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제		영문	Estimating Epidmiologic Parameters usig Korean National Health Insurance Data – Availability in the Global Burden of Disease Study for Cancers-				
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1. Specific Aims of the Study

Data of the Korean National Health Insurnce (KNHI) are increasingly used for epidemiologic studies, not to mention for the health policy and management researches. Widely known, but frequently forgotten things are that the KNHI data were not collected nor managed for such purposes. The authors attempted to suggest some ways in which the KNHI could be used for estimating epidemiologic parameters of some selected chronic diseases, as well as some possible pitfalls.

2. Methods

The authors reconstructed a cohort (n=1,208,371), representative of all Koreans, considering age and gender distribution, type of insurance. We followed this cohort for all medical claims between 1999 and early 2002. We first selected cancers for estimating epidemiologic index. We reorganized the data by the order of time and person, and restricted the cancer cases which were diagnosed more than twice in general hospital to enhance the validity

3. Results and Conclusions

We made a graph indicating possible prevalence level and incidence level. After a

	appropriate lag period indicated by this graph, we estimated incidence levels of cancers. The
	incidence levels estimated from KNHI data was slightly higher than those reported from the
	cancer registries in Korea.
	Considering the different validity of KNHI data by the diseases, as well as by the hospitals
	or characteristics of medical utilization, it would be hard to simply extend this method to
	other diseases. However with proper modification, we could wisely use the wealth of KNHI
	data for various purposes and levels of researches.
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