

Chapter II

18

URINARY BLADDER

ICD-10 C67

Hutcha Sriplung, M.D.

Incidence

As it is in other Asian populations, Thailand is among the low incidence countries for bladder cancer in comparison with western countries. The estimated incidence rate of bladder cancer in Thailand is 4.2 and 1.3 per 100 000 population in males and females respectively. In males, the highest incidence of bladder cancer is observed in Rayong (ASR = 7.0) while in females, Rayong and Chiang Mai have the highest incidence rate (ASR = 2.1; Figure 2.18.1). Since it is an uncommon cancer among females, the incidence rate is very low or not detectable in some provinces such as Nakhon Phanom and Prachuap Khiri Khan. Very low below the age of 45 years, the age-specific incidence rates of bladder cancer rapidly rise with age (Figure 2.18.2).

Risk factors

Tobacco smoking (Morrison *et al.*, 1984; Hartge *et al.*, 1987; Pelucchi, *et al.*, 2006) and certain occupational exposures, in particular to aromatic amines (IARC, 1982, 1987), have been implicated as the major causes of bladder cancer. The factor(s) responsible for the regional variations within Thailand is/are not certain. The relatively elevated incidence in Chiang Mai, Lampang, and Rayong might be related to the prevalence of smoking as well as to the presence of certain occupational exposure such as local handicraft and chemical related industries. Fruit and vegetable consumption was inversely related with bladder cancer in many studies (Pelucchi, *et al.*, 2006).

Figure 2.18.1 Urinary bladder cancer in different regions, 1998-2000

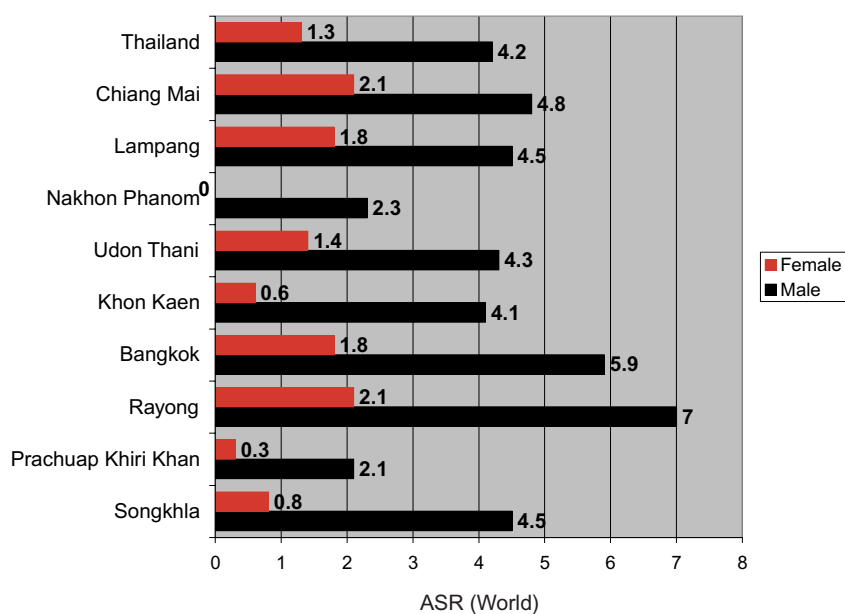


Figure 2.18.2 Age-specific incidence rates of urinary bladder cancer, 1998-2000

