Gastric Cancer – A Global Priority for Research and Action

Jin Young Park

Early Detection, Prevention, and Infections Branch, International Agency for Research on Cancer/World Health Organization, Lyon, France

Gastric Cancer has a large and growing burden worldwide due to population growth, aging, and adoption of unhealthy lifestyles. Geographical variations in gastric cancer incidence suggests a complex aetiology involving various modifiable risk factors. Infection with Helicobacter pylori is an established risk factor for gastric cancer, but much remains to be discovered about its aetiology and underlying mechanisms of development. At IARC we have conceptualized and implemented a wide range of complementary international gastric cancer epidemiological studies. These include large-scale randomized controlled clinical trials evaluating the role of *H. pylori* eradication with endoscopic follow-up and implementation studies on population-based *H. pylori* test-and-treat strategies. In addition, we are conducting global surveys of gastric cancer risk factors and collecting detailed data and biospecimens from populations at low or high gastric cancer risk to better understand the underlying burden of both, exposures, and the outcome, in a systematic way. More recently, we initiated a project exploring metabolic disturbances associated with gastric cancer development (Meta-GC) via application of untargeted LC-MS metabolomics. In this presentation, I will provide a brief introduction to the research projects led by IARC's Gastric Cancer Prevention Team.