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Survival of lung cancer patients in a resource-limited country (Article)

How, S.H.^a, Ng, T.H.^a, Kuan, Y.C.^a✉, Jamalludin, A.R.^b, Fauzi, A.R.^a^a Department of Internal Medicine, Kulliyah of Medicine, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan, Pahang, Malaysia^b Department of Public Health, Kulliyah of Medicine, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan, Pahang, Malaysia

Abstract

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Aim: Data on **lung cancer survival** are lacking in developing **countries**. Our objectives were to describe the **survival** of our **lung cancer patients** and to determine independent prognostic factors affecting **survival**. **Method:** All **patients** diagnosed with **lung cancer** from August 2007 to August 2010 were recruited from a single referral hospital of the state of Pahang, Malaysia. Detailed demographic data, ECOG (Eastern Cooperation Oncology Group) performance status, stage of disease and treatment were recorded. The date of histology or cytology confirmation was used as the date of entry. **Survival** time was calculated from the date of entry to the date of death. **Results:** One hundred forty-nine **patients** were included for **survival** analysis. The median age was 62 years and **patients** were predominantly males (78%) and smokers (78%). The majority had non-small cell **lung cancer** (NSCLC) (94%); only six **patients** (4%) had small cell **lung cancer**. All **patients** presented with stage 3 or stage 4 disease. Overall median **survival** was 18 weeks. "No definitive treatment" and "ECOG 3-4" were the significant independent predictors of death, with the hazard ratios of 2.1 (95% confidence interval [CI] 1.4, 3.0) and 1.6 (95% CI 1.1, 2.3) times, respectively. Among NSCLC **patients** on treatment, 1- and 2-year **survival** rates were 27% and 15%, respectively. **Conclusion:** The majority of **lung cancer patients** in Pahang presented with advanced disease. No definitive treatment and ECOG 3-4 were independent poor prognostic factors. © 2015 Wiley Publishing Asia Pty Ltd.

Author keywords

Factors; Lung cancer; Median survival; Outcome

Indexed keywords

EMTREE medical terms: adult; age distribution; aged; Article; cancer patient; cancer prognosis; cancer staging; cancer survival; Chinese; ethnicity; female; human; lung cancer; major clinical study; Malay; Malaysia; male; non small cell lung cancer; overall survival; priority journal; small cell lung cancer; survival rate; survival time

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