

## 診断・検査

### ・遺伝子診断

遺伝子診断による糖尿病予測の有用性はまだ低い

### ・メタボリックシンドローム

日本のメタボリックシンドローム腹囲基準値の妥当性は低い(1)

日本のメタボリックシンドローム腹囲基準値の妥当性は低い(2)

### ・細小血管症

糖尿病での腎機能低下は糖尿病腎症以外が原因であることが多い

10gモノフィラメント検査は糖尿病神経障害発症のリスク評価に有用

### ・大血管症

糖尿病患者での冠動脈疾患リスクファクターの第一は高LDL-コレステロール血症である

無症状2型糖尿病患者に対する心筋シンチグラム検査(スクリーニング)は無効

冠動脈疾患既往のない糖尿病患者において、冠動脈CTは冠動脈疾患および総死亡の予測に有用である

治療後の頸動脈内中膜厚(CIMT)退縮は大血管症リスク減少の指標とはならない(日本人を含む)

MRA(磁気共鳴血管造影)は末梢動脈疾患(PAD)による狭窄・閉塞の評価に有用

## 治療・薬剤

### ・糖尿病

メトホルミンは乳酸アシドーシスのリスクを増加させない

メトホルミンはアテローム血栓症既往のある糖尿病患者の死亡率を低下させる可能性がある(日本人を含む)

ピオグリタゾンによる大血管症二次予防は無効

UKPDSでの強化療法による糖尿病合併症リスク低下効果は、UKPDS終了後10年間も継続した(1)

UKPDSでの強化療法による糖尿病合併症リスク低下効果は、UKPDS終了後10年間も継続した(2)

チアゾリジン薬は骨折を増加させる

アカルボースは2型糖尿病患者の心筋梗塞リスクを低下させる可能性がある

インスリン強化療法は日本人の糖尿病網膜症・腎症の発症・進展を抑制する

持続血糖測定機能を搭載したインスリンポンプは1型糖尿病の血糖コントロールを改善する

ビルダグリブチンはボグリボースより血糖降下作用が強い(日本人対象)

リラグルチドはシタグリブチンよりもメトホルミンへの追加薬として血糖降下に優れている

リラグルチドによる血糖コントロールは安全で効果的である

三環系抗うつ薬・抗てんかん薬が有痛性糖尿病神経障害の治療に有効である

食後高血糖を低下させても空腹時高血糖を低下させても大血管症のリスクに有意差がない

### ・脂質異常症

コレステロール低下療法は心血管イベント・死亡を減少させる(日本人を含む)

コレステロール低下療法は糖尿病患者の大血管症を減少させる

フェノフィブラートは糖尿病患者の冠動脈疾患のリスクを低下させない

### ・高血圧

急性心筋梗塞後のβ遮断薬投与は死亡率を低下させる

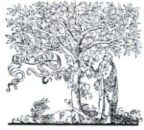
ロサルタンはアジア人(日本人を含む)の糖尿病腎症進展を抑制する可能性がある

### ・その他

糖尿病患者ではアスピリンによる心血管イベント一次予防は無効

# 発表論文

- 1) **Noto H, Osame K, Sasazuki T, Noda M:  
Substantially increased risk of cancer in patients  
with diabetes mellitus. A systematic review and  
meta-analysis of epidemiologic evidence in Japan.  
J Diabetes Complications 24: 345–353, 2010.**



ELSEVIER

Journal of Diabetes and Its Complications xx (2010) xxx–xxx

JOURNAL OF  
Diabetes  
AND ITS  
Complications

WWW.JDCJOURNAL.COM

## Substantially increased risk of cancer in patients with diabetes mellitus<sup>☆,☆☆</sup>

### A systematic review and meta-analysis of epidemiologic evidence in Japan

Hiroshi Noto<sup>a</sup>, Keiichiro Osame<sup>a</sup>, Takehiko Sasazuki<sup>b</sup>, Mitsuhiro Noda<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Diabetes and Metabolic Medicine, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Tokyo 162-8655, Japan

<sup>b</sup>National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Tokyo 162-8655, Japan

Received 31 March 2010; received in revised form 14 June 2010; accepted 23 June 2010

#### Abstract

**Aims:** Several meta-analyses have shown that diabetes mellitus affects the risk of certain site-specific cancers. However, a meta-analysis on the overall risk of cancer has not yet been performed. **Methods:** We performed a search of MEDLINE and the Cochrane Library for pertinent articles (including their references) that had been published as of June 10, 2010. English-language, original observational cohort studies and case-control studies conducted in Japan were included for a qualitative review and a meta-analysis. **Results:** A total of 22,485 cancer cases were reported in four cohort studies and one case-control study (with a total of 250,479 subjects). With these five reports, a meta-analysis of the all-cancer risk in both men and women showed an increased risk in subjects with diabetes, compared with nondiabetic subjects (OR 1.70, 95% CI 1.38–2.10). The increase in the risk ratio adjusted for possible confounders was significant in men and borderline in women (adjusted RR 1.25, 95% CI 1.06–1.46 in men; adjusted RR 1.23, 95% CI 0.97–1.56 in women). An analysis of site-specific cancers revealed increased risks for incident hepatocellular cancer (OR 3.64, 95% CI 2.61–5.07) and endometrial cancer (OR 3.43, 95% CI 1.53–7.72). **Conclusions:** As is the case in Western countries, Asian people with diabetes have a higher risk of incident cancer than those without diabetes. Cancer prevention and early detection should be important components of diabetes management in light of the exponentially increasing prevalence of diabetes, which has substantial implications in public health and clinical practices.

© 2010 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

**Keywords:** Cancer; Diabetes; Risk; Meta-analysis; Systematic review

#### 1. Introduction

A growing body of evidence indicates that diabetes is associated with an increased risk of developing cancer. The mechanisms are yet to be elucidated but insulin resistance with secondary hyperinsulinemia is the most supported hypothesis since it may have a mitogenic effect by activating insulin-like growth factor-1 receptor (Bruning et al., 1992; Giovannucci, 1995; Hu et al., 1999; Kaaks, 1996; Kim,

1998; Le Roith, 1997; Silverman et al., 1999; White, 1997; Wolf et al., 2005; Yu, & Berkel, 1999; Zhang, Thornton, & MacDonald, 1998). Hyperglycemia may be another important factor (Barclay et al., 2008; Gapstur et al., 2000; Jee et al., 2005; Seow et al., 2006), although the possibilities of methodological issues, bias, and occult malignant tumors cannot be completely excluded.

Meta-analyses have recognized that diabetes mellitus increases the risks of site-specific cancers of the breast

<sup>☆</sup> This study was supported by a Health Sciences Research Grant (Research on Diabetes H20-002; Comprehensive Research on Diabetes/Cardiovascular and Life-Style Related Diseases H22-019) from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan.

<sup>☆☆</sup> Conflict of interest: None.

\* Corresponding author. Department of Diabetes and Metabolic Medicine, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, 1-21-1 Toyama, Shinjuku, Tokyo 162-8655, Japan. Tel.: +81 3 3202 7181; fax: +81 3 3207 1038.

E-mail address: mnoda@hosp.ncgm.go.jp (M. Noda).

