**EVIDENCE FOR DISPARITY IN CHINESE PATIENTS PRESENTING WITH NON-SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER**

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**BACKGROUND:** Chinese Americans (CA) represent one of the fastest-growing populations in the United States and are distinguished by socioeconomic status, health behavior and outcomes. Even though Asian Americans have been studied as a conglomerate group in lung cancer, there is evidence that lung cancer profiles may vary amongst the different Asian ethnicities. The purpose of this study was to compare the presentation, demographics, and treatment outcomes of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) in Chinese patients vs their Non-Hispanic Caucasian (NHC) counterparts at an institution serving a high volume of Chinese American patients.

**METHODS:** We retrospectively reviewed a prospectively managed cancer center database for all patients diagnosed with NSCLC at a single institution from January 2009 to December 2016.  Only patients with Chinese and non-Hispanic Caucasian (NHC) ethnicity were included. Patients with incomplete information were excluded. We compared demographic data including age, gender, smoking status, histology, and clinical stage.

**RESULTS:** A total of 442 CA and 540 NHC patients were included in the analysis. The CA patients were significantly younger than NHC patients (69 vs. 73 years, p<0.0001). No difference in distribution of gender between two groups. CA patients were also significantly more likely to be never-smokers (54% vs. 16%, p<0.0001) and with adenocarcinoma (81% vs. 64%, p<0.0001). CA patients more likely to present with stage IV disease and were more likely to undergo surgery (41.6% vs. 35.6%, p=0.006) compared to NHC patients.

**CONCLUSIONS:** In our experience, Chinese patients were more likely to be younger, never-smokers with adenocarcinoma when compared to their non-Hispanic Caucasian counterparts. Chinese patients present with a higher proportion of stage IV disease which highlights the disparity and the need for increased screening. The higher surgical rates seen in CA patients may reflect cultural biases in treatment and bears further investigation.

**CONTENT CATEGORY:** Epidemiology, Clinical Science

**KEYWORDS:** *Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer, Cancer Disparity, Chinese Population, Lung cancer screening*