

3.14 Lung Cancer in Women; A Growing Health Concern?

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Lung cancer is a serious women's health issue and kills more women annually than breast, ovarian and uterine cancers combined. The demographic makeup of lung cancer has evolved dramatically. According to literature, diagnosis of Lung Cancer in women is increasing with women more likely to be diagnosed at a younger age and earlier stage of disease. An increased incidence of adenocarcinoma has also been described.

We retrospectively analysed data of 808 primary Lung Cancer diagnoses in the Mercy University Hospital, Cork over a twelve-year period (2010-21). Over that timeframe, there was no increase in either the outright number of diagnoses in women or in the percentage in women as a fraction of the total annual incidence. There was no evidence of presentation in women at a younger age than males with a m. We identified that the percentage of women presenting with stage 4 disease was higher than in males. However, we are beginning to appreciate an increase in adenocarcinoma diagnoses in women.

Broadly, the data we have accumulated suggests a remarkably different trend in demographics compared to described literature. Further data collection and analysis would aid in better comprehending these findings.

Conflict of Interest: None to declare