(Larsson, Mantzoros, & Wolk, 2007), endometrium (Friberg et al., 2007), bladder (Larsson et al., 2006), liver (El-Serag, Hampel, & Javadi, 2006), colorectum (Larsson, Orsini, & Wolk, 2005), and pancreas (Everhart, & Wright, 1995; Huxley et al., 2005), and decreases the risk of prostate cancer (Bonovas, Filioussi, & Tsantes, 2004; Kasper, & Giovannucci, 2006). However, the association of diabetes with all types of cancer remains uncertain.

As in other countries, the prevalence of diabetes is markedly increasing in Japan: the estimated number of persons with diabetes was about 8.9 million (prevalence 7.1%) in 2007, 7.4 million (prevalence 5.4%) in 2002, and 6.9 million (prevalence 5.5%) in 1997 (Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare of Japan, 2005, 2007). This trend is presumably attributable to the rapid westernization of Japanese lifestyle, a trend that is likely shared by the majority of East Asian populations (Chan et al., 2009). While cardiovascular disease is the main cause of mortality in Western countries and subjects with diabetes have a high risk of such disease, cancer is the leading cause of death in Japan (Hotta et al., 2007), and the prevalence of cancer in the general population is also increasing. In light of the current diabetes epidemic and the higher mortality in cancer patients with diabetes (Barone et al., 2008), elucidating the association of these diseases in populations with elevated risks, such as the Japanese population, is crucial for making timely, rational, and informed decisions not only in the areas of public health and socioeconomy, but also in prevention and targeted management of diabetes during daily clinical practice both domestically and globally.

These circumstances prompted us to explore the effect of diabetes on the overall cancer incidence with more precision by conducting a scrutiny of pertinent reports originating from Japan and combining their data.

## 2. Methods

### 2.1. Data sources and searches

Searches of MEDLINE and the Cochrane Library from their inception until June 10, 2010, were performed, and articles investigating the cancer incidence in diabetic adult patients and nondiabetic subjects were extracted. Relevant reports were identified using a combination of the following medical subject heading terms: 'diabetes,' 'cancer,' or 'neoplasms,' and 'risk' or 'risk factors,' and were limited to those originating from Japan. The reference lists of pertinent articles were also inspected.

We included observational studies evaluating type 2 diabetes but not impaired glucose tolerance/impaired fasting glucose. Cohort studies and case-control studies evaluating the risk of cancer based on original data analyses were assessed to determine their eligibility for inclusion in a qualitative analysis. Among these studies, cohort studies reporting event numbers and case-control studies providing numbers in each exposure category were eligible for

inclusion in the meta-analysis. To further elucidate the magnitude of the risk of cancer in patients with diabetes, subgroup analyses for each sex- and site-specific cancers were performed.

### 2.2. Data extraction and quality assessment

Two independent investigators (H.N. and K.O.) reviewed each full-text report to determine its eligibility and extracted and tabulated all the relevant data. The extracted data included the characteristics of the subjects (including age, sex, and other comorbidities), study design, study years, follow-up period, and diagnosis criteria for diabetes and cancer. Disagreement was resolved by consensus between the two review authors. To ascertain the validity of eligible studies, the quality of each report was appraised in reference to the STROBE statement (von Elm et al., 2008).

### 2.3. Data synthesis and statistical analysis

If more than one study was published for the same cohort, the report with the information on all-cancer incidences or with the most comprehensive population was included to avoid overlapping populations. This process excluded four articles from the systematic review (Lin et al., 2002; Luo et al., 2007; Shibata et al., 2003; Washio et al., 2007). One additional investigation on atomic bomb survivors (Goodman et al., 1997) was also excluded because such a cohort is extremely atypical and its generality was deemed to be poor. If an article provided raw numbers for the risks of all cancer and site-specific cancers, the all-cancer data were included in the primary qualitative and quantitative analyses and the site-specific data were used in secondary analyses performed according to cancer site. The risks for site-specific cancers were appraised if three or more qualified reports were identified for a given cancer site. If an article reported the sex-specific risk separately, the raw data were integrated before inclusion into the systematic review and meta-analysis. Subgroup analyses for each sex with adjustment for possible confounding factors were also performed for all cancers using the available data.

The reports were summarized both qualitatively and quantitatively. In the meta-analysis, the pooled unadjusted odds ratio (OR) using raw data, the adjusted risk ratio (RR) for possible confounders, and 95% confidence interval (CI) were calculated using the Mantel–Haenszel random-effects model. Hazard ratio (HR) in cohort studies and adjusted OR in case-control studies were integrated to estimate the pooled adjusted RR. Heterogeneity between studies was evaluated using  $I^2$  statistics. The possibility of a publication bias, which can result from the nonpublication of small trials with negative findings, was assessed visually using a funnel plot for asymmetry. A sensitivity analysis was performed by excluding the case-control studies. Subgroup analyses according to sex and cancer site were also performed. RevMan (version 5) was used for all the calculations. All the

procedures followed the guidelines for the meta-analysis of observational studies in epidemiology (Stroup et al., 2000) and the PRISMA statement (Liberati et al., 2009).

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Search results

A total of 34 citations were identified during our search; of these citations, 12 met the inclusion criteria for our review of the effect of diabetes on all-cancer or site-specific cancer incidence (Fig. 1). Most of the excluded studies did not report the RR for cancer development or did not provide original data. Of the 12 articles that met the inclusion criteria, five addressed the risk of all cancer providing original data and were included in the systematic review and meta-analysis. Eleven articles investigated site-specific cancer risks, and these articles were included in the systematic review. Among these 11 articles, one report was excluded from the meta-analysis because the event

numbers used in the calculations were not provided (Mizuno et al., 1992).

The 12 selected articles consisted of seven cohort studies and five case-control studies, which were moderately heterogeneous. Table 1 shows the characteristics of each study included in our systematic review according to the study design, the site of cancer, and the year of each study's publication. There are four cohort studies (Fujino et al., 2001; Inoue et al., 2006; Khan et al., 2006; Oba et al., 2008) and one case-control study (Kuriki, Hirose, & Tajima, 2007) on all cancer. The sample sizes of these studies ranged from 7308 to 97,771 (median 56,881). 42.5% of the subjects involved in the meta-analysis of all-cancer risk were men; the majority of the age ranges were between 40 and 79 years. A total of 22,485 all-cancer cases were included among the 250,479 subjects reported in these five studies. In the four cohort studies mentioned above, the overall prevalence of diabetes was 5.0% at baseline, and 10,813 cancer cases developed among 191,039 subjects during a mean follow-up period of 9.2 years. The RRs of cancers of the liver ( $n=8$ ),

