuroblastoma (NB) did not result in lower NB mortality.^{1,2} Although a large number of epidemiological studies have been conducted in Japan, the findings regarding the effectiveness of NB screening have been inconsistent.³⁻⁸ Clinical studies have reported that a considerable fraction of NB patients whose disease was detected by mass screening had favorable outcomes, which suggests the possibility of over-diagnosis.⁹⁻¹⁴ In 2003, the Japanese government halted the national mass screening program—which had been in place since the mid-1980s for infants aged 6 months—because of the potential for over-diagnosis and the lack of evidence for its effectiveness in reducing NB mortality.¹⁵ Most local municipalities in Japan stopped the program during the following year. It is not known whether the NB mortality

rate increased or decreased after this national change. Therefore, we analyzed secular trends in NB mortality in Japan before and after the cessation of the national mass screening program.

METHODS

As is the case in most countries, the Japanese government collects vital statistics data, in which the causes of death are classified according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). NB mortality cannot be directly identified in this classification because deaths attributable to NB are coded based on the organ affected, and are grouped together with deaths due to other cancers affecting the same organ.¹⁶ Two different methods have been adopted to address this issue. The first approach (hereafter referred to as method-1) is to extract the data on deaths due to cancer of the candidate sites, inspect the relevant individual death certificates, and identify NB

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deaths based on the description of the cause of death or the histological type.¹⁶ The second approach (hereafter referred to as method-2) is to use deaths from cancer of the adrenal gland as a surrogate index.¹⁷

Method-2 is less accurate than method-1 because NB can occur at sites other than the adrenal gland, and because other histological types of cancer can occur in this organ. Method-1 requires official permission for the use of unpublished vital statistics data, whereas method-2 uses only published vital statistics data, at least for the years after the ICD version 10 was applied.

The present study used method-1 to analyze data from the year 2006. We obtained individual mortality data from the vital statistics, with official permission, according to the following criteria: year of death = 2006; age at death = 0 to 14 years; cause of death (ICD) = malignant neoplasms of mediastinum (ICD-9 164.2, 164.3, 164.9; ICD-10 C38.1, C38.2, C38.8), connective and soft tissue (ICD-9 171.0, 171.2, 171.3, 171.4, 171.5, 171.6, 171.7, 171.8, 171.9), peripheral nerves and autonomic nervous system (ICD-10 C47.0, C47.1, C47.2, C47.3, C47.4, C47.5, C47.6, C47.8, C47.9), retroperitoneum and peritoneum (ICD-9 158.0, 158.8, 158.9; ICD-10 C48.0, C48.1, C48.2, C48.8), adrenal gland (ICD-9 194.0; ICD-10 C74.0, C74.1, C74.9), or other/ill-defined sites (ICD-9 195.0, 195.1, 195.2, 195.3, 195.4, 195.5, 195.8; ICD-10 C76.0, C76.1, C76.2, C76.3, C76.4, C76.5, C76.7, C76.8). Then, we inspected individual death certificates for the extracted data, and identified NB deaths based on the recorded causes of death or histological types. This process was performed by one of the authors (K. K.) and was confirmed by another author (K. Y., a pediatrician). For the data from 1980 through 2001, we obtained data on NB deaths from previous reports^{16,18} that had used a method identical to the present method-1 for extracting and identifying NB deaths. Thus, in the present study, data on the number of NB deaths based on method-1 were available for the years from 1980 through 2001, and for the year 2006. We could not apply method-1 to the time period from 2002 through 2005 because a previous application to use death certificates for research had been rejected,¹⁹ and the document storage period had expired by the time of our application.

For method-2, we calculated the age-specific number of deaths from adrenal gland cancer, based on officially obtained individual mortality data from the vital statistics. The criteria for data collection were as follows: year of death = 1980 to 2006; age at death = 0 to 14 years; cause of death (ICD) = malignant neoplasms of the adrenal gland (ICD-9 194.0; ICD-10 C74.0, C74.1, C74.9).

To validate method-2, we calculated the Pearson correlation coefficient between the number of NB deaths and the number of adrenal gland cancer deaths, using data from 1980 through 2001, and from 2006.

We obtained population data from the published vital statistics and calculated the age-specific mortality rate by

calendar year for cancer of the adrenal gland. For the age-specific mortality rate, age was stratified into the following 4 groups: 0 years, 1 to 4 years, 5 to 9 years, and 10 to 14 years. We also calculated the cumulative mortality rate by birth year, by summing the 1-year age-specific mortality rate according to each birth year.²⁰ The number of deaths according to each age and each birth year was used as the numerator for the 1-year age-specific mortality rate. The denominator was the number of births (for age younger than 1 year) or the population for each age (for 1 year or older). The most recent birth year that we analyzed was 2005 for the cumulative mortality rate under 1 year of age, 2004 for 2 years of age, 2003 for 3 years of age, and 2002 for 4 years of age.

