



# ASIA MEDICAL FORUM THE LANCET 2007



21-22 April 2007 | Suntec Singapore | [www.thelancet.com/asiaforum](http://www.thelancet.com/asiaforum)

## Asia and cancer management in the 21st century



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## PERSPECTIVE AND FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

Asia is on the cusp of a major cancer epidemic of unprecedented proportions. The population is expanding rapidly—many times faster than in Europe and the USA—and the proportion of people aged 65 years and older is rising at an even more alarming rate. Over the past 25 years, the population in China has increased by 31% and the number of people older than 65 years by 81%. By comparison, in the UK, the population has risen by 6% and the proportion of people aged 65 years or older by 7%. These disparities are worrying because most cancers present in people of older age. Indeed, current projections suggest that the number of new cases of cancer in Asia will increase from 3.5 million in 2002 to 8.1 million by 2020 if current prevention and management strategies remain unchanged.

Managing the cancer burden in Asia presents many unique challenges. About twice as many men in Asia smoke compared with their northern European counterparts, and the number of tobacco-related deaths is expected to double by 2025. This will equate to about 1 million men aged 25–69 years dying from tobacco-related causes per year in India alone. Similarly, infection is an underlying cause of nearly 20% of cancers worldwide; and in south-central Asia, 75% of the population carry *Helicobacter Pylori*, which increases the risk of stomach cancer by five to six times, and in south-east Asia, Hepatitis B is endemic, which substantially increases the risk of liver cancer. Exposure to sunlight is also a major source of cancer risk: the global solar UV index for Asia is about twice that of countries in the northern hemisphere. And finally, diet, nutrition, and physical exercise are all vital components of cancer risk, but the rapid rate of economic development in some Asian countries—534% increase in gross domestic product per capita in China over the past 25 years compared with 348% in the UK—along with the accompanying industrialisation and urbanisation, are contributing to an ever-increasing risk of cancers such as breast, colon, prostate, endometrium, kidney, and oesophagus.

Despite this backdrop, very few cancer screening programmes are available in Asia; access to treatment is inadequate—for example, Indonesia has fewer than an eighth of the number of radiotherapy machines needed to provide sufficient coverage for the entire population; and research is still but a fraction of the worldwide effort—in 2005, just 51 registered trials out of 3270 were being done in Asia. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the number of cancer survivors in Asia is very small compared with numbers in Europe and the USA.

**The Lancet Asia Medical Forum 2007** will offer a unique opportunity for leading regional and international experts to come together with a unified goal of addressing these issues. The Forum will focus on the ten most prevalent cancers in Asia-Pacific and will examine aspects of prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and palliation. In addition, world opinion-leaders will discuss cancer aetiology, health-care systems, and the challenges of providing effective disease management with limited resources, along with views on state-of-the-art techniques in the areas of diagnostics, medical oncology, radiation therapy, and surgical oncology. Finally, the Forum will also host a didactic workshop on how to run a clinical trial, presented by world-renowned specialists, to help foster new clinical research.

Jointly organised by The Lancet, The Lancet Oncology, Elsevier Health Sciences, and Reed Exhibitions, the Forum is supported by:

- Singapore Ministry of Health (MoH)
- American Society for Therapeutic Radiation & Oncology
- American Society of Clinical Oncology
- Asia Pacific Organisation for the Prevention of Cancer
- Cancer Association of South Africa
- Cancer Council of Australia
- Cancer Society of New Zealand
- Chinese Oncology Society, Taiwan
- European Association for Cancer Research
- International Agency for Research on Cancer (WHO)
- International Union Against Cancer (UICC)
- Japan Society of Clinical Oncology
- King Fahad Medical City, Saudi Arabia
- Korean Cancer Society
- Korean Institute of Radiological & Medical Sciences
- National Cancer Centre Research Institute, Korea
- National Cancer Centre, Singapore
- National Cancer Institute, Cairo
- National Cancer Institute, Thailand
- National Cancer Institute, Vietnam
- National Cancer Society of Malaysia
- Singapore Cancer Society
- Singapore Cancer Syndicate (A\*Star)
- Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB)
- Turkish Association for Cancer Research & Control

SATURDAY, 21 APRIL 2007

## INTRODUCTION

9:00 am **Dr Richard Horton**  
Editor-in-Chief and Publisher, The Lancet, UK  
**Mr Khaw Boon Wan** Minister for Health,  
Singapore (*invited*)

## OPENING SESSION

**Moderator**  
**Dr Richard Horton**  
Editor-in-Chief and Publisher, The Lancet, UK

9:20 am **Plenary Lecture I:**  
**Cancer incidence: an Asian perspective**  
**Dr D Max Parkin** Clinical Trials Service Unit &  
Epidemiological Studies Unit, University of Oxford,  
Oxford, UK

