



Original Article

10.3966/199457952021011501010

Development, Monitoring, and International Benchmarking of Quality Indicators for Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment: Lung Cancer, Colorectal Cancer, Breast Cancer, and Hepatoma

Hsiu-Ying Ku¹, Tsang-Wu Liu¹, Pi-Yu Chang², Chiao-Wen Huang²,
Yu-Tzu Tien¹, Shu-Chun Hsiao², Li-Ju Lin², Ying-Wei Wang²

¹ National Institute of Cancer Research, National Health Research Institutes

² Health Promotion Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare

Abstract

According to cause-of-death statistics published by Taiwan's Ministry of Health and Welfare in 2019, cancer has been the top cause of death for 38 consecutive years^[1]. Thus, cancer has been not only affecting the health of people but also causing substantial losses to the country, society, and family. To improve the quality of cancer diagnosis and care, the Health Promotion Administration (HPA) has successively implemented 11 core measurement indicators for cancer since 2004. Through regular analysis of these measurement indicators, the HPA monitors the quality of cancer care as well as promotes cancer prevention and treatment in various hospitals. Data analysis results showed that some indicators in Taiwan were more favorable than those used in Germany or the United States (e.g., lung cancer and colorectal cancer); however, some indicators can still be improved (e.g., breast cancer).

Keywords: cancer, quality indicators, health care quality