

Development of new on-line statistical program for the Korean Society for Radiation Oncology

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Purpose: To develop new on-line statistical program for the Korean Society for Radiation Oncology (KOSRO) to collect and extract medical data in radiation oncology more efficiently.

Materials and Methods: The statistical program is a web-based program. The directory was placed in a sub-folder of the homepage of KOSRO and its web address is <http://www.kosro.or.kr/asda>. The operating systems server is Linux and the webserver is the Apache HTTP server. For database (DB) server, MySQL is adopted and dedicated scripting language is the PHP. Each ID and password are controlled independently and all screen pages for data input or analysis are made to be friendly to users. Scroll-down menu is actively used for the convenience of user and the consistence of data analysis.

Results: Year of data is one of top categories and main topics include human resource, equipment, clinical statistics, specialized treatment and research achievement. Each topic or category has several subcategorized topics. Real-time on-line report of analysis is produced immediately after entering each data and the administrator is able to monitor status of data input of each hospital. Backup of data as spread sheets can be accessed by the administrator and be used for academic works by any members of the KOSRO.

Conclusion: The new on-line statistical program was developed to collect data from nationwide departments of radiation oncology. Intuitive screen and consistent input structure are expected to promote entering data of member hospitals and annual statistics should be a cornerstone of advance in radiation oncology.

Keywords: Statistics, On-line, Program, Database, Radiation oncology, KOSRO

Introduction

Statistics in medical science is important to ensure its quality of clinical practice and research because well-organized database is the cornerstone of medical advance. In the field of radiation oncology, nationwide statistical database is also so

important to handle and analyze number of installed radiation facilities, dedicated persons with any risk of radiation hazard or treated patients [1-3]. For the last two decades, the Korean Society for Radiation Oncology (KOSRO) has been developing in its volume, persons and quality and trying to develop well-designed nationwide statistics [4]. In 2001, KOSRO developed

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the first on-line statistic program and operated to collect data to analyze status of department of radiation oncology after then [5]. However, the environment in Internet was changed for a decade after launching of the 1st program, we have a necessity to develop the new system that is more efficient and user-friendly, and contain newly-updated contents.

We developed a new on-line statistical program to establish a unified and updated database system for collecting efficiently nationwide medical data of radiation oncology in the KOSRO.

Materials and Methods

This statistical system was developed by cooperative works with M2Comm Co. Ltd. (Seoul, Korea). We designed whole structure of this system and the company realized a Web-based program for the input and analysis.

1. System configuration

The statistical program is totally a Web-based program and merged into homepage of the KOSRO, <http://www.kosro.or.kr>. The directory of statistical input and analysis was placed to sub-folder of homepage of the KOSRO and its address is <http://www.kosro.or.kr/asda>. ASDA is abbreviation of the annual statistical data analysis. User can access to the statistical program by two ways: by clicking a link button of 'Annual Statistics' in homepage of the KOSRO or directly by typing designated address <http://www.kosro.or.kr/asda>. The operating of system server is the Linux and webserver software is the Apache HTTP server. The MySQL, most widely used open-source related database management system (RDBMS), is adopted for DB server and the PHP, a language for server-side scripting

or web development, was dedicated to develop this online statistical program (Fig. 1).

2. Login and operation

Each hospital and board member of KOSRO was independently given login ID and password to secure any information of each worker or facility. Administrator or personnel in the information committee of KOSRO can create new ID and password for newly constructed hospital anytime. Hospital ID was named as 'ro****' and started from ro001 in the order of alphabet of Korean character, Hangeul. ID for board member was separately named as 'bm****', but it has only a right to review analysis of data without any input or managing data. Information of hospital or board member was already entered into the user list by administrator before opening of statistical program. Pre-set ID and password by administrator was known to each hospital or board member through emailing by KOSRO executive office.

Login page is very simple with only window for entering ID and password and intro-page after login has all information and button for linking directly to sub-menu or sub-directory. Main page has 3 different part of system; bar menu to operate including input or analysis, table display to know status of data entering, and notice and information. Main page and all sub-directory was wholly composed and displayed to be friendly to user. Users access easily to all menus by clicking link button in centralized menu in main page of statistical program.

Results

The statistical program has two separate top menus: input of statistics and real-time analysis of entered statistics. First, in

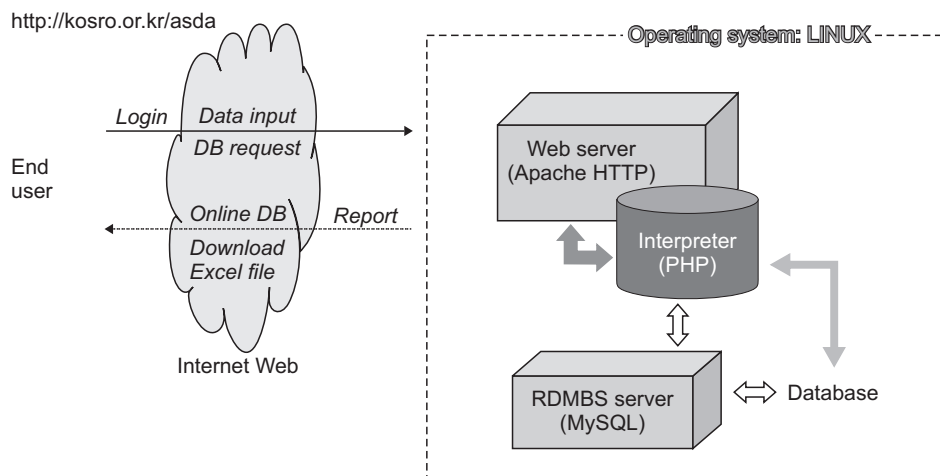


Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of new online statistical program. RDBMS, related database management system.

