

Chapter II
10

LUNG
ICD-10 C34

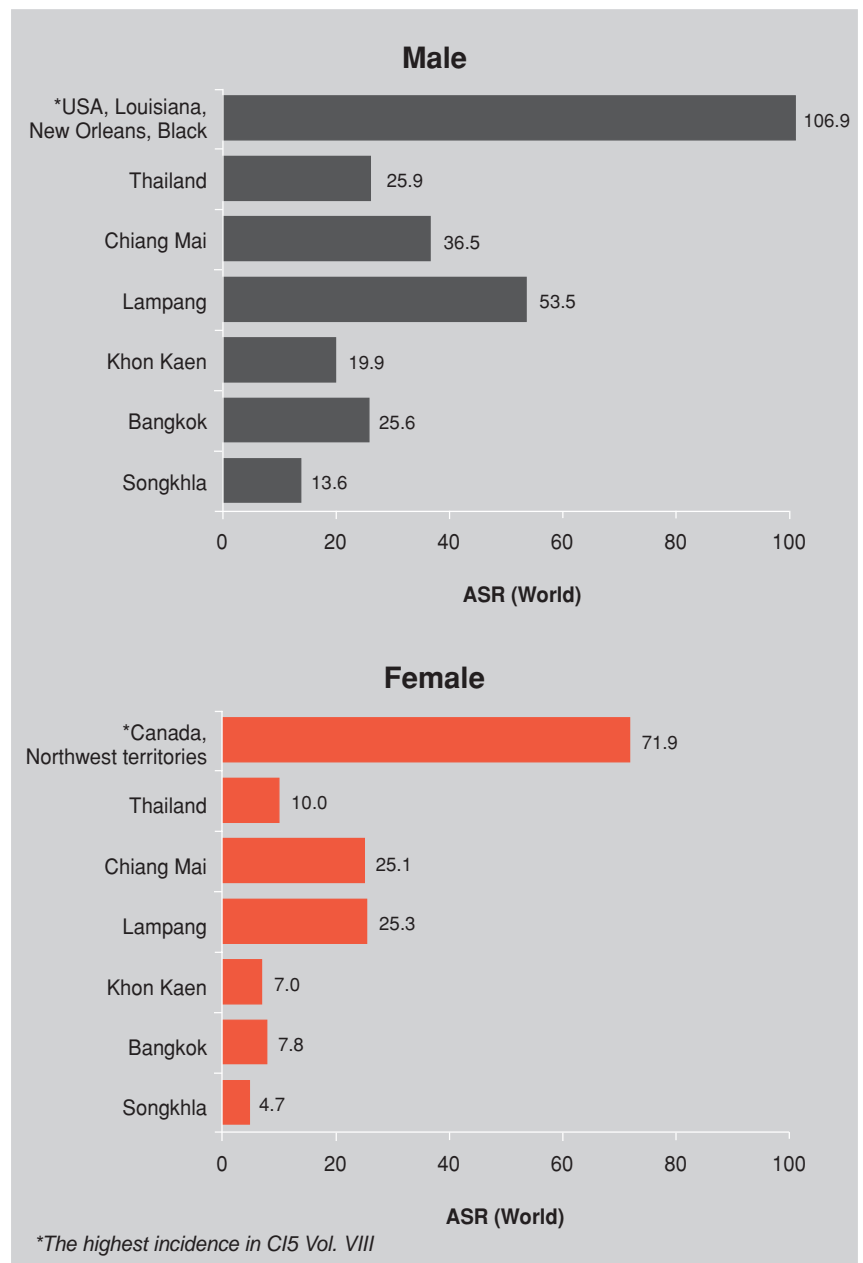
Nimit Martin, M.D.
Surathat Pongnikorn, M.D.

