

Babylon University – College Of Medicine
Department of Community Medicine

*Lectures in Community Medicine
For 4th Stage Students
By Dr. Hassan Baiee
2010 – 2011*

Lecture 30

Epidemiology of Lung Cancer

It is the commonest cancer among males worldwide and in our country as well, incidence of lung cancer is increasing in developing countries and decreasing in developed countries.

Risk factors:

A- Host risk factors:

Males are at higher risk due to smoking and occupational exposure.

Habit: lung cancer is positively related to smoking, the occurrence of lung cancer in females is detected nowadays due to increasing cigarette smoking habits among females.

Residence: increased in urban areas than rural ones.

B- Environmental risk factors:

Air pollution by exhausts of vehicles and industry.

Industrial exposure to asbestos dust, arsenic and chromate.

Prevention:

1- Antismoking program.

2- National efforts must be made to minimize air pollution

3- Reduction of occupational exposure.

Control:

- Early case detection
- Increase the health awareness.
- Efficient health services.
- Screening tests: radio diagnosis, sputum cytology, any adult male over the age of 40 and has chronic cough for two weeks and not responds to

treatment should be considered lung cancer until proved otherwise. It is better to exclude cancer than to diagnose it lately.