The Impact of Research Collaboration with NCI

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Part I. Cancer Mortality, Prevention & Control in China
Transition of Causes of Death in China, 1973-2012

- Infectious and parasitic diseases
- Malignant neoplasms
- Heart diseases
- Cerebrovascular diseases
- Diseases of the respiratory system
- Injuries
- Others
## Major Causes of Death in China, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Mortality (per 100,000)</th>
<th>Percentage of total deaths (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cerebrovascular diseases</td>
<td>175.1</td>
<td>25.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Malignant neoplasms</td>
<td>161.7</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heart diseases</td>
<td>116.8</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Diseases of the respiratory system</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Injuries</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Diseases of the digestive system</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Diseases of the genitourinary system</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Infectious diseases</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Diseases of the nervous system</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Cancer-specific Mortality in China, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer</th>
<th>Surveillance mortality by DSPs (^{b,1})</th>
<th>Estimated mortality in GLOBOCAN (^{c,2})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All cancers excl. non-melanoma skin cancer</td>
<td>All areas 161.7 Eastern areas 174.7 Middle areas 163.9 Western areas 139.6</td>
<td>All areas 162.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>44.5 Eastern areas 50.2 Middle areas 45.1 Western areas 35.1</td>
<td>43.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver</td>
<td>27.9 Eastern areas 27.1 Middle areas 29.3 Western areas 27.4</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stomach</td>
<td>22.9 Eastern areas 23.6 Middle areas 24.9 Western areas 19.2</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esophagus</td>
<td>13.6 Eastern areas 13.5 Middle areas 14.0 Western areas 13.1</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectum</td>
<td>10.1 Eastern areas 12.0 Middle areas 9.3 Western areas 8.3</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leukaemia</td>
<td>4.1 Eastern areas 4.3 Middle areas 4.0 Western areas 4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>3.7 Eastern areas 4.1 Middle areas 3.8 Western areas 2.8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasopharynx</td>
<td>1.8 Eastern areas 1.9 Middle areas 1.5 Western areas 2.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladder</td>
<td>1.7 Eastern areas 2.0 Middle areas 1.7 Western areas 1.1</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cervix uteri</td>
<td>1.7 Eastern areas 1.4 Middle areas 2.0 Western areas 1.6</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{a}\) Ordered by the top 10 cancer surveyed by Disease Surveillance Points.

\(^{b}\) Crude rate, per 100,000. Excluding Hong Kong and Macao.

\(^{c}\) Crude rate, per 100,000. Including Hong Kong and Macao.

The Prevention and Control of Cancer in China

• Tobacco Control in China
  ✓ National Smoke-free Policies and Local Smoke-free Laws
  ✓ Notices issued by State Council and Communist Party
  ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation

• Cancer Screening Project
  ✓ Early detection and treatment Project
  ✓ National “Two cancers” (cervical and breast cancer)

• Vaccine and cancer protection (China’s Successful Story of HBV Vaccination)
Part II. Cancer Risks in Chinese Benzene Workers

China CDC / U.S. NCI
Background

- Benzene is used worldwide in chemical manufacturing.
- Low level exposure is common to the general population in gasoline, motor vehicle exhaust, tobacco smoke.
- Benzene causes acute myeloid leukemia, aplastic anemia, & reproductive effects at high exposure levels, but risks at low exposures for these & other cancers is poorly understood.
- More information is needed about genetic susceptibility, biomarkers to identify those at high risk, and other aspects of biological mechanisms.
Results: 1986-2001

- Excesses of a spectrum of hematopoietic diseases (all types of myeloid and lymphoid leukemias, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, aplastic anemia, myelodysplastic syndrome)
- Suggested excess risk at low levels (<10 ppm)
- Dose-response relationship for acute myeloid leukemia and non-Hodgkin lymphoma
- Suggested excess risk of lung cancer
- Evidence of genetic susceptibility
- Identified biomarkers of exposure and of biological effects at low exposure levels
Impact of Research