the folder of input of statistics, there is five independent sub-categories: human resource, equipment, clinical statistics, specialized treatment, and research achievement. Second, there is updated status of each statistics of five parts and additional information of member hospitals of the KOSRO in the folder of analysis of entered statistics.

Level of information to be accessed in statistical program is different by their position in the KOSRO. Administrator and assistant administrator of information committee has right to access fully and edit or update statistical program, and can access exclusively to the data backup composed by Excel sheet. Each hospital has an access right only to its own data input

2011년 2011년

인력현황 > 장비현황 > 임상통계 > 특수치료현황 > 연구현황 >

1. 전문의 (1 명) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	직위	성명	성별	전문의 번호	전문의 취득연도	근무계시일	비고
1	교수		남	001	선택	선택 - 선택	

추가 >

2. 전공의 (1 명) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	연차	성명	성별	의사면허번호	출신대학교	졸업년도	출생년도
1	4년차		여	12345		선택	선택

추가 >

3. 의학물리사 (1 명) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	직위	성명	성별	의학물리전문인번호	전문의 취득연도	근무계시일	최종 학력
1	교수		남	01	선택	선택 - 선택	선택

추가 >

Fig. 2. Human resource and year as one of top categories for data input.

2011년 2011년

인력현황 > 장비현황 > 임상통계 > 특수치료현황 > 연구현황 >

1. External Beam RT (총 1 개) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	분류	제조회사	모델	설치연도
1	Linear Accelerator	Varian	TrueBeam STx	선택

추가 >

2. Brachytherapy (총 1 개) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	분류	제조회사	모델	설치연도	Source
1	HDR	Nucletron	Microselectron-HDR	선택	선택

추가 >

3. Simulation (총 1 개) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	분류	제조회사	모델	설치연도
1	CT-sim	Philips	선택	선택

추가 >

4. RTP (Radiation Therapy Planning) & OIS (Oncologic Information System) (총 1 개) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	분류	제조회사	모델	설치연도
1	RTP	Accuray	선택	선택

추가 >

5. Special Devices (총 1 개) 연도선택 > 가져오기 >

No.	분류	제조회사	모델	설치연도
1	선택	선택	선택	선택

추가 >

Fig. 3. Equipment of radiation oncology.

and analysis. Board member has no right to enter data, but can access to all analysis or results of entered statistics.

Year of data is one of top category of entering data for the convenience of users. In the top each page of data input, user can change designated year at any time. As year changes, all sub-categories should be changed according to already entered data and user can call data at any year previously entered. This system can minimize labor to enter repeated data that is not changed from last year (Fig. 2).

1. Human resource

Human resource or manpower is composed of three items: specialist, resident, and physicist. Specialist is defined as a radiation oncologist who has board certificate of radiation oncology and includes staff physician and clinical fellows. Resident is a person in training position in each certified course of residency course to be a radiation oncologist. Item of physicist has a few different contents from those of medical

doctor, but has the same input system (Fig. 2). All contents are made with scroll-down menu as many as possible.

2. Equipment

Equipment category has five items: external beam radiation therapy (RT), brachytherapy, simulation, radiation therapy planning (RTP) & oncologic information system (OIS), and special devices. All contents can be entered by scroll down menu and direct typing input is also permitted (Fig. 3). However, selection in scroll-down menu is recommended if possible for uniform data analysis.

3. Clinical statistics

The third category is clinical statistics. This category permits two different level of data input for number of yearly treated patient. User can enter only total number of patients of each classification or each number of patients according to detailed classification. If he or she wants to enter number as detailed

2011년 2011년

인력현황 > 장비현황 > **임상통계** > 특수치료현황 > 연구현황 >

분류	상세분류	신원수 (<input type="text"/> 명)
뇌 및 중추신경계	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
- 성상세포종 (Astrocytoma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 다형성 아교모세포종 (Glioblastoma Multiforme)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 회소돌기아교세포종 (Oligodendroglioma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 회소성상세포종 (Oligoastrocytoma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 뇌실막세포종 (Ependymoma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 수막종 (Meningioma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 뇌하수체 선종 (Pituitary adenoma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 원발성 중추신경계림프종 (PCNSL)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 뇌줄기 신경아교종 (brain stem glioma)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 척수종양 (Spinal cord tumor)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 말초신경종양 (Peripheral nerve tumor)		<input type="text"/> 명
- 기타 중추신경계 종양		<input type="text"/> 명
두경부	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
흉부	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
유방	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
소화기	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
부인과	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
비뇨기	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
피부	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
혈액	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
육종	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
소아 (기준 : 18세)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
전이성	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> 명
양성질환		<input type="text"/> 명
원발부위 미상 (두경부 제외)		<input type="text"/> 명
기타		<input type="text"/> 명

Fig. 4. Clinical statistics.

classification, the box of detailed classification should simply be checked and new sub-list will be opened (Fig. 4).