Lung cancer is common in developed countries. The incidence is high in North America and Europe and low in Africa. In Thailand, lung cancer is the second most common cancer in men and the fourth in women during 1995-1997. The estimated incidence rate is 25.9 per 100 000 in men after liver cancer (ASR = 37.6) and 10.0 per 100 000 after cervical cancer (ASR = 19.5), breast cancer

(ASR = 17.2) and liver cancer (ASR = 16.0) in women. The ratio of males (5 916 cases) to females (2 964 cases) is 2:1.

Lung cancer is the most common cancer in both men and women in the northern part of Thailand especially in Lampang. This is probably due to native cigarette smoking. It is the most common cancer in males in all centers except in Khon Kaen.

Figure 2.10.1 Lung cancer in different regions, 1995-1997



The highest incidence rate in men is seen in Lampang (ASR = 53.5) followed by Chiang Mai (ASR = 36.5), Bangkok (ASR = 25.6), Khon Kaen (ASR = 19.9) and the lowest is observed in Songkhla (ASR = 13.6) (Figure 2.10.1).

In women, lung cancer ranks the first among all cancers in Lampang (ASR = 25.3), the second in Chiang Mai (ASR = 25.1) after cervical cancer (ASR = 25.4) and the fourth in Bangkok, Khon Kaen and Songkhla. The lowest incidence rate is seen in Songkhla in both males and females. Males are affected more than females, with male to female ratio varying between 1.4:1 in Chiang Mai and 2.6:1 in Bangkok.

Age-specific incidence rates in both males and females are higher in Chiang Mai and Lampang than in other regions. The majority of cases age above 45 in both males and females (Figure 2.10.2).

The percentage of histologically verified cases varies from 30.6% in Khon Kaen to 70.8% in Songkhla in men and from 34.0% to 68.0% in women. The percentage of death certificate only cases varies from 6.8% in Songkhla to 17.1% in Bangkok in men and from 3.9% to 13.3% in women (Table 2.10.1).