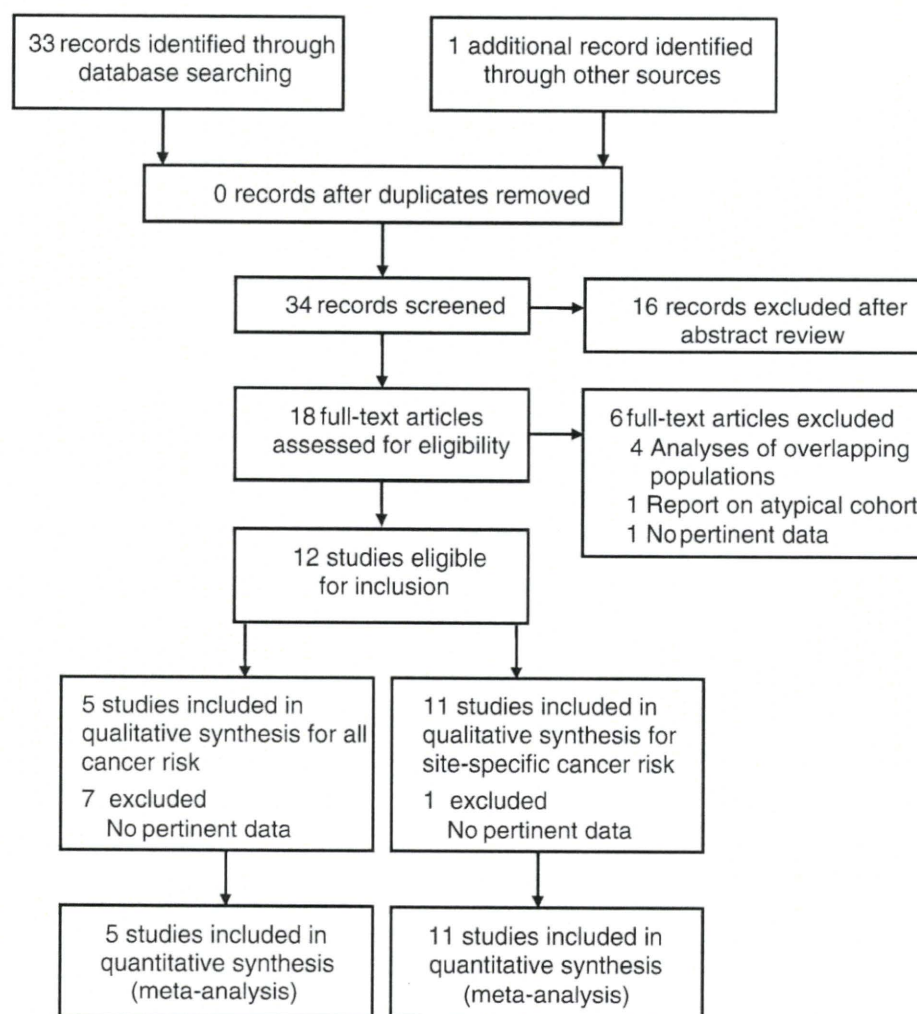


Fig. 1. Summary of the study selection.

Table 1  
 Characteristics of studies included in the systematic review and meta-analysis of cancer risk in subjects with diabetes

Source	Follow-up, years	Cancer Site	DM, n (%)	Control, n	Age, years	Men, %
<b>Cohort studies</b>						
Fujino et al., 2001	10	All, liver	364 (5.0)	6944	Mean 55.4 range 40–79	49
Khan et al., 2006	9	All, liver, pancreas	3307 (5.8)	53574	Range 40–79	41
Inoue et al., 2006	Mean 10.7	All, liver, pancreas	4668 (4.8)	93103	Mean 51.6, range 40–69	48
Oba et al., 2008	7	Endometrium	1571 (3.1)	49652	Mean 51.8	0
Tazawa et al., 2002	Mean 5.5	All	1217 (4.2)	27862	Mean 54.6	46
		Liver	23 (8.2)	256	Mean 49.4, range 23–72	68
Uetake et al., 2003	Median 5.9, range 0.5–12.5	Liver	26 (28.6)	65	Mean 50.1, range 34–72	100
Toritsu et al., 2007	Median 6.8	Liver	11 (23.4)	36	Median 54, range 34–80	100
<b>Case-control studies</b>						
Kuriki et al., 2007		All	2491 (4.2)	56949	Mean 59.0	33
		Liver	1781 (3.7)	46383		30
		Pancreas	1748 (3.6)	46211		30
		Endometrium	793 (2.4)	33030		0
Matsuo, 2003		Liver	70 (15.8)	374	Mean 63.7	80
Inoue et al., 1994		Endometrium	20 (7.0)	265	Median 53.6, range 22–78	0
Yamazawa et al., 2003		Endometrium	12 (29.2)	152	Range 27–53	0
Mizuno et al., 1992		Pancreas	Not reported	Not reported	Range 40–79	55

The data for men and for women were combined.

pancreas ( $n=4$ ), and endometrium ( $n=4$ ) were evaluated in 11 reports.

The risk of bias among the studies is summarized in Table 2. Four reports investigated the RR using population-based data, while the remaining reports used hospital-based data. Diabetes was diagnosed using self-reports ( $n=6$ ), blood tests ( $n=3$ ), and medical records ( $n=2$ ), and all the diagnoses had been made prior to 1999. One study did not report the method used to diagnose diabetes. The diagnosis of cancer was confirmed using medical records ( $n=7$ ), population registries ( $n=3$ ), and death certificates ( $n=2$ ). One study did not adjust the estimate for potential confounders.

### 3.2. Qualitative summary

All of the five studies on the risk of all-type cancer were methodologically fair in quality (Tables 1 and 2). Of the four large-scale population-based cohort studies (Fujino et al., 2001; Inoue et al., 2006; Khan et al., 2006; Oba et al., 2008) and one case-control study (Kuriki et al., 2007) that reported RRs for all cancer, none reported a decreased risk among patients with diabetes. Fujino et al. (2001) reported a significantly increased risk for men and women combined in a cohort study. In four other studies that reported the risks in men and women separately, diabetes was significantly associated with elevated risks in men (Inoue et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007) and women (Kuriki et al., 2007; Oba et al., 2008). The significant risk increments ranged from 27% to 88%. The estimate in a cohort study conducted by Khan et al. (2006) was not significantly elevated either in men or in women.

Among the six cohort studies and five case-control studies reporting the risks of site-specific cancers in patients with diabetes, more than one study (including subgroup analyses) recognized significantly increased risks for cancers of the liver (Fujino et al., 2001; Inoue et al., 2006; Khan et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007; Matsuo, 2003; Tazawa et al., 2002; Toritsu et al., 2007), endometrium (Inoue et al., 1994; Kuriki et al., 2007; Yamazawa et al., 2003), pancreas (Inoue et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007), stomach (Inoue et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007), and lungs (Kuriki et al., 2007), and only one article showed a significantly decreased risk of gastric cancer in diabetic men (Khan et al., 2006). Five cohort studies (Fujino et al., 2001; Inoue et al., 2006; Khan et al., 2006; Toritsu et al., 2007; Tazawa et al., 2002) and two case-control studies (Kuriki et al., 2007; Matsuo, 2003) of the eight reports on hepatocellular cancer showed that diabetes was associated with a significantly increased risk in both men and women. One cohort study (Inoue et al., 2006) and one case-control study (Inoue et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007) of the four reports on pancreatic cancer showed a significantly increased risk in diabetic men. Three (Inoue et al., 1994; Yamazawa et al., 2003; Kuriki et al., 2007) of the four studies on endometrial cancer showed a significantly increased risk. All these risk increments were moderate (OR range 1.85–9.30). Of note, no significant increases or decreases in the risk of cancers of the breast, colorectum, bladder, or prostate were reported ( $n=3$ , each) (Inoue et al., 2006; Khan et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007), except for a borderline increase in the risk of colon cancer in men in one report (Inoue et al., 2006). The number of studies