Results from collaborative China CDC – U.S. NCI studies:

• Formed basis of changing occupational threshold limit values in China

• Used by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reconsider basis for allowable environmental levels
Recent and Ongoing

- Confirmed excesses of a spectrum of hematopoietic diseases (all types of myeloid and lymphoid leukemias, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, aplastic anemia, myelodysplastic syndrome)

- Analyzing dose-response for acute myeloid leukemia, non-Hodgkin lymphoma and lung cancer

- Evaluating genetic susceptibility and other biomarkers for benzene hematotoxicity
Part III. Chinese Children and Families Cohort Study (CFCS)

China CDC / U.S. NCI / U.S. CDC
**Background**

- **Community intervention project (CIP)**
  - 1993-1995, In 21 field sites of 3 provinces, 240,000 pairs of mothers and offspring
  - A unique population with periconception/early first trimester exposure to folic acid supplements and other periconceptional factors
  - Neural tube birth defect prevalence reduced significantly, Push the policy of folic acid supplement in China

- **CFCS**
  - Prospective cohort follow-up based on the unique CIP population
  - Evaluation possible late health effects of periconceptional folic acid on the risk of chronic diseases of mothers, offspring and next generation in an Asian population
  - China’s unique population provides an important opportunity to assess a potential preventive public health measure to reduce risk of chronic diseases.
Three Pilot Studies Completed

Study 1: Follow-up of late effects of periconceptional folic acid supplement on CFCS Mothers and their children

Study 2: Assessment of early life and early adulthood risk factors for adult cancers and other chronic diseases (Diet, Nutrition, Physical Activity, Ultraviolet Radiation (UV), and Associated Biomarkers in CFCS Mothers and Offspring)

Study 3: Pediatric cancer cases record linkage cohort & nested case-control study of postulated risk factors for pediatric cancer
Progress on CFCS

1993 - 1995
Community Intervention Program of Folic Acid supplements for Neural Tube Defect prevention (N=247,831)

2009 - 2013
1. Study design
2. Data collection of the 3 Pilot Studies (2 sites Laoting, Taicang)
3. Data review and data cleaning

2014 - 2017
1. Further data cleaning
2. Signed the data sharing and publication agreement
3. Data analysis
4. Write papers

2015 - 2016
1. Discuss data transfer agreement
2. Revised protocol
3. Training
4. Carry out field visits, matching on identifying characteristics of CFCS subjects in 21 counties
Feasibility Study

Specific Aim
- To determine the feasibility of re-identifying CFCS families on a substantially larger scale than the previous Pilot Study #1

Study Population
- CFCS offspring in 5 counties in Hebei Province
- CFCS offspring in 16 counties in Jiangsu and Zhejiang Provinces

Methods
- Identify databases in the local sites to re-construct cohort
- Match with CIP list
Part IV. The Impact of NCI Collaborations on Cancer Research and Programs in China
Impact of NCI Collaborations on Cancer Research and Programs in China

- Deepen mutual understanding and trust
- Strengthen technical exchange and training
- Provide opportunities for international cooperation and scientific research among young professionals
- Promote research on the association between periconceptional, prenatal, and childhood exposures and risks of chronic diseases such as cancer
Part IV. The Areas for Future Collaboration
Areas for Future Collaboration

- Further expand research on the association of early life exposures and chronic diseases such as cancer
- Enhance the collaborative CFCS data analysis and publication, to provide the scientific basis for prevention of cancer and other chronic diseases
- Strengthen the cooperation, communication, and training on data collection and management, and analysis of cancer descriptive and analytic studies between China and US
Areas for Future Collaboration

- Continue to expand cooperation in the field of study of cancer risk factors, for example, the relationship between environment and cancer.

- Enhance research and collaboration on cancer prevention, intervention, and vaccine development and application.
Thank You!