Figure 2.10.2 Age-specific incidence rates of lung cancer, 1995-1997

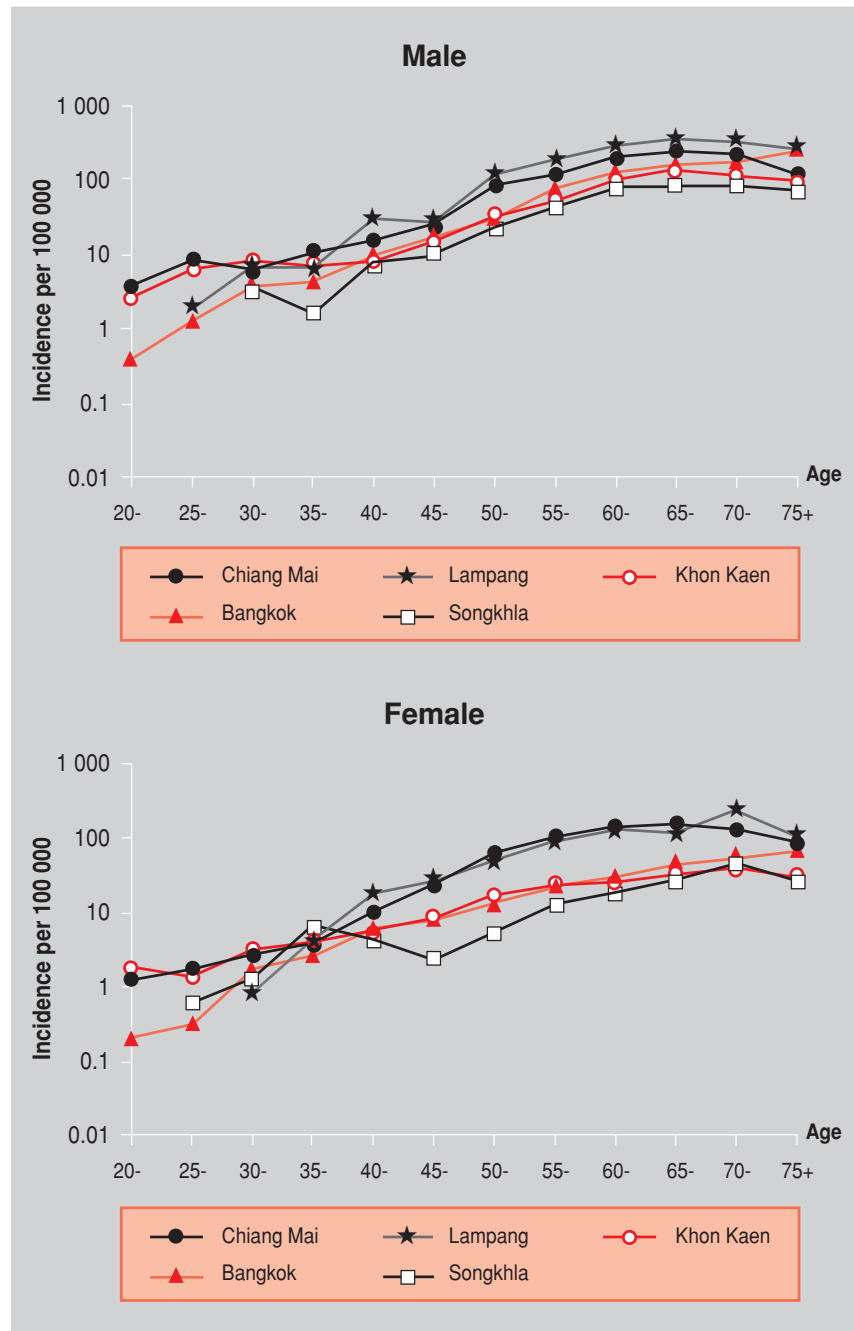


Table 2.10.1 Percentage of histologically verified and death certificate only cases, lung cancer

	1995-1997				1998-2000			
	% HV		% DCO		% HV		% DCO	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Chiang Mai	67.6	64.0	11.6	9.8	76.8	80.4	0.0	0.0
Lampang	65.2	63.3	9.9	10.4	65.1	67.9	17.2	15.1
Khon Kaen	30.6	34.0	10.2	8.0	35.9	40.2	0.5	1.8
Bangkok	58.8	62.0	17.1	13.3				
Songkhla	70.8	68.0	6.8	3.9	79.0	74.4	1.4	0.0

%HV = percentage of histologically verified cases, %DCO = percentage of death certificate only cases