Table 2  
Quality assessments of the included studies

Source	Subject source	Comorbidity	Diagnosis of diabetes	Cancer ascertainment	Adjustment factor
<b>Cohort studies</b>					
Fujino et al., 2001	Population based		Self-reported	Death certificates	Age, sex, smoking, alcohol
Khan et al., 2006	Population based		Self-reported	Population registries	Age, BMI, smoking, alcohol
Inoue et al., 2006	Population based		Self-reported	Population registries	Age, cardiovascular disease, smoking, alcohol, BMI, physical activity, vegetable, coffee
Oba et al., 2008	Population based		Self-reported	Death certificates	Age, smoking, BMI, physical activity, education, hypertension, diet, alcohol
Tazawa et al., 2002	Hospital based	Hepatitis C	Blood tests	Medical records	None
Uetake et al., 2003	Hospital based	Alcoholic cirrhosis	Not reported	Medical records	Age, alcohol, liver function, viral antibody
Torisu et al., 2007	Hospital based	Alcoholic cirrhosis	Blood tests	Medical records	Age, sex, alcohol, smoking, family history, transfusion, liver function, tumor marker
<b>Case-control studies</b>					
Kuriki et al., 2007	Hospital based		Self-reported	Outpatient registries	Age, BMI, alcohol, physical activity, bowel movement, family history, diet
Matsuo, 2003	Hospital based		Medical records	Medical records	Transfusion, smoking, alcohol
Inoue et al., 1994	Hospital based		Blood tests	Medical records	Age, obesity, parity, cancer history, hypertension
Yamazawa et al., 2003	Hospital based		Medical records	Medical records	Obesity, parity, hypertension, estrogen use, psychiatric medication
Mizuno et al., 1992	Hospital based		Self-reported	Medical records	Age, sex

BMI: Body mass index.

examining other cancer sites was three or fewer, so these studies were not reviewed in the present report.

### 3.3. Quantitative summary (meta-analysis)

On the basis of the quality appraisal in our systematic review, all the five reports on all-cancer risk were included in the meta-analysis (Fig. 2). Subjects with diabetes had a significantly increased risk of all cancer, compared with nondiabetic subjects (OR 1.70, 95% CI 1.38–2.10;  $I^2=90%$ ,  $P<.00001$ ). In a sensitivity analysis, the exclusion of the single case-control study (Kuriki et al., 2007) had a minimal

effect on the pooled estimate ( $n=191,039$ ; OR 1.67, 95% CI 1.26–2.21;  $I^2=89%$ ,  $P=.0003$ ). Fig. 3 shows the sex-specific adjusted RRs among the studies with relevant data. Diabetes was associated with a significant risk increase in men (adjusted RR 1.25, 95% CI 1.06–1.46;  $I^2=75%$ ,  $P=.007$ ) and a borderline risk increase in women (adjusted RR 1.23, 95% CI 0.97–1.56;  $I^2=73%$ ,  $P=.01$ ). Significant heterogeneity was observed across these studies. No apparent publication bias was visually appreciated using a funnel plot, although this analysis was likely underpowered (data not shown).

Analyses of site-specific cancer risk using qualified data were performed for hepatocellular cancer and endometrial cancer, revealing significantly increased risks in patients with diabetes (OR 3.64, 95% CI 2.61–5.07 and OR 3.43, 95% CI 1.53–7.72, respectively) (Fig. 4). These estimates remained statistically significant after adjustment for possible confounders (adjusted RR 2.38, 95% CI 2.01–2.81; adjusted RR 2.71, 95% CI 1.19–6.19, respectively). A sensitivity analysis excluding three studies that included patients with alcoholic cirrhosis (Torisu et al., 2007; Uetake et al., 2003) or hepatitis C (Tazawa et al., 2002) resulted in an almost identical estimate (OR 3.64, 95% CI 2.93–4.52; adjusted RR 2.35, 95% CI 1.99–2.79). The risk of pancreatic cancer was not calculated because only two adequate studies (Inoue et al., 2006; Kuriki et al., 2007) were available for a meta-analysis.

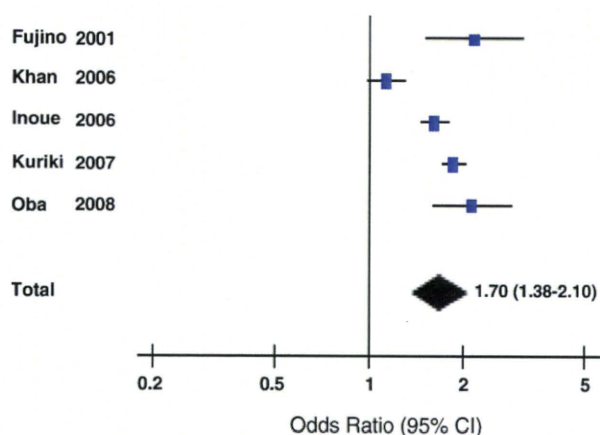


Fig. 2. Odds ratio (OR) for the all-cancer incidences among overall subjects with diabetes. Boxes, Estimated ORs; bars, 95% confidence intervals (CIs). Diamond, Mantel–Haenszel OR; width of diamond, pooled CI. The size of the box is proportional to the weight of each study in the meta-analysis.

### 4. Discussion

We found that diabetes is associated with a substantial increase in the total cancer incidence, based on a meta-

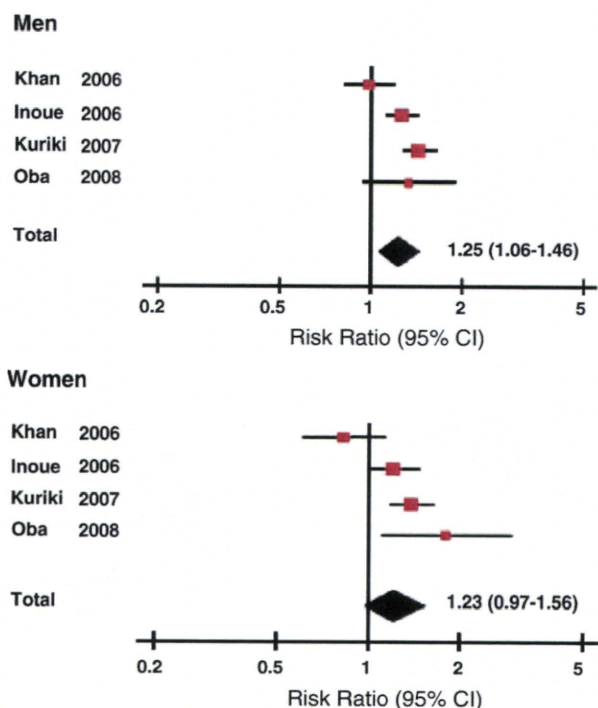


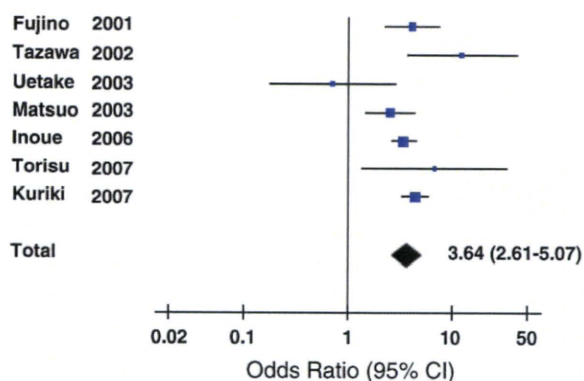
Fig. 3. Adjusted risk ratios (RRs) for the all-cancer incidences among diabetic men and women. Boxes, Estimated RRs; bars, 95% CIs. Diamonds, Mantel-Haenszel RRs; width of diamonds, pooled CIs. The size of the box is proportional to the weight of each study in the meta-analysis.