For the statistical analysis, we used a joinpoint regression model,²¹ implemented in the Joinpoint Regression Program (version 3.3.1) developed by the US National Cancer Institute. This method describes changes in data trends by connecting several different line segments on a log scale at joinpoints. The analysis starts with the minimum number of joinpoints (that is, 0, representing a straight line) and tests for the model fit with a maximum number of joinpoints. A Monte Carlo permutation method is used for tests of significance. In addition, the annual percent change (APC) for each line segment and the corresponding 95% confidence interval (CI) were estimated. In the statistical analysis, the number of deaths was assumed to follow a Poisson distribution. The maximum number of joinpoints was set at 3, the minimum number of observations from a joinpoint to either end of the data was set at 2 (including the end and joinpoint), and the minimum number of observations between 2 joinpoints was set at 4 (including the joinpoints).

RESULTS

Table 1 shows the secular trends in the age-specific number of deaths, according to the 2 methods. Although method-1 tended to yield slightly larger numbers than method-2, the secular trends were similar. The Pearson correlation coefficients between the annual numbers of deaths according to the 2 methods were close to 1 (1.00 for 0–14 years, 0.96 for <1 year, 0.98 for 1–4 years, 0.96 for 5–9 years, and 0.73 for 10–14 years; all 5 correlation coefficients were significantly different from 0 [number of data points = 23, $P < 0.001$]). In 2006, 45 deaths from cancer of the adrenal gland were observed, one of which was non-NB (malignant pheochromocytoma). In comparison, 45 NB deaths were identified by the inspection of death certificates from 2006, of which 1 case occurred at a site other than the adrenal gland (retroperitoneum).

Table 2 shows the results of the joinpoint analysis. Significant decreases in the age-specific mortality rate were observed from 1980 through 2006 by calendar year for those aged less than 1 year, 1 to 4 years, and 5 to 9 years. The cumulative mortality rates by birth year also significantly

Table 1. Numbers of deaths due to neuroblastoma (NB) and adrenal gland cancer from 1980 to 2006

Calendar year ^a	1) Number of deaths from NB identified by individual death certificates ^b					Calendar year ^a	2) Number of deaths from cancer of the adrenal gland ^c				
	0–14 years	<1 year	1–4 years	5–9 years	10–14 years		0–14 years	<1 year	1–4 years	5–9 years	10–14 years
1980–1982	381	28	209	119	25	1980–1982	338	22	194	103	19
1983–1985	329	31	174	102	22	1983–1985	294	28	150	94	22
1986–1988	280	15	132	101	32	1986–1988	249	15	119	88	27
1989–1991	221	10	109	81	21	1989–1991	207	8	106	74	19
1992–1994	178	11	72	77	18	1992–1994	171	8	68	76	19
1995–1997	185	16	67	78	24	1995–1997	181	14	65	79	23
1998–2000	147	9	55	59	24	1998–2000	139	8	53	56	22
2001–2003	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	2001–2003	118	6	49	42	21
2004–2006	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	(N.A.)	2004–2006	123	7	55	45	16
2001, 2006	86	4	38	29	15	2001, 2006	84	4	38	27	15

^aConsecutive 3-year periods from 1980 to 2006 were pooled. Two years (2001 and 2006) were also pooled.

^bThe numbers of NB deaths between 1980 and 2001 were obtained from previous reports (Hanawa et al, 1990 and Hayashi et al, 2004), and the numbers of NB deaths in 2006 were counted by one of the authors (K. K.).

^cDeaths due to cancer of the adrenal gland were defined by codes in the ICD: 194.0 for 1980–1994, C74.0, C74.1, and C74.9 for 1995–2006. N.A.: Not available

Table 2. Results of joinpoint regression analysis for the secular trends in adrenal gland cancer mortality

A) Age-specific mortality rate, by calendar year						
	Number of joinpoints	Line segment		Annual % change	95% confidence interval	
		Start	End		Lower	Upper
0 year old	0	1980	2006	-3.6 ^a	-5.8	-1.4
1–4 years old	0	1980	2006	-4.1 ^a	-5.0	-3.3
5–9 years old	0	1980	2006	-1.1 ^a	-2.0	-0.1
10–14 years old	0	1980	2006	1.4	-0.4	3.2

B) Cumulative mortality rate, by birth year ^b						
	Number of joinpoints	Line segment		Annual % change	95% confidence interval	
		Start	End		Lower	Upper
<1 year old	0	1980	2005	-3.0 ^a	-5.4	-0.5
<2 years old	0	1980	2004	-3.4 ^a	-5.3	-1.4
<3 years old	0	1980	2003	-4.3 ^a	-5.7	-2.8
<4 years old	0	1980	2002	-4.1 ^a	-5.2	-2.9

^aAnnual % change is statistically significant from zero.

