

Chapter II

3

NASOPHARYNX

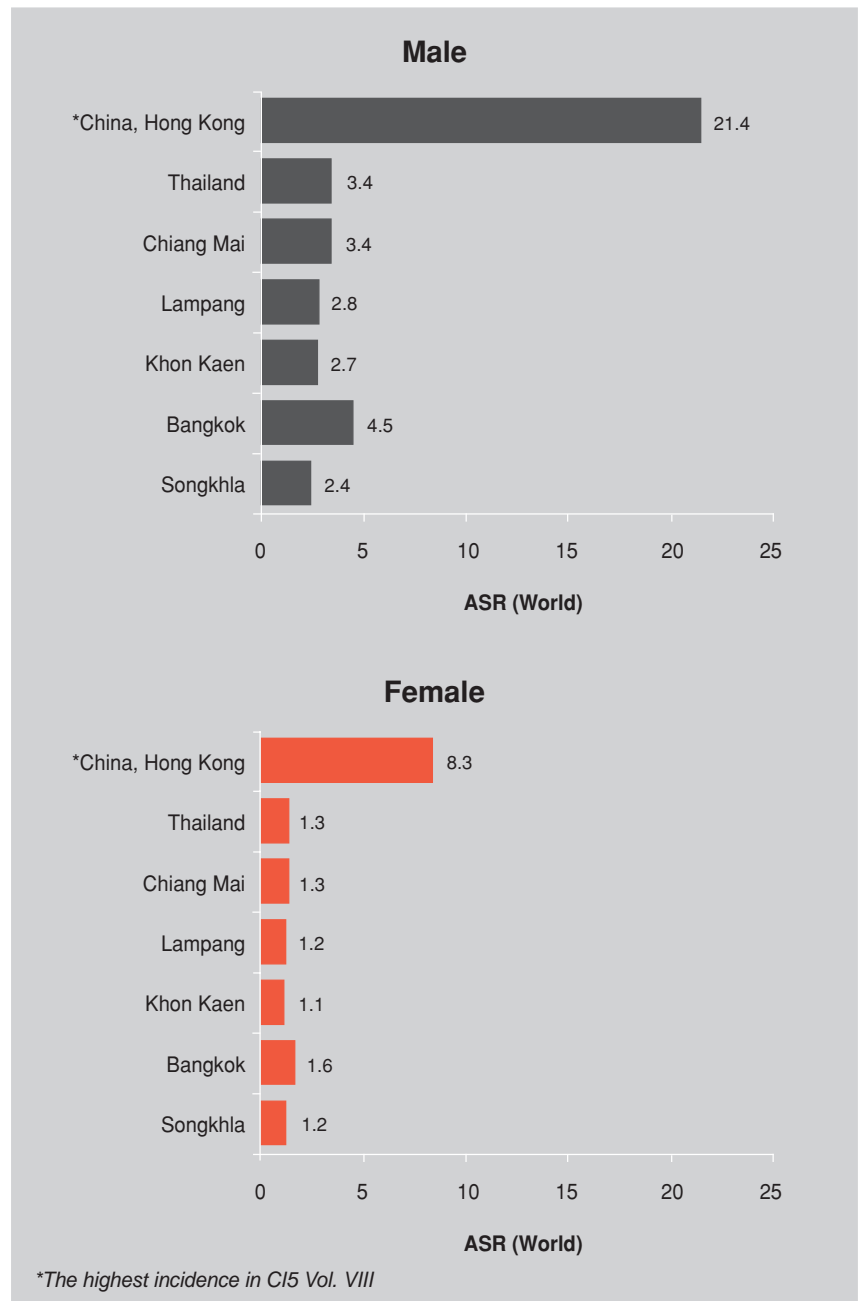
ICD-10 C11

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Nasopharyngeal cancer is the most common head and neck cancer in Thailand. The incidence of nasopharyngeal cancer is highest in both males and females in Bangkok with age-standardized rate of 4.5 per 100 000 male population and 1.6 per 100 000 female population (Figure 2.3.1). The lowest incidence rate is among females in Khon Kaen (ASR = 1.1). The age

distribution is similar in all registration sites (Figure 2.3.2). It starts rather early at 10-15 years old and rises gradually. The peak is not prominent but can be noted at age 60-65 in both males and females. There is high histologically confirmed percentage ranging from 91.7% in Chiang Mai in males to the lowest 72.7% among Khon Kaen in females. Death certificate

Figure 2.3.1 Nasopharynx cancer in different regions, 1995-1997



only in three registry sites are zero. The highest DCO is in Chiang Mai (7.1%) as shown in Table 2.3.1.

Trend in incidence of nasopharyngeal cancer is almost unchanged in both sexes (Figure 2.3.3).