analysis of five population-based studies of epidemiological data in Japan. Our analysis also supports increased risks for hepatocellular cancer, endometrial cancer, and pancreatic cancer in patients with diabetes, consistent with previous meta-analyses examining worldwide trends (El-Serag et al., 2006; Friberg et al., 2007; Huxley et al., 2005). Reports addressing the risk of all cancer in diabetes have been scant, and our study, to our knowledge, is the first systematic review and meta-analysis. Our findings have remarkable clinical and socioeconomic implications in that the incident cancer risk proved to be significantly elevated in rapidly increasing Asian diabetic people whose beta-cell response to insulin resistance is inadequate (Boyko et al., 2000; Chan et al., 2004, 2009; Fukushima et al., 2004; Kadowaki et al., 1984; Kuroe et al., 2003).

The strength of the present research is that the analysis of overall cancer was mainly based on large population-based cohorts with high levels of precision and generality. Although the pooled OR is robust, the results of the component studies were statistically heterogeneous. This result most likely means that the dispersions fell within a narrow range but were estimated precisely because of the extremely large sample sizes, since the range of the ORs for each study result was narrow, none of the components showed a protective effect of diabetes on cancer development and the adjusted RRs in men and women were similar. A publication bias might have minimally accounted for this observation.

Insulin can exert a potentially mitogenic effect by interacting with insulin-like growth factor-1 receptor, which is the most frequently proposed hypothesis explaining the increased risk of cancer in patients with diabetes (Bruning et al., 1992; Giovannucci, 1995; Hu et al., 1999; Kaaks, 1996; Kim, 1998; Le Roith, 1997; Silverman et al., 1999; White, 1997; Wolf et al., 2005; Yu, & Berkel, 1999; Zhang et al., 1998). Type 2 diabetes is characterized by insulin resistance and secondary hyperinsulinemia. Subjects with type 2 diabetes are typically obese and inactive, which likely also contributes to hyperinsulinemia. In experimental insulin-deficient animals, the induction of pancreatic cancer with a carcinogen or with implantation of cancer cells is more effective when the animals are supplemented with insulin (Bell, McCullough, & Pour, 1988; Fisher et al., 1995). In humans, subjects with type 1 diabetes, who are deficient in insulin, reportedly have a lower risk of cancer than subjects with type 2 diabetes (Brinton et al., 1992; Lindblad et al., 1999). Hyperinsulinemia and hyperglycemia have also been reported to promote tumor cell proliferation and metastases in type 2 diabetes (Morss, & Edelman, 2007; Richardson, & Pollack, 2005). This hypothesis is supported by evidence that treatment with metformin, an insulin sensitizer, is associated with a lower incidence of cancer in diabetic patients than therapy with insulin or sulfonylurea

**A. Liver cancer**



**B. Endometrial cancer**

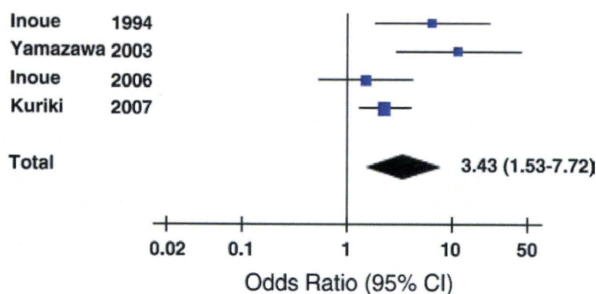


Fig. 4. Odds ratios for the site-specific cancer incidences among subjects with diabetes. (A) Liver in men and women; (B) endometrium in women. Boxes, Estimated ORs; bars, 95% CIs. Diamonds, Mantel-Haenszel ORs; width of diamonds, pooled CIs. The size of the box is proportional to the weight of each study in the meta-analysis.



(Currie, Poole, & Gale, 2009; Libby et al., 2009). Of interest, diabetes is reportedly protective against the development of prostate cancer (Bonovas et al., 2004; Kasper, & Giovannucci, 2006), which is testosterone dependent. Testosterone deficiency is common in men with diabetes or obesity secondary to low levels of sex hormone-binding globulin, and the testosterone level has been shown to be partly influenced by insulin resistance (Dhindsa et al., 2004; Ding et al., 2006; Grossmann et al., 2008). The magnitude of the decrease in cancer risk as a result of testosterone deficiency is speculated to be higher than that of the increase in cancer risk as a result of insulin resistance.

Of particular note is that the ORs of hepatocellular cancer and endometrial cancer in our present study among reportedly insulinopenic subjects were higher than those in previous reports [2.5 (El-Serag et al., 2006) and 2.1 (Friberg et al., 2007), respectively]. In addition, community-based prospective surveys including those in Asia reported associations between plasma glucose levels and cancer risks (Barclay et al., 2008; Gapstur et al., 2000; Jee et al., 2005; Seow et al., 2006). These facts point to the imminent need of understanding the role of glucose metabolism and insulin resistance in carcinogenesis (Chan et al., 2009; Karin, Lawrence, & Nizet, 2006).

Alternative explanations for the elevated risk of cancer in patients with diabetes should be noted, as the relation might not be causal. First, several potential confounders exist. For instance, coexisting obesity and physical inactivity, which induce hyperinsulinemia as mentioned earlier, might be the true causes and diabetes might merely be a risk factor (i.e., an “innocent bystander” or an “accomplice”). Cirrhosis is another possible confounding factor for diabetes and hepatocellular cancer. However, the adjusted RRs for all cancer in men, hepatocellular cancer, and endometrial cancer remained significantly elevated. The adjusted RR for women might have reached statistical significance if relevant data from the study by Fujino et al. (2001) had been available for inclusion. A second possibility is that diabetic subjects might receive medical care more frequently and have more occasions for cancer detection than nondiabetic subjects. Third, diabetes might develop as a consequence of cancer, since cancers generally cause insulin resistance and subsequent hyperglycemia by producing cytokines, such as tumor necrosis- $\alpha$  (McCall, Tuckey, & Parry, 1992; Noguchi et al., 1998).

Several limitations of our investigation should be noted. As with any overview, the possibility that relevant research papers were missed and the inability to adjust fully for confounders based on population-based registries must be considered. It is also important to realize that the populations of the studies were not homogenous and that the risks of site-specific cancers might have differed; therefore, an analysis of all cancer might be overly simplistic. Even with these limitations, our analysis should provide health care providers, policymakers, and patients with an important clue for assessing and managing cancer

among patients with diabetes. Another limitation is that the diagnosis of diabetes in the extracted studies was mainly self-reported, which might have led to diagnostic inaccuracies. The prevalence of diabetes in our analysis was lower than the previously reported overall prevalence for Japanese individuals aged 40 years and older in the general population (5% vs. 8%) (Inoue et al., 2006), and the sensitivity and specificity of a self-reported history of diabetes in diagnosis of medically confirmed diabetes have been reported to be 46% and 98%, respectively (Waki et al., 2005). In addition, the baseline surveillance in these studies was conducted when the diagnostic cutoff value for fasting glucose was higher than the currently accepted value, and the prevalence of diabetes in the control groups most likely increased exponentially during the long follow-up interval. Thus, the true prevalence of diabetes and its impact on the associated cancer risk might have been underestimated.

