Resource Constraints as a Barrier to Lung Cancer Management: Developing Nations

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• Disclosure

• Both Authors have no COI
Objectives/Methods

Resource constraints are a major barrier to lung cancer management, especially in ASIAN developing countries. The availability of data in these issues is very limited.

The survey was initiated in order to understand the situation of resource constraints in ASIAN developing nations.

A 17-item, self-administered, online questionnaire was developed and distributed to IASLC members in ASIAN countries in May-June 2013.

A questionnaire was composed of 2 sections: general information and specific information focusing on several issues related to resource constraints such as lagging period of new cancer drug approval, economic data submission, manpower, availability and accessibility to diagnosis and treatment, waiting time, and payment.
• RESULTS: PARTICIPANTS

• There are a total of 75 participants from 7 countries
• OUTCOMES

• Demographic Data
• Health Insurance Scheme
• Drug Lag period and Approval period
• Availability and Accessibility
• Waiting Time
Demographic Data
**Gender**

- China: Male 68.8, Female 31.3
- India: Male 92.9, Female 7.1
- Indonesia: Male 50.55, Female 50.55
- Malaysia: Male 100, Female 0
- Nepal: Male 100, Female 0
- Philippines: Male 25, Female 75
- Thailand: Male 64.3, Female 35.7

**Age**

- China: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
- India: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
- Indonesia: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
- Malaysia: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
- Nepal: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
- Philippines: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
- Thailand: ≤40, 41-50, 51-60, >60
• Health Insurance Scheme
Economic study submission

- China: 65.40%
- India: 66.70%
- Indonesia: 100.00%
- Malaysia: 25.00%
- Nepal: 0.00%
- Philippines: 33.30%
- Thailand: 54.50%
• Availability and Accessibility
• Waiting time
• Imaging study:
  – CT scan, MRI, PET scan, Bone scan
  – Mostly waiting time less than 2 weeks
  – This graph shows the percentage of imaging studies that take waiting times more than 2 weeks.
• Diagnostic procedures

• Diagnostic procedures: Availability < 2wk
  – Bronchoscopy 80.3%
  – Thoracentesis/Pleural Biopsy 80.3%
  – LN Biopsy 77.6%
  – Direct lung tap 76.7%
  – EUS 60.4%
  – EBUS 57.1%
  – VATS 44.4%
• Discussion

Several limitations needed to address in this survey

- First, due to a short survey period, we received responses from few respondents per each country.
- Second, some issues in the questionnaire might not elucidate to all respondents leading to inaccurate answer.
- Third, there was imbalance in the number of respondents and their subspecialties in each country.

However, we believe that our findings might have some benefit and encourage health care providers in ASIAN developing nations to improve their resource allocation.