^bThe analyzed most recent birth year was 2005 for age <1 year, 2004 for <2 years, 2003 for age <3 years, and 2002 for age <4 years.

decreased from the 1980 birth cohort. Figure 1 shows the trends in the age-specific mortality rate. The mortality rates for 1 to 4 years of age in 2004 and 2006 were high, but no significant increase or joinpoint was detected around this time. Figure 2 shows the trends in the cumulative mortality rate. The cumulative mortality rate under the age of 2 for the 2004 birth cohort was considerably higher than the cumulative mortality rate for the past several birth cohorts. However, this change was not detected as a significant joinpoint.

DISCUSSION

We examined the secular trends in the mortality rate for NB, using mortality for cancer of the adrenal gland as a surrogate index, and found no significant increase before or after the

cessation of the Japanese national mass screening program. We confirmed the validity of this surrogate method by examining the correlation between the numbers of deaths from the 2 cancers. Nationwide mass screening had previously been performed for infants aged 6 months, and the participation level was high (ranging from 84% to 90% in the period from 1990 through 2001). Because the most recent year of death that we analyzed was 2006, any increase in the age-specific mortality rate associated with the cessation of mass screening in 2003 would have been expected to occur among children aged 1 to 4 years. However, we did not observe any significant increase or joinpoint in the mortality rate among this age group around this time. It is possible that the time elapsed since the cessation of mass screening was still too short to detect any increase in mortality for this age group, which

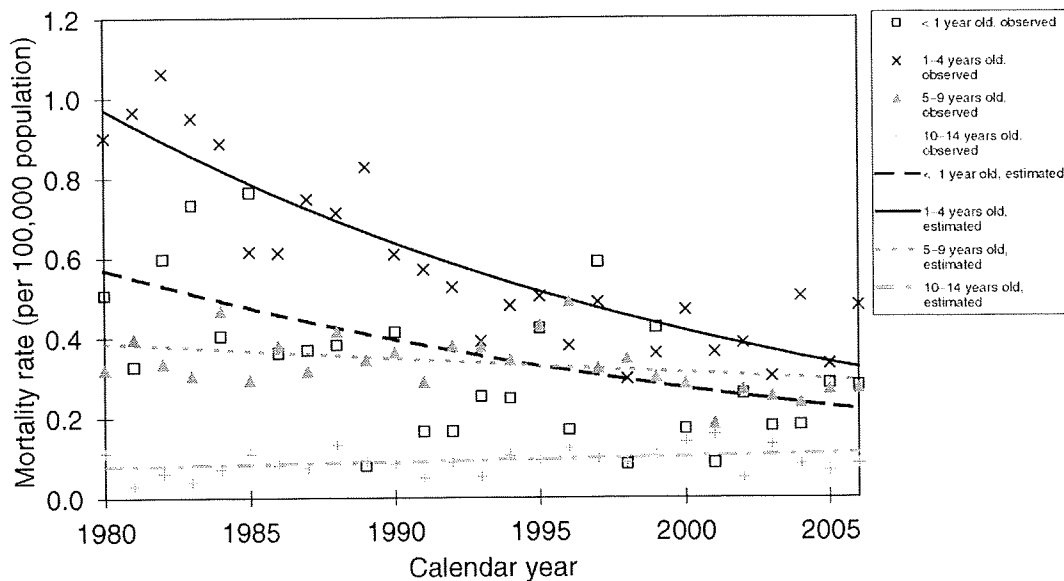


Figure 1. Annual trends in age-specific mortality rate for cancer of the adrenal gland, by calendar year