In conclusion, our analysis strongly suggests that diabetes is associated with an increased risk of all cancer in the Japanese population, which should be applicable to the East Asian populations (Jee et al., 2005). It is likely applicable to diabetic people in other countries, given the consistency of increased risks in site-specific cancers and the shared insulin resistance as the underlying pathophysiology. Our findings underscore the need for diabetes prevention particularly by weight management, the implementation of effective cancer prevention and screening, and research on diabetes treatment with potentially protective effects against cancer, such as metformin (Currie et al., 2009; Li et al., 2009; Libby et al., 2009), in light of the exploding worldwide epidemic of diabetes and the subsequent socioeconomic burden of this disease on a global scale.

## References

- Barclay, A. W., Petocz, P., McMillan-Price, J., et al. (2008). Glycemic index, glycemic load, and chronic disease risk—a meta-analysis of observational studies. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, *87*, 627–637.
- Barone, B. B., Yeh, H. C., Snyder, C. F., et al. (2008). Long-term all-cause mortality in cancer patients with preexisting diabetes mellitus: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *300*, 2754–2764.
- Bell, R. H., Jr., McCullough, P. J., & Pour, P. M. (1988). Influence of diabetes on susceptibility to experimental pancreatic cancer. *American Journal of Surgery*, *155*, 159–164.
- Bonovas, S., Filioussi, K., & Tsantes, A. (2004). Diabetes mellitus and risk of prostate cancer: a meta-analysis. *Diabetologia*, *47*, 1071–1078.
- Boyko, E. J., Fujimoto, W. Y., Leonetti, D. L., et al. (2000). Visceral adiposity and risk of type 2 diabetes: a prospective study among Japanese Americans. *Diabetes Care*, *23*, 465–471.
- Brinton, L. A., Berman, M. L., Mortel, R., et al. (1992). Reproductive, menstrual, and medical risk factors for endometrial cancer: results from a case-control study. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *167*, 1317–1325.
- Bruning, P. F., Bonfrer, J. M., van Noord, P. A., et al. (1992). Insulin resistance and breast-cancer risk. *International Journal of Cancer*, *52*, 511–516.

- Chan, J. C., Malik, V., Jia, W., et al. (2009). Diabetes in Asia: Epidemiology, risk factors, and pathophysiology. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 301, 2129–2140.
- Chan, W. B., Tong, P. C., Chow, C. C., et al. (2004). The associations of body mass index, C-peptide and metabolic status in Chinese type 2 diabetic patients. *Diabetic Medicine*, 21, 349–353.
- Currie, C. J., Poole, C. D., & Gale, E. A. (2009). The influence of glucose-lowering therapies on cancer risk in type 2 diabetes. *Diabetologia*, 52, 1766–1777.
- Dhindsa, S., Prabhakar, S., Sethi, M., et al. (2004). Frequent occurrence of hypogonadotropic hypogonadism in type 2 diabetes. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, 89, 5462–5468.
- Ding, E. L., Song, Y., Malik, V. S., et al. (2006). Sex differences of endogenous sex hormones and risk of type 2 diabetes: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 295, 1288–1299.
- El-Serag, H. B., Hampel, H., & Javadi, F. (2006). The association between diabetes and hepatocellular carcinoma: a systematic review of epidemiologic evidence. *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, 4, 369–380.
- Everhart, J., & Wright, D. (1995). Diabetes mellitus as a risk factor for pancreatic cancer. A meta-analysis. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 273, 1605–1609.
- Fisher, W. E., Boros, L. G., O'Dorisio, T. M., et al. (1995). GI hormonal changes in diabetes influence pancreatic cancer growth. *Journal of Surgical Research*, 58, 754–758.
- Friberg, E., Orsini, N., Mantzoros, C. S., et al. (2007). Diabetes mellitus and risk of endometrial cancer: A meta-analysis. *Diabetologia*, 50, 1365–1374.
- Fujino, Y., Mizoue, T., Tokui, N., et al. (2001). Prospective study of diabetes mellitus and liver cancer in Japan. *Diabetes/Metabolism Research and Reviews*, 17, 374–379.
- Fukushima, M., Usami, M., Ikeda, M., et al. (2004). Insulin secretion and insulin sensitivity at different stages of glucose tolerance: A cross-sectional study of Japanese type 2 diabetes. *Metabolism*, 53, 831–835.
- Gapstur, S. M., Gann, P. H., Lowe, W., et al. (2000). Abnormal glucose metabolism and pancreatic cancer mortality. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 283, 2552–2558.
- Giovannucci, E. (1995). Insulin and colon cancer. *Cancer Causes & Control*, 6, 164–179.
- Goodman, M. T., Cologne, J. B., Moriwaki, H., et al. (1997). Risk factors for primary breast cancer in Japan: 8-year follow-up of atomic bomb survivors. *Preventive Medicine*, 26, 144–153.
- Grossmann, M., Thomas, M. C., Panagiotopoulos, S., et al. (2008). Low testosterone levels are common and associated with insulin resistance in men with diabetes. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, 93, 1834–1840.
- Hotta, N., Nakamura, J., Iwamoto, Y., et al. (2007). Causes of death in Japanese diabetics based on the results of a survey of 18,385 diabetics during 1991–2000—Report of Committee on Cause of Death in Diabetes Mellitus. *Journal of Japan Diabetes Society*, 50, 47–61.
- Hu, F. B., Manson, J. E., Liu, S., et al. (1999). Prospective study of adult onset diabetes mellitus (type 2) and risk of colorectal cancer in women. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 91, 542–547.
- Huxley, R., Ansary-Moghaddam, A., Berrington de Gonzalez, A., et al. (2005). Type-II diabetes and pancreatic cancer: A meta-analysis of 36 studies. *British Journal of Cancer*, 92, 2076–2083.
- Inoue, M., Iwasaki, M., Otani, T., et al. (2006). Diabetes mellitus and the risk of cancer: Results from a large-scale population-based cohort study in Japan. *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 166, 1871–1877.
- Inoue, M., Okayama, A., Fujita, M., et al. (1994). A case-control study on risk factors for uterine endometrial cancer in Japan. *Japanese Journal of Cancer Research*, 85, 346–350.
- Jee, S. H., Ohrr, H., Sull, J. W., et al. (2005). Fasting serum glucose level and cancer risk in Korean men and women. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 293, 194–202.
- Kaaks, R. (1996). Nutrition, hormones, and breast cancer: Is insulin the missing link? *Cancer Causes & Control*, 7, 605–625.
- Kadowaki, T., Miyake, Y., Hagura, R., et al. (1984). Risk factors for worsening to diabetes in subjects with impaired glucose tolerance. *Diabetologia*, 26, 44–49.
- Karin, M., Lawrence, T., & Nizet, V. (2006). Innate immunity gone awry: linking microbial infections to chronic inflammation and cancer. *Cell*, 124, 823–835.
- Kasper, J. S., & Giovannucci, E. (2006). A meta-analysis of diabetes mellitus and the risk of prostate cancer. *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*, 15, 2056–2062.
- Khan, M., Mori, M., Fujino, Y., et al. (2006). Site-specific cancer risk due to diabetes mellitus history: Evidence from the Japan Collaborative Cohort (JACC) Study. *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, 7, 253–259.
- Kim, Y. I. (1998). Diet, lifestyle, and colorectal cancer: Is hyperinsulinemia the missing link? *Nutrition Reviews*, 56, 275–279.
- Kuriki, K., Hirose, K., & Tajima, K. (2007). Diabetes and cancer risk for all and specific sites among Japanese men and women. *European Journal of Cancer Prevention*, 16, 83–89.
- Kuroe, A., Fukushima, M., Usami, M., et al. (2003). Impaired beta-cell function and insulin sensitivity in Japanese subjects with normal glucose tolerance. *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice*, 59, 71–77.
- Larsson, S. C., Mantzoros, C. S., & Wolk, A. (2007). Diabetes mellitus and risk of breast cancer: A meta-analysis. *International Journal of Cancer*, 121, 856–862.
- Larsson, S. C., Orsini, N., Brisman, K., et al. (2006). Diabetes mellitus and risk of bladder cancer: a meta-analysis. *Diabetologia*, 49, 2819–2823.
- Larsson, S. C., Orsini, N., & Wolk, A. (2005). Diabetes mellitus and risk of colorectal cancer: A meta-analysis. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 97, 1679–1687.
- Le Roith, D. (1997). Seminars in medicine of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Insulin-like growth factors. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 336, 633–640.
- Li, D., Yeung, S. C., Hassan, M. M., et al. (2009). Antidiabetic therapies affect risk of pancreatic cancer. *Gastroenterology*, 137, 482–488.
- Libby, G., Donnelly, L. A., Donnan, P. T., et al. (2009). New users of metformin are at low risk of incident cancer: A cohort study among people with type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Care*, 32, 1620–1625.
- Liberati, A., Altman, D. G., Tetzlaff, J., et al. (2009). The PRISMA statement for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses of studies that evaluate health care interventions: Explanation and elaboration. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 151, W65–W94.
- Lin, Y., Tamakoshi, A., Kawamura, T., et al. (2002). Risk of pancreatic cancer in relation to alcohol drinking, coffee consumption and medical history: findings from the Japan collaborative cohort study for evaluation of cancer risk. *International Journal of Cancer*, 99, 742–746.
- Lindblad, P., Chow, W. H., Chan, J., et al. (1999). The role of diabetes mellitus in the aetiology of renal cell cancer. *Diabetologia*, 42, 107–112.
- Luo, J., Iwasaki, M., Inoue, M., et al. (2007). Body mass index, physical activity and the risk of pancreatic cancer in relation to smoking status and history of diabetes: A large-scale population-based cohort study in Japan—the JPHC study. *Cancer Causes & Control*, 18, 603–612.
- Matsuo, M. (2003). Association between diabetes mellitus and hepatocellular carcinoma: results of a hospital- and community-based case-control study. *Kurume Medical Journal*, 50, 91–98.
- McCall, J. L., Tuckey, J. A., & Parry, B. R. (1992). Serum tumour necrosis factor alpha and insulin resistance in gastrointestinal cancer. *British Journal of Surgery*, 79, 1361–1363.
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan. (2005). *Patient Survey*.
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan. (2007). *National Health and Nutrition Survey*.
- Mizuno, S., Watanabe, S., Nakamura, K., et al. (1992). A multi-institute case-control study on the risk factors of developing pancreatic cancer. *Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 22, 286–291.
- Morss, A. S., & Edelman, E. R. (2007). Glucose modulates basement membrane fibroblast growth factor-2 via alterations in endothelial cell permeability. *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, 282, 14635–14644.

