Comparison of Time Trends in Lip Cancer Incidence (1973–97) in East Asia, Europe and USA, from Cancer Incidence in Five Continents, Vols IV–VIII

Time trends of age-standardized rate (ASR) of lip cancer incidence (ICD-10: C00) were compared among 18 selected cancer registries and ethnic/racial groups in East Asia, Europe and USA. The data source was the Cancer Incidence in Five Continents, Vols IV–VIII (years at diagnosis 1973–77, 1978–82, 1983–87, 1988–92 and 1993–97, respectively). World population was used for age standardization.

Figure 1 shows time trends of the ASR of lip cancer incidence for males. The ASRs in East Asia, East Asian immigrants and blacks (SEER) in USA were lower than those in Europe and whites (SEER) in USA. The ASRs in Europe showed a decreasing trend. Registries in Europe can be classified into three groups: Denmark was high, Varese (Italy) and Sweden were in the middle and Bas-Rhin (France) and two registries in England (South Thames and West Midlands) were at low levels in the ASRs. The ASRs in whites (SEER) in USA dramatically decreased. The ASRs in whites (SEER) in USA showed higher than those in blacks (SEER) and East Asian immigrants in USA. The ASRs for East Asian immigrants (Hawaii and Los Angeles) were as low as those in their homelands.

Figure 1. Time trends in age-standardized lip cancer incidence rate (ICD-10: C00) in 18 cancer registries in East Asia, Europe and USA, males.

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Figure 2 shows time trends of the ASR of lip cancer incidence for females. The ASRs for females were approximately one-fifth to one-tenth of those for males. Note that the vertical scale in Fig. 2 is different from that in Fig. 1. The ASRs for females were so low that they tended to have unstable values. Denmark and Sweden in Europe and whites (SEER) in USA showed higher ASRs than the other registries. Sweden in Europe consistently showed an increasing trend.

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