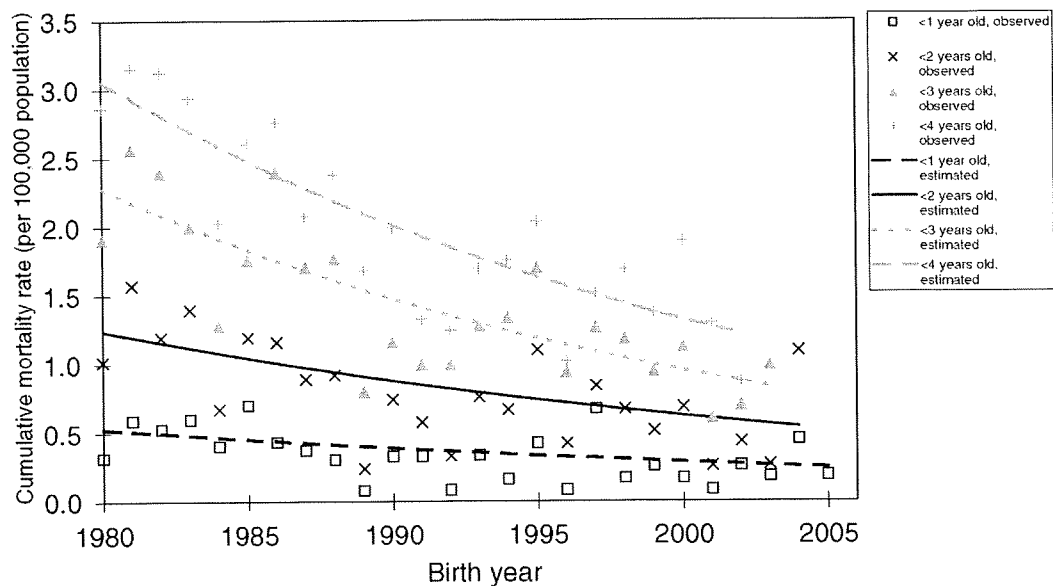


Figure 2. Annual trends in cumulative mortality rate for cancer of the adrenal gland, by birth year. Note: The most recent analyzed birth year was 2005 for age <1 year, 2004 for age <2 years, 2003 for age <3 years, and 2002 for age <4 years

included both screened and unscreened individuals, even at the end of our observation period.

The cumulative mortality rate according to birth year was a more direct index to examine the effect of the cessation of the mass screening program. It decreased significantly throughout the observed birth years, and the birth year 2003 was not detected as a significant joinpoint. However, these results should be interpreted with caution because the analyzed range of birth years and ages was limited after the cessation of the mass screening program. In consideration of the time from diagnosis to death, we should assume that any increase in the mortality rate for infants born after the cessation could occur later than the end of our observation period.

There are several Japanese municipalities that continued mass screening for NB after 2003. However, the number of such municipalities is very small, and our results did not change when we excluded the prefectures to which these municipalities belong (ie, Hokkaido, Kanagawa, Niigata, Shizuoka, Kyoto, Osaka, and Kumamoto).

We found a high correlation between the number of deaths from NB and the number of deaths from adrenal gland cancer, with the former slightly and consistently higher than the latter (Table 1). This tendency was in agreement with a previous report, in which approximately 90% of NB deaths were attributable to cancer of the adrenal gland, and almost all of the cancers that occurred at this site were NB.¹⁶ One death due

to non-NB cancer in the adrenal gland was included among the data for 2006, but this was considered to be an unusual case.

The effect of the cessation of the mass screening program for NB should be verified by monitoring the trend in incidence.²² Studies have reported the trends in NB incidence and mortality before and after the start of a national mass screening program, based on data from a population-based cancer registry.^{3,5} Additional similar studies need to be conducted, and should include a sufficient observation period after the cessation of the program.

In conclusion, no significant increase in the NB mortality rate was detected after the cessation of the national mass screening program in Japan. However, continuous monitoring is still needed to evaluate further this health policy decision.

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タバコと発がん

片野田耕太*

要 旨

- ・タバコは、予防可能な最大のがんのリスク要因である。
- ・タバコの煙に含まれる発がん物質は、体内の代謝過程で活性化され、DNA付加体を形成し、遺伝子変異を引き起こす。
- ・タバコとがんとの関連について、能動喫煙によるリスク上昇だけでなく、禁煙後のリスク低下、受動喫煙など、さまざまな側面から疫学的な証拠が蓄積されてきた。
- ・能動喫煙と因果関係が確立されているがん種は、口腔、鼻腔・副鼻腔、咽頭、食道、胃、肝臓、膵臓、喉頭、肺、子宮頸部、膀胱、腎臓(腎盂、腎細胞)のがん、および骨髄性白血病である。これら多くの多くは、継続的な禁煙によりリスクが低下する。
- ・日本人において、非喫煙者に対する現在喫煙者のリスクは、肺がんでは男女とも3~4倍、喉頭および尿路のがんでは男性で5倍以上である。
- ・日本人のがん死亡に占める喫煙の寄与(人口寄与危険割合)は、男性で30%強、女性で5%前後である。
- ・受動喫煙と肺がんとの因果関係は確立されており、リスク上昇は20~30%である。

はじめに

タバコは、予防可能な最大のがんのリスク要因である。1950年代に喫煙と肺がんとの関連を示す疫学研究の結果が初めて報告されて以来、タバコとがんとの関連については、能動喫煙だけでなく、禁煙によるリスク低下、受動喫煙など、さまざまな側面から研究が行われてきた。今日では、タバコとの因果関係が確立されているがん種は10を越える。

以下、タバコとがんとの関連について、トピックごとに最近の知見をまとめらる。

タバコによる発がんの仕組み

タバコの煙の中には、タバコ自体に含まれるものだけでなく、不完全燃焼に伴って生じる化合物を含めて約4,000種類の化学物質が含まれているといわれる。その中には、多環芳香族炭化水素化合物やニトロソアミン類をはじめとする発がん物質が60種類以上含まれている。発がん物質の多くは、体内で代謝される際に活性型に変化した後、DNAと共有結合をしてDNA付加体を形成する。このDNA付加体が、DNA複製の際に遺伝子の変異を引き起こす。こうした遺伝子変異が、がん遺伝子やがん抑制遺伝子などに蓄積することによって、細胞ががん化すると考えられている。