- Noguchi, Y., Yoshikawa, T., Marat, D., et al. (1998). Insulin resistance in cancer patients is associated with enhanced tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  expression in skeletal muscle. *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, 253, 887–892.
- Oba, S., Nagata, C., Nakamura, K., et al. (2008). Self-reported diabetes mellitus and risk of mortality from all causes, cardiovascular disease, and cancer in Takayama: A population-based prospective cohort study in Japan. *Journal of Epidemiology*, 18, 197–203.
- Richardson, L. C., & Pollack, L. A. (2005). Therapy insight: influence of type 2 diabetes on the development, treatment and outcomes of cancer. *Nature Clinical Practice Oncology*, 2, 48–53.
- Seow, A., Yuan, J. M., Koh, W. P., et al. (2006). Diabetes mellitus and risk of colorectal cancer in the Singapore Chinese Health Study. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 98, 135–138.
- Shibata, A., Ogimoto, I., Kurozawa, Y., et al. (2003). Past medical history and risk of death due to hepatocellular carcinoma, univariate analysis of JACC study data. *Kurume Medical Journal*, 50, 109–119.
- Silverman, D. T., Schiffman, M., Everhart, J., et al. (1999). Diabetes mellitus, other medical conditions and familial history of cancer as risk factors for pancreatic cancer. *British Journal of Cancer*, 80, 1830–1837.
- Stroup, D. F., Berlin, J. A., Morton, S. C., et al. (2000). Meta-analysis of observational studies in epidemiology: A proposal for reporting. Meta-analysis Of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (MOOSE) group. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 283, 2008–2012.
- Tazawa, J., Maeda, M., Nakagawa, M., et al. (2002). Diabetes mellitus may be associated with hepatocarcinogenesis in patients with chronic hepatitis C. *Digestive Diseases and Sciences*, 47, 710–715.
- Torisu, Y., Ikeda, K., Kobayashi, M., et al. (2007). Diabetes mellitus increases the risk of hepatocarcinogenesis in patients with alcoholic cirrhosis: A preliminary report. *Hepatology Research*, 37, 517–523.
- Uetake, S., Yamauchi, M., Itoh, S., et al. (2003). Analysis of risk factors for hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with HBs antigen- and anti-HCV antibody-negative alcoholic cirrhosis: clinical significance of prior hepatitis B virus infection. *Alcoholism, Clinical and Experimental Research*, 27, 47S–51S.
- von Elm, E., Altman, D. G., Egger, M., et al. (2008). The Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) statement: Guidelines for reporting observational studies. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 61, 344–349.
- Waki, K., Noda, M., Sasaki, S., et al. (2005). Alcohol consumption and other risk factors for self-reported diabetes among middle-aged Japanese: A population-based prospective study in the JPHC study cohort. *Diabetic Medicine*, 22, 323–331.
- Washio, M., Mori, M., Khan, M., et al. (2007). Diabetes mellitus and kidney cancer risk: The results of Japan Collaborative Cohort Study for Evaluation of Cancer Risk (JACC Study). *International Journal of Urology*, 14, 393–397.
- White, M. F. (1997). The insulin signalling system and the IRS proteins. *Diabetologia*, 40(Suppl 2), S2–S17.
- Wolf, I., Sadetzki, S., Catane, R., et al. (2005). Diabetes mellitus and breast cancer. *Lancet Oncology*, 6, 103–111.
- Yamazawa, K., Matsui, H., Seki, K., et al. (2003). A case-control study of endometrial cancer after antipsychotics exposure in premenopausal women. *Oncology*, 64, 116–123.
- Yu, H., & Berkel, H. (1999). Insulin-like growth factors and cancer. *Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society*, 151, 218–223.
- Zhang, W., Thornton, W. H., & MacDonald, R. S. (1998). Insulin-like growth factor-I and II receptor expression in rat colon mucosa are affected by dietary lipid intake. *Journal of Nutrition*, 128, 158–165.

