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제 목	Retrospective cohort study on alcohol consumption, liver function tests and risk of stomach cancer in Korea - The Health insurance and Life insurance network in Korea (HILINK) study					
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Purpose: Stomach cancer is the most common cancer among Koreans which could be prevented through screening program and identification of risk factors. An increased risk of gastric cancer associated with alcohol consumption has long been controversial, and the majority of available evidences on alcohol consumption and gastric cancer are based on case-control studies. We conducted a retrospective cohort study to examine the association between alcohol consumption and the risk of gastric cancer in Korea.

Methods: Exposure data used in this study are those of civil servants and school personnel of NHIC (National Health Insurance Corporation) collected between January, 1998 and December, 1998, and outcome data are from the life insurance companies collected between 1999 and 2001. 314,554 cases were generated by merging both data sets. This study subjects were followed up to June, 2003, and the follow up duration ranged from 0.5-5.5 years. Self-administered questionnaire survey was carried out to collect information about risk factors. Cochran Mantel Haenszel analysis was used to evaluate the factors associated with stomach cancer.

Results: No statistically significant association has been shown between the stomach cancer and frequency and amount of drinking. However, when the GOT is above 51, the age adjusted RR was 1.99 (95% CI; 1.17-3.43). Also, when the r-GT is above 64, the age adjusted RR was 1.76(95% CI; 1.05-2.93).

Conclusions: The study showed that alcohol consumption is not associated with stomach cancer, but elevated liver function tests is significantly associated with stomach cancer.