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表1 日本人における喫煙者のがんの相対リスク

がん種	日本の三つのコホート研究の併合解析による相対リスク*		日本の疫学研究のメタアナリシスによる相対リスク†	
	男性	女性	男性	女性
全がん	2.0 [1.8:2.1]	1.6 [1.4:1.8]	1.6 [1.6:1.7]	1.3 [1.2:1.4]
口腔・咽喉	2.7 [1.5:4.8]	2.0 [0.7:5.7]	—	—
食道	3.4 [2.3:5.1]	1.9 [0.7:4.9]	—	—
胃	1.5 [1.3:1.8]	1.2 [0.9:1.6]	1.8 [1.5:2.1]	1.2 [1.1:1.4]
肝・肝内胆管	1.8 [1.5:2.2]	1.7 [1.2:2.5]	—	—
肺臓	1.6 [1.2:2.1]	1.8 [1.3:2.6]	—	—
喉頭	5.5 [1.3:23.1]	N.A.	—	—
肺	4.8 [3.9:5.9]	3.9 [3.1:4.9]	4.4 [3.9:4.9]	2.8 [2.4:3.2]
子宮頸部	—	2.3 [1.3:4.1]	—	—
腎盂を除く腎臓	1.6 [0.8:3.1]	0.6 [0.1:4.5]	—	—
膀胱	6.7 [2.4:18.5]	1.7 [0.7:4.2]	—	—
腎盂・尿管・膀胱	5.4 [2.5:11.6]	1.9 [0.8:4.1]	—	—
骨髄性白血病	1.5 [0.7:2.8]	1.0 [0.3:3.1]	—	—

*: 現在喫煙者の非喫煙者に対する死亡相対リスク(年齢調整)。出典: 文献^{4), 5)}。†: 出典: 文献⁶⁻⁸⁾。
 N.A.: 死亡数が少なため算出不可
 [] 内は95%信頼区間

能動喫煙とがん

1. 喫煙によるリスク上昇
 2002年、国際がん研究機関(IARC)は「ヒトへの発がんリスク評価に関するモノグラフ」(以下、モノグラフ)第83巻において、喫煙とタバコ煙のヒトに対する発がん性を評価したり⁹⁾。その結果、喫煙とタバコ煙は、もつとも強い「グループ1: ヒトに対して発がん性がある」と判定された。この報告書は、喫煙と因果関係が認められるがん種として、口腔、喉頭、喉頭、食道、胃、肝臓、膀胱、喉頭、肺、子宮頸部、膀胱、腎臓(腎臓、腎臓)、がん、および骨髄性白血病をあげていられる。これらの因果関係の評価は、2004年にまとめられた米国民衆衛生総監(Surgeon General)報告書でも、ほぼ同じ内容となっている⁹⁾。
 表1は、これらのがん種について、日本の三つのコホート研究の併合解析^{4), 5)}、および日本の疫学研究のメタアナリシスによる⁶⁻⁸⁾、喫煙による各がん種の相対リスクをまとめたものである。現

報告されている¹⁰⁾。喫煙による日本人の肺がん相対リスクが欧米人に比べて低い理由には、①日本人の方が喫煙者の曝露量が小さい(喫煙開始年齢が遅い、1日喫煙本数が少ないなど)、②喫煙によるリスク増加が比較的小さい(肺がんの割合が日本人で大きい)、③日本人の方が非喫煙者の肺がん死亡率が高い(受動喫煙レベルが高い、非喫煙者に喫煙経験者が異なるなど)、④遺伝的な感受性が異なる、などが指摘されている。ただし、②については、近年米国の肺がん罹患率は男女とも扁平上皮がんの減少傾向が顕著で肺がんの割合が増加している¹¹⁾。

喫煙との関連が明らかでないがん種として、大腸がんがある。IARCモノグラフおよび米国民衆衛生総監報告書とも、喫煙と大腸がんとの間に因果関係があると判定するための科学的証拠は不十分であると結論づけている^{1, 3)}。一方、2008年に能動喫煙と大腸がんとの関連について、大規模なメタアナリシスの結果が報告された¹²⁾。この論文は、喫煙と大腸がん罹患および死亡との間に有意な関連を認め、大腸がんのリスク上昇が有意になるには喫煙年数が30年以上必要であると報告している。