9:55 am **Asian cancer aetiology and prevention**  
**Prof Kazuo Tajima** Division of Epidemiology and  
Prevention, Aichi Cancer Center Research Institute,  
Nagoya, Japan

10:15 am **Clinical research in Asia: the importance of  
collaboration and the role of IARC and the WHO**  
**Dr Peter Boyle** International Agency for Research on  
Cancer, Lyon, France

10:35 am **Role of multidisciplinary care and regional centres  
of excellence**  
**Prof Soo Khee Chee** National Cancer Centre of  
Singapore, Singapore

10:55 am **Delivery of quality cancer care in countries with  
limited infrastructure**  
**Prof Ketayun Dinshaw** Department of Radiation  
Oncology, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, India

11:20 am TEA BREAK

## PREVENTION AND DIAGNOSIS I

**Moderator**  
**Prof Jatin P Shah** Department of Surgery, Memorial  
Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, USA

11:50 am **H pylori, COX-2 inhibitors, and prevention of gastric  
cancer**  
**Prof Joseph J Sung** Institute of Digestive Diseases,  
Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales  
Hospital, Hong Kong

12:10 pm **Prevention and surveillance of hepatitis-B-related  
hepatocellular carcinoma**  
**Prof Yun-Fan Liaw** Liver Research Unit, Chang Gung  
University, Taipei, Taiwan

12:30 pm **15 years of follow up: what have we learned from  
the oesophageal Nutrition Intervention Trials in  
Linxian, China?**  
**Prof You-Lin Qiao** Department of Cancer  
Epidemiology, Cancer Institute, Chinese Academy of  
Medical Sciences, Beijing, China

12:50 pm **Preventing cancers of the oral cavity**  
**Prof Anil D'Cruz** Head and Neck Services, Tata  
Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, India

1:10 pm **Current developments in prevention strategies and  
diagnostics in colorectal cancer**  
**Prof Toshiaki Watanabe** Department of Surgery,  
Teikyo University School Of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan

1:35 pm LUNCH AND POSTER SESSION I

## DISEASE MANAGEMENT I

**Moderator**  
**Prof Joseph J Sung** Institute of Digestive Diseases,  
Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales  
Hospital, Hong Kong

2:35 pm **Management of stomach cancer**  
**Prof Chew-Wun Wu** Department of Surgery, Taipei  
Veterans General Hospital and National Yang-Ming  
University, Taipei, Taiwan

2:55 pm **Current management strategies for liver cancer**  
**Prof Morito Monden** Department of Surgery, Osaka  
University, Osaka, Japan

3:15 pm **Oesophageal cancer, East and West: same name,  
different disease**  
**Prof John Wong** Department of Surgery, The University  
of Hong Kong, Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong

3:35 pm **State-of-the art management of oral cancer and future  
challenges**  
**Prof Jatin P Shah** Department of Surgery, Memorial  
Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, USA

3:55 pm **Recent advances in colorectal cancer: where to from  
here?**  
**Prof John Zalberg** Department of Medical Oncology,  
Division of Haematology and Medical Oncology, Peter  
MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Australia

4:00 pm TEA BREAK

## CLINICAL TRIALS IN ASIA

**Moderator**  
**Prof Steven Piantadosi** Oncology Biostatistics, Johns  
Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA

4:30 pm **Keynote Lecture:**  
**Opportunities for research in breast cancer in the  
developing world**  
**Prof Indraneel Mittra** Bhopal Memorial Hospital and  
Research Centre, Bhopal, India

5:00 pm **Workshop:**  
**Running a randomised clinical trial**  
**Chair person: Prof Steven Piantadosi** Oncology  
Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine,  
Baltimore, MD, USA

Confirmed speakers include:

**Trial design, optimisation, and data management**  
**Prof Steven Piantadosi** Oncology Biostatistics, Johns  
Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA

**Improving recruitment to randomised clinical trials  
in cancer**  
**Prof Lesley Fallowfield** Psychosocial Oncology Group,  
University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

Other speakers will be added and additional topics will  
include: Trial infrastructure; Collaboration; Funding; Ethics;  
Analysis; Data interpretation; Reporting.

