



# The Inauguration of Asian Pacific Journal of Environment and Cancer

saeed yari

School of Health Science, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

Alireza Mosavi Jarrahi

Medical School, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

On behalf of the Asian Pacific Organization for Cancer Prevention (APOCP) and its subsidiary (the West Asia Organization for Cancer Prevention- WAOCP), it is a great honor to present the inaugural issue of Asian Pacific Journal of Environment and Cancer (APJEC). APJEC is separated from the Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention and is determined to become a leading journal for scientists and researcher of the world. APJEC inherited its activity from the 19-year body of the successful publication of the Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention (APJCP) and considers itself to be the APJCP sister publications.

## Introduction

By increasing the production and use of chemicals, the risk of exposure to material was increase[1]. Thus, people are exposed to various chemicals throughout their lives, and in particular their Occupational and environmental areas[2]. Hence, environmental pollution is one of the major causes of disease, death and disability in the countries of the world[3]. Chemicals and their compounds cause cancer in humans[4]. The first factor in occupational and environmental carcinogens was discovered in 1775 by Pott[5]. According to the WHO / IARC, the cancer kills 8.2 million people each year, and each year 14 million new cancers are detected. Until 2035, if control conditions are fixed. It is expected that deaths will increase by 78% and the incidence will increase by 70%. In 2013, 1.314 million cancer deaths are estimated in the European Union, that its casualties is more than the number of deaths from HIV / AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis [6], which is largely due to air pollution in the environment and work environment[7]. The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates 666,000 deaths from occupational cancer worldwide every year, twice as much as occupational accidents[8].

## Results

Since cancer is a multifaceted disease, it is difficult to identify some of the factors that make it. But it is clear that work-related cancer can be prevented by reducing or eliminating occupational and environmental exposures[9]. Therefore, occupational cancers can usually be reduced or even eliminated. Lung cancer accounts for 54% to 75% of total occupational cancer. Asbestos is the main cause of 55-85% of lung cancers that could have been prevented in the past. The deaths from cancer and occupational cancer have increased due to an increase in life expectancy and a gradual reduction in other causes of death, such as infectious diseases and injuries.

**Fig 1.** Annual work-related deaths in the EU and other developed countries.

Occupational cancers are rapidly globalizing and in many industrialized countries, mortality rates for occupational cancer are high among all the deaths associated with work. So that, currently in the European Union, mortality from occupational cancer accounts for 53% of all work-related

deaths (1). Air pollution, outdoor and indoor, is an important environmental health issue in developed and developing countries. Volatile organic compounds, organic compounds containing nitrogen and halogenated, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), toxic metals, pesticides, lead, aflatoxins, dioxins and many poorly combustible products (eg dioxins), all are carcinogenic substances that infecting the air (2). Other environmental factors that contribute to cancer include: tobacco smoking (3), ionizing and non-ionizing radiation (4), sedentary work (5), stress, shift working, heat shock, biological agents, nanomaterials (6), asbestos (7), radon (8), arsenic in drinking water (9), lack of exercise and sports activities (10).

**Fig 2.** *The most common carcinogens and exposure to work in the UK.*

In the following, the most common environmental carcinogens in the UK are shown (11). The incidence of cancers varies from country to country (12). Consequently, cancer control programs should rely on statistics of the prevalence of cancers in each country (13). Twenty-five years ago, the European Union adopted its first global directive to improve cancer prevention in the workplace (14). The Asia and Pacific also have a large part of the world's population with different ethnicities and religions that live in different geographic areas. In the second half of the twenty-first century, countries in the region have had rapid economic growth that continues today, and has led to major changes in people's lifestyles and exposure to occupational risk factors and cancerous environments (15). With industrial progress and economic development, air quality in Asian countries has become worse, and air pollution has become a concern in outdoor. For example, levels of PAHs in large Asian cities are high compared to western countries (16). Due to problems in proving causality, and the duration of exposure to carcinogens, there is no available information on the actual rate of occupational cancer (17). To estimate the level of occupational cancer, we need to use indirect methods to determine how much cancers are due to occupation and the environment. On the other hand, the health consequences of exposure to environmental pesticides are major and growing problems. But they did not pay enough attention, and now it's time to attract the world's attention to the global and environmental issue. Pollution of any kind requires attention such as infectious diseases and the global response to contamination requires the same degree of difficulty that applies to AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The international community's focus on environmental pollution can save millions of lives (18).

## Conclusion

On behalf of the Asian Pacific Organization for Cancer Prevention (APOCP) and its subsidiary (the West Asia Organization for Cancer Prevention- WAOCP), it is a great honor to present the inaugural issue of Asian Pacific Journal of Environment and Cancer (APJEC). APJEC is separated from the Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention and is determined to become a leading journal for scientists and researcher of the world. APJEC inherited its activity from the 19-year body of the successful publication of the Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention (APJCP) and considers itself to be the APJCP sister publications.

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