It is well known that the etiology of nasopharyngeal cancer relates to particular ethnic groups especially in South China and Hong Kong. The ASR in Hong Kong is 21.4 for males and 8.3 for females. Incidence in Thailand is intermediate (3.6 in males, 1.2 in females).

Figure 2.3.2 Age-specific incidence rates of nasopharynx cancer, 1995-1997

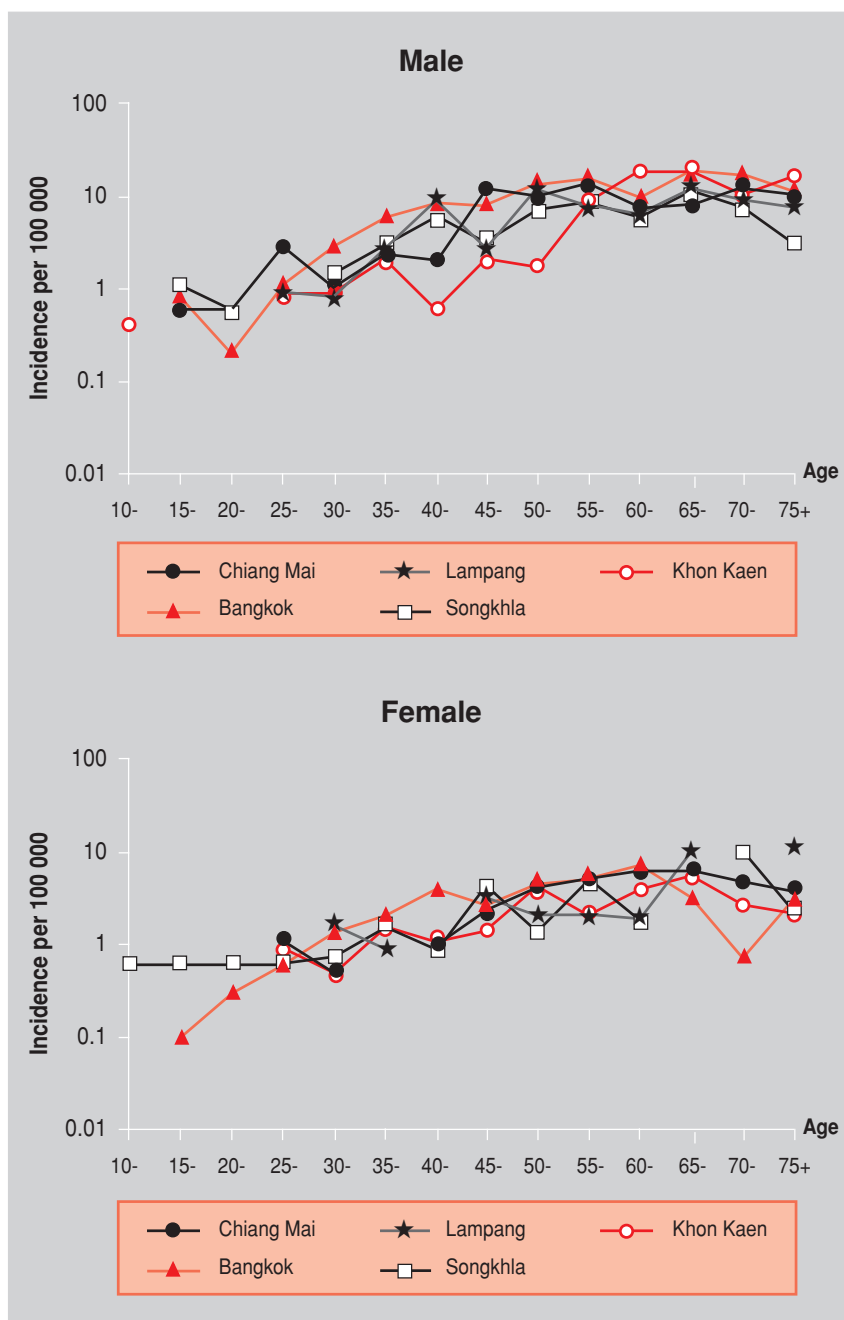


Table 2.3.1 Percentage of histologically verified and death certificate only cases, nasopharynx cancer

	1995-1997				1998-2000			
	% HV		% DCO		% HV		% DCO	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Chiang Mai	91.7	75.0	2.8	7.1	93.2	96.8	0.0	0.0
Lampang	83.3	82.4	0.0	0.0	85.2	81.0	0.0	0.0
Khon Kaen	84.3	72.7	0.0	0.0	83.1	80.6	0.0	0.0
Bangkok	83.1	88.2	1.7	2.0				
Songkhla	100.0	95.2	0.0	0.0	97.7	100.0	0.0	0.0

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

Figure 2.3.3 Trend in incidence of nasopharynx cancer

