

This section of the journal serves to highlight the works and researches done by local doctors or doctors either in Brunei Darussalam or in collaborations with other centres that have been published in regional or international journals. This also includes works published as part of collaboration with centres outside of Brunei Darussalam. These works include review articles, original articles and case reports published between 15th December 2014 to 14th February 2015. (Some publications have been published or indexed at a later date after publication ahead of print).

Overexpression of EGFR protein in Bruneian lung cancer patients.

Han YH, Abdul Hamid MR, Telisinghe PU, Haji Hussin JB, Mabruk M.
Asian Pac J Cancer Prev. 2015;16(1):233-7.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Brunei Darussalam, accounting for almost 20% of the total. The epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) is a member of the erbB family of tyrosine kinase receptor proteins, which includes c-erbB2 (HER2/neu), erb-B3, and erb-B4. EGFR overexpression is found in a third of all epithelial cancers, often associated with a poor prognosis.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: Protein expression of EGFR in 27 cases of lung cancer tissue samples and 9 cases of normal lung tissue samples was evaluated using an immunohistochemical approach.

RESULTS: The results demonstrated significant increase and overexpression of EGFR in Bruneian lung cancer tissue samples in comparison to normal lung tissue. However, there was no significant relationship between clinicopathologic variables (age and sex) of patients and EGFR protein expression.

CONCLUSIONS: EGFR is overexpressed in Bruneian lung cancer patient tissue samples in comparison to normal lung tissue samples. This may indicate that EGFR protein over expression plays an important role in the genesis of this type of cancer in Brunei Darussalam.

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Stigma among workers attending a hospital specialist diabetes clinic. Stigma among workers attending a hospital specialist diabetes clinic.

Lee SM, Lim LC, Koh D.

Occup Med (Lond). 2015 Jan;65(1):67-71.

BACKGROUND: Stigma among sufferers of chronic diseases such as obesity, human immunodeficiency virus disease and mental health disorders has been studied. This study addresses stigma affecting workers with diabetes.

AIMS: To investigate diabetes-related stigma and associated factors in a group of workers receiving care in a Singapore diabetes outpatient clinic.

METHODS: Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) patients receiving subsidized care and holding full-time employment were consecutively recruited over 9 months. A questionnaire was individually administered by an interviewer.

RESULTS: One hundred and twenty-five participants were recruited. Fifteen, who reported experiencing stigma, had higher median hospitalizations compared with the rest of the study group (2 (interquartile range (IQR) 0-6) versus 0 (0-1.75), $P < 0.05$). They were more likely to report that their diabetes affected work (8 (53%) versus 25 (23%), $P < 0.05$); having heard others experience diabetes-related stigma (9 (60%) versus 33 (30%), $P < 0.05$) and that employment prospects were affected (6 (40%) versus 18 (16%), $P < 0.05$), as well as having higher HbA1c (9.5% versus 8.5%, $P > 0.05$). Fifty-three per cent (66) of respondents reported that work affected their diabetes. There was no significant difference between the stigma and non-stigma groups in age (mean 50 years), body mass index (BMI; mean 28kg/m²), diabetes duration (12 years) and insulin use.

CONCLUSIONS: Twelve percentage of employed T2DM outpatients reported experiencing stigma because of diabetes. This was associated with frequency of hospitalization (a surrogate for poorer health) and poorer diabetes control. Strategies to reduce stigma include optimizing diabetes control, patient support and educating employers to improve understanding of diabetes and its work implications.

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Note: Work done in oversea centre.

Extrahepatic biliary cystadenoma: a rare cause of biliary obstruction.

Metussin A, Telisinghe P, Kok K, Chong V.
Oman Med J. 2015 Jan;30(1):66-8.

ABSTRACT

Biliary cystadenoma is a rare tumor of the biliary tree and a rare cause of obstructive jaundice. Most are intrahepatic, and pure extrahepatic biliary cystadenoma is less common. Cases are more common in women. Unless suspected, diagnosis of extrahepatic biliary cystadenoma is often delayed. Here, we report the case of a young woman with extrahepatic biliary cystadenoma who presented at Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Hospital with obstructive jaundice initially thought to be due to a large biliary stone based on the endoscopic cholangiogram image. She was successfully managed with resection of the cystadenoma.

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Rectal bleeding from seeds impaction.

Metussin A, Mohamad MZ, Chong VH.
Turk J Gastroenterol. 2014 Dec;25(Suppl 1):S270-S271.

NO ABSTRACT

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