日本人を対象とした疫学研究の系統的レビューでは、喫煙と大腸がんとの関連は「可能性がある(possible)」という弱い評価となっている(4段階中、「確実である」、「ほぼ確実である」に次ぐ3番目)¹³⁾。この結果は上記のメタアナリシスの結果と一見矛盾するようではあるが、上記のメタアナリシスでも、対象地域別の解析においてアジアではリスク比が1に近い¹²⁾。また、結腸がんより直腸がんが強く喫煙と関連しているという結果において同研究は一致している。

喫煙による大腸がんリスク上昇の生物学的機序としては、ポリープの発生過程、進行過程、およびがん化過程にそれぞれ関与するAPC(*adenomatous polyposis coli*)、*ras*、*p53*などの遺伝子が喫煙により変異を起こす可能性が考えられている。喫煙との関連が否定的とされているがん種として乳がんがある。IARCモノグラフおよび米国民衆衛生総監報告書とも、喫煙と乳がんとの関連に否定的な結論を出している^{1, 3)}。日本の疫学研究

の系統的レビューの結果でも、喫煙と乳がんとの関連は「可能性がある」という弱い評価にとどまる¹⁴⁾。タバコ煙に含まれる物質やその影響が喫煙者の乳原組織に到達する可能性が指摘されている一方、喫煙者ではエストロゲンレベルが低下するという報告もあり、喫煙と乳がんとの関連についてはリスクの上昇と低下の双方の生物学的機序が考えられ、いずれも確定的ではない。

2. 禁煙によるリスク低下

表2は、IARCが2007年に行った禁煙後のリスク低下についての評価をまとめたものである¹⁵⁾。禁煙後リスクが低下するとされたがん種は、口腔、食道、胃、膀胱、喉頭、肺、子宮頸部、腎臓、膀胱、膀胱のがんで、うち喉頭および子宮頸部のがんは禁煙後のリスク低下が早い。子宮頸部のがんは禁煙後非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが急速に下がりますが、他の多くのがん種では非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが下がるとは20年以上かかる。

また、肺がんは禁煙後長期間経っても非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが下がらない。ただ、禁煙後の肺がんリスクの低下は、40歳代および50歳代はもちろん、60歳代で禁煙した場合でも認められるため¹⁶⁾、比較的高齢の喫煙者においても禁煙によるメリットは確実にある。

禁煙後に疾病リスクが低下するかどうかは、喫煙と疾病との因果関係の判定に重要である。ただし喫煙による遺伝子変異が発がん過程の初期に関与していた場合、喫煙をやめた後に他の要因でがん化の過程が進むことも考えられる。

受動喫煙とがん

1. 国際機関などの報告

1980年代後半以降、IARC、米国民衆衛生保護庁(Environmental Protection Agency; EPA)などが科学的証拠に基づいて受動喫煙を肺がんのリスク要因として認め始めた。2002年のIARCモノグラフ第83巻は、受動喫煙について、もつとも強い「グループ1: ヒトに対して発がん性がある」と判定している¹⁾。受動喫煙と疾病との関連について比較的最近まとめられた報告書

表2 国際がん研究機関(IARC)による禁煙とリスク低下に対する評価

がん種	①禁煙した人のリスクが現在喫煙者より低い	②禁煙継続によるリスクの低下	③非喫煙者のレベルまでのリスクの低下	備考
口腔	◎	○	○(20年以上)	一般に禁煙期間の増加に伴いリスクも低下。
鼻咽頭・副鼻腔	○	—	—	リスク低下は扁平上皮がんに限られる。禁煙後長期間(20年以上)リスクは高い。禁煙後10年で非喫煙者の2倍までリスクが下がる。肺癌に関する研究結果は少なく、関連を判断するには不十分。
食道	◎	○	○(20年以上)	禁煙期間の増加に伴いリスクも低下し、禁煙した年齢が若いほど大きく低下する。
胃	◎	○	○(15年以上)	リスクは低下すると思われ、地域によって研究結果に違いがある。研究報告が少なくない。
肝	○	—	—	禁煙後、急速にリスクは低下する。10~15年で約60%低下。20年以上かけて非喫煙者レベルに達する。
膵臓	◎	○	○(20年以上)	リスクは5~9年で低下を始め、長い期間かかり徐々に低下、禁煙後長期間経っても非喫煙者レベルより高い。
喉頭	◎	◎	○(20年以上)	リスク低下は扁平上皮がんに限られる。禁煙によって非喫煙者のリスクレベルまで急速に下がる。
肺	◎	○	△	研究報告が少なくない。
子宮頸部	◎	◎	◎	リスクは低下すると思われるが、研究結果が一致していない。
腎細胞	◎	○	○(20年以上)	非喫煙者のレベルまでのリスクの低下
膀胱	◎	○	○(25年以上)	◎：禁煙後、非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが下がる ○：禁煙後、非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが下がるが、長期間かかる。()内はかかる年数
骨髄性白血病	○	—	—	△：禁煙後、非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが下がる —：情報不十分 (空白)：記載なし (空白)：記載なし (空白)：記載なし ④：禁煙期間の増加に伴いリスクが低下する ○：禁煙後、急速にリスクが低下する △：禁煙後、非喫煙者のレベルまでリスクが下がる