## 発表論文

- 2) **Noto H, Tsujimoto T, Sasazuki T, Noda M:  
Significantly increased risk of cancer in patients  
with diabetes mellitus: a systematic review and  
meta-analysis.  
Endocrine Practice : in press, 2011.**

## Significantly Increased Risk of Cancer in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus:

### *A systematic review and meta-analysis*

Hiroshi Noto, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>

Tetsuro Tsujimoto, MD<sup>1</sup>

Takehiko Sasazuki, MD, PhD<sup>2,3</sup>

Mitsuhiko Noda, MD, PhD\*<sup>1</sup>

From the <sup>1</sup>Department of Diabetes and Metabolic Medicine, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan; <sup>2</sup>National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan; <sup>3</sup>Institute for Advanced Study, Kyushu University, Japan

Address correspondence and reprint requests to Mitsuhiko Noda, MD, PhD, Department of Diabetes and Metabolic Medicine, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan 1-21-1 Toyama, Shinjuku, Tokyo 162-8655, Japan. E-mail: mnoda@hosp.ncgm.go.jp.

**Running title:** Increased cancer risk in diabetes

**Key words:** diabetes, cancer, incidence, mortality, meta-analysis, systematic review

DOI:10.4158/EP10357.RA

## **Abstract**

### *Objective:*

Several meta-analyses have shown that diabetes mellitus affects the risk of certain site-specific cancers, but not of total cancer.

### *Methods:*

We performed a search of MEDLINE and the Cochrane Library for pertinent articles published as of July 5, 2010, and included them for a qualitative review and meta-analysis to analyze the risk of all-cancer incidence and mortality in diabetic subjects.

### *Results:*

Among diabetic subjects (n=257,222) in 12 cohort studies, the cancer incidence was about 7%. The cancer mortality was approximately 3% among diabetic patients (n=152,091) in 19 cohort studies. The pooled adjusted risk ratio (RR) of all-cancer incidence was significantly elevated (RR, 1.10 [95%CI, 1.04 to 1.17] overall; RR, 1.14 [CI, 1.06 to 1.23] for men; RR, 1.18 [CI, 1.08 to 1.28] for women). Diabetes was also associated with an increased RR of mortality across all cancer types (RR, 1.17 [CI, 1.05 to 1.31] over all; RR, 1.10 [CI, 0.98 to 1.23] for men; RR, 1.24 [CI, 1.11 to 1.40] for women).

*Conclusion:*

Cancer prevention and early detection by appropriate screening methods in persons with diabetes should be important components of clinical management and investigation, since the exponentially increasing prevalence of diabetes will translate into substantial clinical and public health consequences on a global scale.

## **Introduction**

Much evidence has been accumulating to suggest that diabetes is associated with an increased risk of cancer. The mechanisms are yet to be investigated, but insulin resistance with secondary hyperinsulinemia is the most frequently proposed hypothesis, as insulin might have a possible mitogenic effect via binding the insulin-like growth factor-1 receptor (1-11). In addition, hyperglycemia itself may promote carcinogenesis by increasing oxidative stress (12-18).

Meta-analyses have demonstrated that diabetes mellitus is associated with an increased risk of site-specific cancers of the breast (19), endometrium (20), bladder (21), liver (22), colorectum (23), and pancreas (24, 25), and also a decreased risk of prostate cancer (26, 27). The evidence for kidney cancer and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is still inconclusive. Furthermore, cancer patients with pre-existing diabetes have higher short-term (28) and long-term (29) mortalities. However, the association of diabetes with all-cancer incidence and mortality remains uncertain.

In light of the current worldwide diabetes epidemic and the higher mortalities in cancer patients with diabetes (28, 29), elucidating the association between these diseases in general populations is crucial for making timely, rational and informed decisions, not only in the areas of public health and socioeconomy, but also for the prevention and targeted management of diabetes in daily clinical practice.

These circumstances prompted us to explore, with more precision, the effect of diabetes on the



all-cancer incidence and mortality, by conducting a scrutiny of the pertinent original reports and combining their data, in an attempt to obtain meaningful clues for the prevention and management of cancer.

## **Materials and methods**

### *Data Sources and Searches*

Searches of MEDLINE and the Cochrane Library from their inception until July 5, 2010, were performed and articles investigating the cancer incidence and mortality in diabetic patients and non-diabetic subjects were extracted. Relevant reports were identified using a combination of the following medical subject heading terms: 'diabetes', 'cancer' or 'neoplasms', and 'risk' or 'risk factors'. The reference lists of the pertinent articles were also inspected.

We included observational studies evaluating type 2 diabetes, but not those focusing on impaired glucose tolerance/impaired fasting glucose, or solely type 1 diabetes. Cohort, case-control, and cross-sectional studies to evaluate the risk of cancer based on original data analyses were assessed to determine their eligibility for inclusion in a qualitative analysis. Among these studies, cohort studies reporting hazard ratios (HRs) adjusted for possible confounders with confidence intervals (CIs) were eligible for inclusion in the meta-analysis. To further elucidate the magnitude of the risk of all-cancer incidence and mortality in patients with diabetes, subgroup analyses for each sex were performed.

### *Data Extraction and Quality Assessment*

We reviewed each full-text report to determine its eligibility and extracted and tabulated all the

relevant data independently. The extracted data included the characteristics of the subjects (including age, sex, and other co-morbidities), study design, study years, follow-up period, and the methods used for ascertaining the presence/absence of diabetes and cancer. Any disagreement was resolved by consensus among the investigators. To ascertain the validity of the eligible studies, the quality of each report was appraised in reference to the STROBE statement (30).

#### *Data Synthesis and Statistical Analysis*

If more than one study was published for the same cohort, the report with the information on the most comprehensive population was included to avoid overlapping populations. This process necessitated exclusion of 2 articles from the systematic review (16, 31). One other investigation among diabetic patients with autopsy-proven nephropathy (32) was also excluded, because cohorts with this condition are rare and its generalizability was deemed to be poor.

The reports were summarized both qualitatively and quantitatively. Those that did not specify the case numbers were not included in the calculation of the incidence and mortality. In the meta-analysis, the HRs in cohort studies were combined and the pooled risk ratio (RR) adjusted for possible confounders with 95% CI was calculated using the Mantel-Haenszel random-effects model with inverse-variance weighting. The HR for the combination of men and women was estimated before pooling if not provided in the original study. The second decimal place of the

confidence was estimated as needed. Heterogeneity among studies was evaluated using  $I^2$  statistics. The possibility of a publication bias, which can result from the non-publication of small studies with negative findings, was assessed visually using a funnel plot for asymmetry. Subgroup analysis according to sex was also performed. RevMan (version 5) was used for all the calculations. All the procedures were in accordance with the guidelines for the meta-analysis of observational studies in epidemiology (33) and the PRISMA statement (34).