4. Specialized treatment

Specialized treatment is separated from clinical statistics and comprises five items: stereotactic radiation therapy (radio-surgery or SABR), intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), respiratory-gated radiation therapy, brachytherapy, and proton or particle therapy. This category needs to enter total number of yearly treated patients by specific treatment methods.

5. Research achievement

Research achievement is divided by three items: clinical radiation oncology, radiation biology, and radiation physics. User can enter number of articles of accepted for publication in domestic or international journal in a year. Users can analyze yearly increase or decrease of publication of their hospital or institute.

6. On-line report of analysis

Analysis of entered data is reported on the website in real-time. All report has the same structure and hierarchy with

that in categories of entering data. Users can select year and province to manage report setting directly in designated page and system reflects immediately it to report of analytical results. Statistical status view is also divided into five categories and an additional status of the KOSRO (Fig. 5).

7. Management of data input

This function is prepared for administrator to figure out and manage progress of entering data from each hospital and so cannot be found in client user mode. Real-time status of data input in each category of all hospitals is reflected by graphics in a table.

8. Backup of data as spread sheet

This function is also exclusively accessed by administrator or assistant administrator of information committee. The operation is the same with that of on-line report system and its data should be changed when the year or province box is checked or not. Spread sheet, basically Excel file, is produced by order and can be downloaded to local computer (Fig. 6). Data of each hospital, each province or all nation-wide hospitals can be produced. Download of spread sheet can be done by administrator, but all members of KOSRO can use this result



Fig. 5. On-line report of analysis.

백업

2015년 2014년 2013년 2012년 2011년 2010년 2009년
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 1987년 1986년 1985년 1984년 1983년 1982년 1981년
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 1973년 1972년
 강원 경기 경남 경북 광주 대구 부산 서울
 울산 인천 전남 전북 제주 충남 충북 학회

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병원명	연력평가	장비현황	임상통계	특수치료현황	연구현황
가천의대 결핵원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강남성심병원 (한림의대)	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강남세브란스병원 (연세의대)	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강동경희대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강동성심병원 (한림의대)	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강릉아산병원 (울산의대)	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강북성심병원 (성균관의대)	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
강원대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
건국대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
건양대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
경북대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
경상대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
경희대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
계명대 동산의료원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
고려대구로병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
고려대안산병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
고려대안양병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
고신대 복음병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
국립암센터	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
국립중앙의료원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
국민건강보험공단 일산병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
단국대병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄
대구가톨릭병원	📄	📄	📄	📄	📄

Fig. 6. Downloadable spreadsheet for data backup.

with a permission of KOSRO.

Discussion and Conclusion

It is impossible to emphasize the importance of management of data generated by medical activity or patient information in excess. Most new medical progress or achievements are based on any past experience or work. Bioinformatics comes recently into many fields of sciences including medicine and its creativity in new era is explosively growing to find new concept or target. However, if there is no basic or big data of medical experience, further progress using informatics system is a house built on the sand.

The history of modern radiation oncology in Korea is relatively short compared with those of other specialties and generated medical data were kept well to date from old times. Some institutes or hospitals have been operating its unique computerized management system from the beginning and those data can easily be converted to other system without any additional work. However, main problem to establish nation-wide collection of data comes from any difference in method of data collection, items of contents, terminology or

naming of equipment, and many others.

The KOSRO has been trying to unify many differences in collecting data between hospital and developed web-based data management system formerly. For a last decade, we actively collect and used medical data produced by it. However, a desire to upgrade the established system came up because of many changes in environment of clinical practice for radiation oncology and started this project to develop new on-line statistical program to enhance the efficiency of data input or sampling.

This newly developed on-line statistical program shares its hierarchy and contents with old data management system. However, new system is more focused on convenience of user of the KOSRO and has better stratified structure for data input. This new program also realizes the real-time provision of entered data on web site as a form of datasheet and can give us an Excel spreadsheet for processing as an invaluable material. New online program is placed in the subfolder of the homepage of the KOSRO and so can be easily accessed by client and efficiently managed by administrator.

Based on new on-line program for data input and sampling for the KOSRO, we can collect many worthy data from each

institute or hospitals and furthermore expect them be able to be converted or processed as an invaluable materials for advancing radiation oncology.

In conclusion, new on-line statistical program is developed to collect data from nationwide departments of radiation oncology. Its function and operation was updated and its motto is the user-friendly and convenience. Intuitive screen and consistent input structure is expected to promote entering data of member hospital. Annual statistics produced by this new on-line statistical program can be a cornerstone of advance in radiation oncology and the KOSRO.

Conflict of Interest

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

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