

## Recent Activities about Cancer Control Program in China and Relations with Asia

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In China, an estimated 1,800,000-2,000,000 new cancer cases and 1,400,000-1,500,000 deaths were in 2000. Cancer deaths account for about 20% of total deaths of all causes. Over the past two decades, the mortality rates continue to rise up. Research has suggested that the increasing was mainly due to the aging of population. In future 20-30 years, cancer deaths in China will be increasing continually and be major health burden. The spectrum of most common cancers has been changed so much and is in the transition stage of developing country to developed country. It is more difficult to prevent and control because of the double burden phenomenon of developed and developing countries. Moreover, the mortality rate of cancer is increasing more higher in rural area than in urban area.

The priority of organ specific cancer is lung, liver, stomach, esophagus, colon/rectum and breast cancer, which accounts for about 80% of cancer deaths. Most importantly, the focus of our effort should place on lung cancer which is the most dangerous, rapidly-increasing and can be effectively prevented. Cervical and nasopharyngeal cancer can also be put into prevention and control plan. Strategies of cancer prevention and control in China include (1) Smoking control, (2) Control the HBV infection, (3) Early detection and treatment at countryside for digestive/cervical cancer and at urban for breast/colon cancer, and (4) Better diet and physical activities.

The cancer early detection and treatment demonstration program started in 2005 that covered the cancers of esophagus, stomach, liver, colon-rectum, nasopharynx, breast and cervix. By the health care reform, the government sponsored cervical and breast cancer screening program expanded to whole nation and covered over 2 million rural women in 2009.

The new national cancer prevention and control plan is a main component of the Health China 2020 Program. Chinese National Cancer Center has been officially approved recently. It is the historical milestone for comprehensive cancer prevention and control among 1.4 billion people of the 25% world population. It will make significant contribution to reduce the overall the cancer burden in the world.

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