

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES & HEALTH PLANNING

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The Descriptive Studies & Health Planning Unit (DSHP) carries out cancer research in the field of public health and promotes studies for planning cancer control. In 2010, a number of projects were run by DSHP at the international and national level.

EUROCHIP-3 Project. During 2010: a) articles on the status of cervical cancer screening in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Bulgaria were published in *Tumori*; b) a study on the availability status of cancer indicators in the EU cancer registries was presented at the Annual International Cancer Registry Association meeting; c) a list of cancer rehabilitation indicators was discussed; d) a discussion was started on strategies for the reduction of cancer cost (at unvaried outcomes) for breast cancer and acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

All activities are described in the report available on the project web-site:

http://www.tumori.net/eurochip/material/Report/EUROCHIP3_Report_M24.pdf

The EUROCHIP group was directly involved in the preparation of the European Commission Joint Action "European Partnership Action Against Cancer- EPPAC" (2011-2013) for a EU program on cancer control.

CAREMORE Project. During 2010, the involved CRs concluded collection of clinical data and improved the collection of rehabilitation data. An interim analysis was presented by DSHP at the Annual Italian Epidemiology Association meeting.

ROL Project. During 2010, at DSHP we analyzed data collected through the Lombardy Oncologic Network showing that hospital records compiled by clinicians for ROL are useful for patients (text fields in the report are positively used by clinicians), while they cannot be used yet for epidemiological analysis (coded field use is not yet widespread among clinicians). New project phases were designed and started: third phase of STUDIO API FALCONARA and new phase of "I TUMORI IN ITALIA"

Keywords: cancer control, breast cancer aetiology, cancer networks

2010 RELEVANT NOTES

Collaborations

EUROCHIP-3 (subsidized by the European Commission-EC). The project was designed to improve information and knowledge on cancer control in the European Union in various fields.

DYNAMO-HIA on the development of a dynamic modelling tool to assess health impact of health policies (project subsidized by EC and coordinated by Erasmus University in Rotterdam).

EUROCARE on cancer survival comparison across Europe. DSHP works on life tables estimations and on the related demographic studies.

CAREMORE (subsidized by Italian Welfare Ministry) is a population-based study aimed to identify the rehabilitation services used by cancer prevalent cases based on cancer registry (CR) databases.

I TUMORI IN ITALIA (subsidized by Centro Controllo Malattie, Italian Welfare Ministry) for constantly updates two web-sites on cancer epidemiology and on relation between diet and health.

STUDIO API FALCONARA (subsidized by ARPAm-Marche Region). This population-based case-control study investigated the association between residential petrochemical exposure and leukaemia-lymphoma mortality risk in Falconara Petritima in collaboration with the Epidemiology Unit of the Marche Region.

ROL (subsidized by Lombardy Region) for descriptive analysis of data collected by the Lombardy Oncologic Network.

HORMONES and BREAST CANCER (BC) performing statistical analysis in studies on BC aetiology and participating in international collaborative studies.

IF (subsidized by AIRC) is aimed to study national and international performance in cancer research using bibliometric measures.

Publications

Barriers in cervical cancer screening programs in new European Union member states. *Tumori*. 2010; 96: 515-516.

Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF1), IGF binding protein 3 (IGFBP3), and breast cancer risk: pooled individual data analysis of 17 prospective studies. *Lancet Oncol*. 2010; 11: 530-542.

Contributions

Micheli A. is in the editorial board in *Tumori* and *Epidemiologia & Prevenzione*

Micheli A and Baili P are referees for *Tumori*

Micheli A is referee for *European Journal of Public Health*, *Annals of Oncology*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*



CANCER REGISTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

HEAD

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Cancer Registry: data collection and processing for Varese Province incidence data for 2005-2006. In-depth analysis for survival and quality of care for the most frequent tumors. Tutorship for six cancer registries in Lombardy region.

Screening: analysis for effectiveness for breast (female) and colorectal cancer

Congenital Malformations Registry: data collection for four Lombardy provinces and data quality control.

Occupational Cancer: Managing the Occupational Cancer Monitoring system in collaboration with the Italian National Institute of Occupational Health and with five Italian regions. Cases likely of occupational origin are referred for compensation and firms are examined for the presence of carcinogenic hazards.

Environment and Cancer: study and validation of air pollution indicators of exposure. Air pollution was found to be a determinant of childhood leukemia.

Keywords: cancer registry, survival, outcome, occupation, environment

2010 RELEVANT NOTES

Collaborations

Six Lombardy cancer registries adopted the structure and information system of our cancer registries and are run under our procedures.

Lombardy, Campania, Umbria, and Lazio regions are followed for occupational cancer monitoring, by collaborating with the local Occupational Health Unit. This activity is enforced by Italian law.

The Spanish government requested for a similar system and a feasibility analysis is under way.

Publications

How valid are the rates of Down syndrome internationally? Findings from the International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research. *Am J Med Genet A.* 2010;152A(7):1670-80.

Confounders and Confusion: Dealing with Cancer Cases of Occupational Origin. *Am J Ind Med.* 2010; 53:1002-5.

Contributions

Paolo Crosignani is member of Editorial Board of *Epidemiologia e Prevenzione* and of the *Giornale Italiano di Medicina del Lavoro ed Ergonomia*