に、カリフォルニア州環境保健局の報告書(2005年)¹⁾と、米国公衆衛生総監報告書(2006年)¹⁸⁾がある。これら二つの報告書においても、受動喫煙は、タバコを吸わない人と子どもとの両方に、さ

ままな病気が早期死亡を引き起こすと結論づけられている。

表3は、これら三つの報告書の評価結果をまとめたものである。肺がんについては、三つの報告

表3 非喫煙者における受動喫煙とがんとの関連についての評価結果

がん種	①IARCモノグラフ(2002年)	②カリフォルニア州環境保健局報告書(2005年)	③米国公衆衛生総監報告書(2006年)	各報告書のその他の記述
肺がん	○	○	○	①配偶者の喫煙による受動喫煙で肺がんリスクは女性で約1.2倍、男性で約1.3倍。職場での受動喫煙で肺がんリスクは1.12~1.19倍。 ②同居者の喫煙による受動喫煙で肺がん死リスクは1.2~1.3倍。
頭頸部がん	—	—	—	—
鼻咽頭がん	×	○	△	データが不十分
乳がん	×	○*	△	①受動喫煙と乳がんとの間の関連が十分でないことから、受動喫煙との関連の可能性は低い。
子宮頸がん	×	—	—	受動喫煙が原因の一つである可能性がある
小児がん	—	△*	△†	関連が示されるが他の要因の影響を否定できない
全がん	×	△	—	—

○：因果関係がある、△：因果関係が示唆される、×：データが一致しない、—：(評面なし)
*：閉経前若年女性について、†：白血病・リンパ腫・脳腫瘍について

書とも、受動喫煙との因果関係があると判定している。同居者の喫煙による受動喫煙による非喫煙者の肺がんリスクは1.2~1.3倍であり、職場での受動喫煙による非喫煙者の肺がんリスクは1.1~1.2倍である。鼻癌がんとびり乳がんは、カリフォルニア州環境保健局報告書のみが因果関係ありと判定している。乳がんについては、前述の通り非喫煙との関連が否定的であるため、米国公衆衛生総監報告書では、「因果関係が示唆される」という評価にとどまった。小児がんおよび全がんについては、いずれの報告書も因果関係があるとは判定していない。

2. 日本人を対象とした研究

日本人を対象とした受動喫煙とがんとの関連は、平山によって夫の喫煙と非喫煙女性の肺がんとの関連が最初に報告された¹⁹⁾。以後、受動喫煙に関する日本人を対象とした疫学研究は、配偶者

など同居者の喫煙による受動喫煙を対象としたものが比較的多い。

表4は、主に非喫煙女性について夫の喫煙による受動喫煙の健康影響を調べた疫学研究のまとめである。肺がんについては、平山研究以後の疫学研究で報告された非喫煙女性の大からの受動喫煙の相対リスクはおおむね1.3~2.0に分布しており、平山研究や国際機関などの報告と大きな相違はない。組織型別では、近年肺腺がんが受動喫煙とより関連が強いとの報告があり、腺がんとの関連が指摘されている4-(N-ニトロソメチルアミン)-1-(3-ピリジル)-1-ブタノン(NNK)の関与などが機序として考えられている(Kurahashi N, et al).

