

Conclusion: The decision modality is mainly related to the place of work, when the therapeutic attitude depend on personal characteristics. Until 1990, multiple therapeutic options for rectal cancer were performed in France. Now, the argumentation is rather directed on the choice of CT after the standard RT-SU treatment. Results from the ongoing controlled studies will help enlightening the right use of CT. Yet, intention toward hypothetical cases and real practice are different; a practice survey should probably show more disparity in treatments.

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POSTER

Time trends in survival between 1978-84 and 1985-89: Cracow cancer registry experience

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The data on survival come from the population based Cracow Cancer Registry which was established 30 years ago – in 1965. The first Polish survival study using materials from our Registry was published in 1977. Since 1978 the collected information have been computerised, which was of special importance for usage in analysis of a computer package for survival studies prepared by T. Hakulinen and all. All cancer patients are followed-up through death certificates obtained from the Local Statistical Office.

The Cracow Cancer Registry was the only Polish Registry participating in Eurocare-1 study (1978-84). Across the spectrum of cancers our survival rates were among the worst, being significantly lower from European mean for: breast, corpus uteri, colorectal cancer for both sexes and stomach, kidney and leukaemia for males. Comparison of our data from 1985-89 with survival rates 1978-84 revealed significant improvement of survival rates only for breast and corpus uteri cancer. However, even these rates were still below European mean (1978-84). The reason for this discrepancy seems to be the fact, that Cracow patients still come very frequently with later-stage disease and adequate early detection program does not exist.

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POSTER

Changes in the incidence and survival rate of cervical cancer in patients under age of 30 years

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Purpose: To analyze clinical data of young patients with cervical cancer in the Dept. of Obst. & Gynecology, University Med. School of Pécs over the past 44 years.

Patients and Methods: Between 1952 and 1995 there were 6202 patients treated with cervical cancer. 210 patients were under age of 30 years. The treatment protocol was the same, regardless of the age of patients, based on the clinical stage of the disease: low dose rate brachytherapy and surgical treatment, or complete radiation therapy-brachytherapy and external beam irradiation.

Results: The incidence of cervical cancer of all patients has not been changed, however among young patients there was a gradual increase in the incidence from 1975, which may be explained by the accumulated occurrence of predisposing risk factors. In stage I, the five-year survival rate is the same between the two age groups/below and above 30 years/but in advanced cancer/stage II, III, IV/the 5-year survival rate of young patients is much worse.

Conclusion: The increased number of young patients with cervical cancer may be explained by the accumulation of risk factors and environmental hazard. The poor prognosis is probably due to the fact, that tumors in young patients show more proliferative tendency, and the ratio of anaplastic squamous cell or adenocarcinoma is higher.

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POSTER

Types of diet and breast cancer risk among native and immigrant females in upper Silesia region, Poland

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Purpose: Evaluate of the risk relative (RR) incidence of breast cancer among natives and immigrant women taking into account the 3 types of diet.

Methods and Materials: The 328 cases were divided into two groups: 1. Native Upper Silesians (214 i.e. 65.2% of the total) – a stationary population

of women who had been born and lived all their lives within the limits of Upper Silesia. 2. Immigrants – women who had moved to Upper Silesia from various regions of Poland – 114 cases (34.8% of the total). The 585 controls were divided as follows: 405 (69.2%) – natives and 180 (30.8%) – controls.

The types of diet were determined as follow: "A" – (all descriptions very short) – a rare consumption of fried meat and large amounts of raw vegetables, "B" – all medium, and "C" – frequent consumption of fried meat and animal fats and a low (or even lack) raw vegetables.

Conclusion: RR is very high for native women at "C" diet (RR = 13.3, $p < 0.000001$) to reference level-diet "A" (RR = 1.0). Most likely significant changes in diet of the immigrant women occurring in the pre- and post-migration periods are cause of the fact that the risk of breast cancer is less marked.

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POSTER

Evidence-based medicine and the cochrane collaboration: A new approach to medical decision-making in cancer therapy

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Background: Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) is an approach to combine individual clinical expertise with the best external evidence available from clinical research. Key components are systematic reviews involving the systematic collection, synthesis and application of scientific results. The international Cochrane Collaboration (CC) organizes the identification of all potential relevant reports of clinical trials for prepanning, publishing and updating systematic reviews. Actually 14 Cochrane Centers offer logistic and methodical support for 44 review groups who finished 159 systematic reviews in various medical fields up to now. For cancer the Cochrane Cancer Network started to coordinate the work of the review groups. Systematic reviews in Cochrane format are not yet available for the cancer field.

Objective: We present and discuss the concept of EBM and the work of the CC with special regards to the structure and activities of the Cochrane Cancer Network.

Conclusion: The systematic review process guided by the Cochrane Cancer Network is going to improve the scientific input for guidelines and medical decision-making and will therefore help to improve the quality of cancer therapy.

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POSTER

Influence of ecologic factors on cancer incidence rates in some regions of Kyrgyzstan

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Located in Central Asia, the Kyrgyz Republic occupies area of nearly 200,000 sq.km, 90% of which are mountains. Kyrgyzstan is regarded as a country with a relatively low cancer incidence rate, which has been declined even more for the last 5 years and in 1996 was 90.7 per 100,000. At the same time, some ecologically unfavorable regions in the republic, where there are radioactive tailings deposits with uranium waste products, present a certain danger for health of people. Studies of the morbidity in these regions have become possible only after the disintegration of the USSR. Between 1995 and 1996 we examined more than 6,000 people in 3 such regions: Meili-Su, Kara-Balta and Kadji-Sai. The analysis of medical survey showed that general and cancer morbidity in all these towns significantly exceeds the average rates for the republic and those for the neighboring regions.

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POSTER

Cyclic patterns of incidence variations for breast cancer: A hypothesis for heliophysical imprinting

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Purpose: The aim was both to confirm cyclicity in breast cancer (BC) rates and present a hypothesis for different risk for BC patients related to solar activity in their year of birth. Cyclicity in breast cancer and other cancers across different countries (Bulgaria, UK, USA) has been revealed [Dimitrov 1995; 1997, unpubl. results]. 'Heliogeophysical imprinting', i.e. later consequences due to influences during early ontogenesis [Kaznacheev e.a. 1985], has also been reported. For instance, most women with early