Figure 2.10.3 Histological type of lung cancer

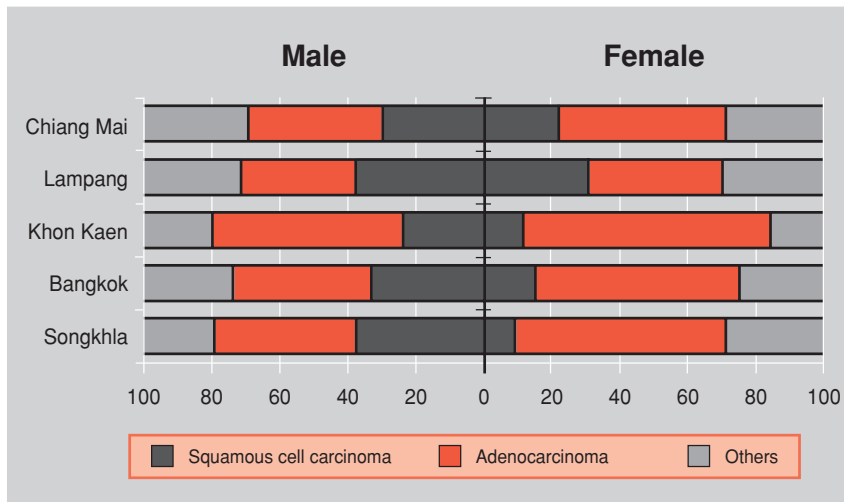
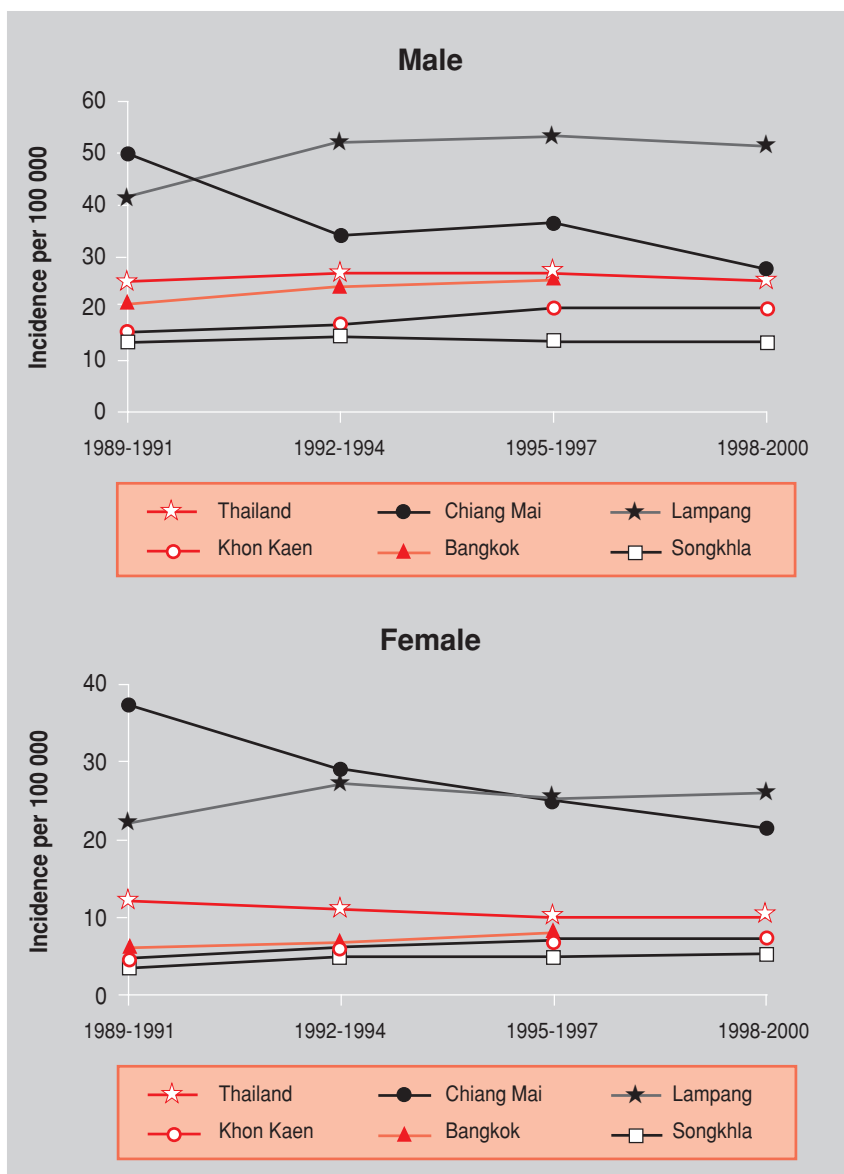


Figure 2.10.4 Trend in incidence of lung cancer



Although squamous cell carcinoma is slightly more frequent in men in Lampang, adenocarcinoma is commoner than squamous cell carcinoma in both males and females in all registries among cases with known histology. The proportion of adenocarcinoma varies from 33.5-56.8% in males and 39.7-72.5% among females. Squamous cell carcinoma is 23.4-37.8% of lung cancer in males and 11.8-30.8% in females (Figure 2.10.3).

Lung cancer in Lampang, Khon Kaen, Bangkok and Songkhla shows an upward trend in both males and females. Chiang Mai shows a downward trend in both men and women (Figure 2.10.4).