肺がん以外のがんでは、2000年以降、乳がんを

表4 夫の喫煙または家庭での受動喫煙に関する日本の疫学研究のまとめ

文献	調査年	対象者	エンドポイント	曝露レベル処理方法	年齢、職業	曝露形態	疾患・組織型など	曝露レベル・層別など	相対リスク [95%信頼区間]*
Hirayama T BMJ 282: 183-185, 1981	1965	非喫煙女性 91,540名	死亡	質問票	年齢、職業	夫の喫煙	肺がん 肺気腫・喘息 子宮頸がん 胃がん 虚血性心疾患	現在喫煙 (20本/日以上)	2.08 (p=0.001) 1.49 (p=0.474) 1.14 (p=0.249) 0.99 (p=0.720) 1.03 (p=0.393)
Hirayama T Prev Med 13: 680-690, 1984	1965	非喫煙女性 91,540名	死亡	質問票	年齢、職業	夫の喫煙	肺がん 胃がん 鼻癌がん 脳腫瘍 全がん	現在喫煙 (20本/日以上)	1.91 [1.34~2.71] 1.01 [0.86~1.19] 2.55 [1.04~6.27] 4.32 [1.53~12.19] 1.23 [1.12~1.35]
Akiba S Can Res 46: 4804-4807, 1986	1982	原爆生存者男女。 症例 428名、 対照 957名	肺がん罹患	インタビュー	出生年、居住地、性、健診対象者が舌かを マッチング	夫の喫煙		非喫煙男性 非喫煙女性	1.80 [0.50~5.60] 1.50 [1.00~2.50]
Inoue R & Hirayama T Smoking and Health: 283-285, 1987	1980~1983、 1973~1981	女性、症例 37名、 対照(健血管疾患) 74名	肺がん死亡	インタビュー	出生年、死亡年、地域をマッチング	夫の喫煙		非喫煙女性	2.25 [0.91~7.10]
Shimizu H, et al Tohoku J Exp Med 154: 389-397, 1988	1982~1985	非喫煙女性 (症例 90例、 対照 163例)	肺がん罹患	質問票	病歴、年齢、入館日をマッチング	夫の喫煙			1.1 (NS)
Sobue T Int J Epi 19: S62-S66, 1990	1986~1988	非喫煙女性 (症例 144例、 対照 713例)	肺がん罹患	質問票	年齢階級と教育歴調整	夫の喫煙			1.13 [0.78~1.63]
Nishino Y, et al Can Causes Cont 12: 797-802, 2001	1984	非喫煙女性 9,675名	がん罹患	質問票	年齢、地域、飲酒、緑黄色野菜摂取、果物 摂取 十肉摂取、肺疾患既往 十肉摂取 十肉摂取 十肉摂取、初産年齢、BMI	夫の喫煙	全がん 肺がん 結腸がん 直腸がん 乳がん	1.1 [0.91~1.4] 1.8 [0.67~4.6] 1.1 [0.54~2.4] 1.9 [0.87~4.2] 0.58 [0.32~1.1]	
Hanaoka T, et al Int J Can 114: 317-322, 2005	1990~1992	非喫煙女性 20,193名	乳がん罹患	質問票	年齢、地域、教育歴、教育歴、BMI、乳 がん家族歴、良性乳腺腫瘍既往、飲酒、初 産年齢、出産回数、ベアスライオン閉経状態、 女性ホルモン使用	家庭 家庭または、職 場 and/or 公共 の場所	ベアスライオン時閉経前 ベアスライオン時閉経後 全例 ベアスライオン時閉経前 ベアスライオン時閉経後 全例	1.6 [0.9~2.7] 0.7 [0.4~1.1] 1.0 [0.7~1.4] 2.6 [1.3~5.2] 0.7 [0.4~1.0] 1.1 [0.8~1.6]	
Ozasa K Asian Pacif J Can Prev 8: 89-96, 2007	1988~1990	非喫煙男性 67,997人年 非喫煙女性 420,201人年	肺がん死亡	質問票	年齢、地域	家庭	ほぼ毎日 3時間/日以上 時々、1~4時間/週 ほぼ毎日 3時間/日以上 時々、1~4時間/週 時々	0.45 [0.09~2.22] 5.29 [1.03~27.20] 1.48 [0.57~3.84] 1.06 [0.68~1.64] 1.12 [0.55~2.28] 0.84 [0.49~1.46]	
Lin Y, et al J Epi 18: 77-83, 2008	1988~1990	非喫煙女性 32,023名	乳がん罹患	質問票	年齢、地域、BMI、乳がん家族歴、飲酒、 日常歩行、初産年齢、初産年齢、出産回数、 ベアスライオン閉経状態、女性ホルモン使用	家庭	ほぼ毎日 3時間/日以上 時々、1~4時間/週 ほぼ毎日 3時間/日以上 時々、1~4時間/週 時々	0.59 [0.33~1.05] 0.71 [0.48~1.05]	
Kurahashi N, et al Int J Can 122: 653-657, 2008	1990、1993	非喫煙女性 28,414名	肺がん罹患	性・性・住所・年齢 (≧16歳未満)で夫 籍同定、夫の喫煙状 況は質問票に基づく	年齢、地域、飲酒、肺がん家族歴、閉経状 態	夫の喫煙	現在喫煙 現在喫煙	1.34 [0.81~2.21] 2.03 [1.07~3.86]	

NS:有意でない、*: Hirayama は90%信頼区間

果は一致していないが、前述のカリフォルニア州環境保健報告書での乳がんの評価には、閉経前女性で受動喫煙との有意な関連がみられた日本の研究が影響している。平山研究では鼻癌がん、肺癌腫瘍、および全がんでも有意なリスク上昇を観察したが、その後同様の報告はない。

おわりに

喫煙の健康影響については、過去半世紀近くにわたって研究が蓄積し、因果関係が認められる疾患や症状が一貫して増えてきた。今日、能動喫煙はがんだけでなく、循環器疾患、呼吸器疾患など、さまざまな疾患との因果関係が科学的に確立され、最近では大規模なメタアナリシスにより糖尿病との関連も確立されつつある。今後も、受動喫煙を含めて、タバコとの関連が科学的に確立される疾患や症状は増え続けることが予想される。

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