Evaluation of cancer records from 2000-2004 in Denizli, Turkey

A. Köksal1, H.Ç. Sorkun1, H. Demirhan2, A.G. Tomatır2, T. Alan3 and F. Özerdem3

1Health Services Vocational School, Pamukkale University, Denizli, Turkey
2Department of Medical Biology, Pamukkale University Medical Faculty, Denizli, Turkey
3Turkish Ministry of Health, Denizli, Turkey

Corresponding author: A.G. Tomatır
E-mail: tomatir@pau.edu.tr / ayssegaye@hotmail.com

Received October 13, 2008
Accepted November 18, 2008
Published January 27, 2009

ABSTRACT. Objective information about cancer incidence is important for planning control programs. We examined the distribution of cancer cases recorded in Denizli province, Turkey. A total of 2185 cancer cases reported to the Denizli Province Health Ministry’s Cancer Early Diagnosis Center during the years 2000-2004 were evaluated for sociodemographic characteristics, cigarette use, family history, and organ systems. Among these cases, 56% were male and 44% were female; 45.1% of the patients had smoked cigarettes at some time and there was a 10-fold increase in lung cancer and a 4-fold increase in urinary cancers among cigarette smokers (P < 0.001). We found that 34.4% of the cancer cases were diagnosed as localized, 27.9% had a more extensive distribution and 21.8% were in metastasis. The most frequent types were urinary cancers at 26.4%, gastrointestinal cancers at 19.2% and respiratory cancers at 18.9%; there was a significant increase in gastrointestinal, blood and skin cancers over the years. Lung (14.9%), breast (14.1%), bladder (8.0%), prostate (5.3%), and lymphatic (4.8%) cancer cases were the most common.

Key words: Cancer records; Cancer incidence; Retrospective study; Turkey