6:30 pm END OF DAY 1

SUNDAY, 22 APRIL 2007

**OPENING SESSION**

*Moderator*

**Prof Sophie Fossa** Norwegian Radium Hospital, Oslo, Norway

9:00 am **Keynote Lecture:**

**Cancer management and traditional medicine**

**Prof Tony Mok** Department of Clinical Oncology, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong

**PREVENTION AND DIAGNOSIS II**

*Moderator*

**Prof Sophie Fossa** Norwegian Radium Hospital, Oslo, Norway

9:30 am **Chemoprevention for lung cancer**

**Prof Fred Hirsch** University of Colorado Cancer Center, CO, USA

9:50 am **Diagnosis and prevention of breast cancer by nipple aspiration fluid**

**Prof Masakazu Toi** Department of Clinical Trials and Research, Tokyo Metropolitan Cancer and Infectious Disease Center, Komagome Hospital, Tokyo, Japan

10:10 am **Strategies for cervical cancer prevention: the right one for the right community**

**A/Prof Eng-Hseon Tay** Department of Gynaecological Subspecialties and Gynaecological Oncology Unit, KK Women's & Children's Hospital, Singapore

10:30 am **Strategies for the prevention of ovarian cancer**

**Prof Maurie Markman** The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA

10:50 am **Early diagnosis of prostate cancer without unnecessary treatment in those who will not benefit**

**Prof James Denham** University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia

11:15 am TEA BREAK

**DISEASE MANAGEMENT II**

*Moderator*

**Prof Fred Hirsch** University of Colorado Cancer Center, CO, USA

11:45 am **Treatment of advanced non-small-cell lung cancer with chemotherapy: an Asian experience**

**Prof Sumitra Thongprasert** Department of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

12:05 pm **The Breast Health Global Initiatives Foundation: clinical practice guidelines for the management of breast cancer in developing countries**

**Prof Cheng-Har Yip** Department of Surgery, University of Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

12:25 pm **Management of cancer in uterine cervix**

**Prof Chyong-Huey Lai** Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Chang Gung University College of Medicine, Taoyuan, Taiwan

12:45 pm **Salvage therapy of epithelial ovarian cancer: what is the appropriate setting for the Asian situation?**

**Dr Sarikapan Wilailak** Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ramathibodi Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

1:05 pm **Management of prostate cancer**

**Prof Malcolm Mason** Department of Oncology & Palliative Medicine, Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK

1:30 pm LUNCH AND POSTER SESSION II

**PALLIATIVE CARE AND QUALITY OF LIFE**

*Moderator*

**Prof Karol Sikora** Imperial College, Hammersmith Hospital, London, UK

2:30 pm **The need for oncologists and other doctors to learn about long-term effects after cancer**

**Prof Sophie Fossa** Norwegian Radium Hospital, Oslo, Norway

2:50 pm **Why patient recorded quality of life data are more important parameters in trials**

**Prof Lesley Fallowfield** Psychosocial Oncology Group, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

3:10 pm **The role of palliative and supportive care in effective cancer management**

**Dr Nigel Sykes** St Christopher's Hospice, London, UK

3:30 pm **Palliative care: an Asian perspective**

**Dr Cynthia Goh** Department of Palliative Medicine, National Cancer Centre, Singapore

3:50 pm **The declaration of Venice: a global palliative care research initiative, with a special focus on developing countries**

**Dr Marilène Filbet** Palliative Care Unit, Central Hospital, University of Lyon, Lyon, France

4:10 pm TEA BREAK

**POSTER DISCUSSION SESSION**

*Moderator*

**Prof John Zalcberg** Department of Medical Oncology, Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Peter MacCallum Cancer Center, Melbourne, Australia

4:40 pm Poster Competition – Second Runner-Up

4:49 pm Poster Competition – Runner-Up

4:56 pm Poster Competition – Winner

**EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND ECONOMIC REALITIES**

*Moderator*

**Prof John Zalcberg** Department of Medical Oncology, Division of Haematology and Medical Oncology, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Australia

5:10 pm **Non-FDG-based PET/CT in oncology**

**Prof Peter Ell** Institute of Nuclear Medicine, University College London Medical School, London, UK

5:30 pm **The impact of molecular biology in new anticancer drug development**

**Prof Gilberto Schwartzmann** Hospital de Clinicas de Porto Alegre, Porto Alegre, Brazil

5:50 pm **Integrating emerging technologies in emerging economies: the radiotherapy scenario**

**A/Prof Rajiv Sarin** Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research, and Education in cancer, Tata Memorial Cancer Centre, Mumbai, India

6:10 pm **Role of computer-assisted surgery in the present and future**

**Dr James Peabody** Vattikuti Urology Institute, Henry Ford Health System, MI, USA

6:30 pm **Plenary Lecture 2:**

**Paying for modern cancer care — can we afford it?**

**Prof Karol Sikora** Imperial College, Hammersmith Hospital, London, UK

7:00 pm END OF FORUM