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LUNG CANCER SURVIVAL - A SINGLE INSTITUTION EXPERIENCE

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Objective: Introduction: Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death worldwide. West-european rates of 1-year survival are around 32%, and 5-year survival around 9%. 1-year survival for lung cancer is highest for patients diagnosed at stage I, and lowest for those diagnosed at stage IV. 83% of patients diagnosed at stage I survived their disease for at least one year, versus 17% of patients diagnosed at stage IV. Lung cancer survival is higher in women than men at one- and five-years. Here we present our Department's survival data.

Methods: Medical records of the patients diagnosed with lung cancer in Clinical hospital center Zagreb, Department for respiratory diseases Jordanovac during the year 2012 were retrospectively collected and reviewed. Baseline data were reported using descriptive statistics. Survival analysis was measured and analyzed using the Kaplan-Meier and log-rank test.

Results: During the year 2012 there were 661 patients diagnosed with lung cancer in our Department. 482 (73%) were men with median age at diagnosis 64 (37-90). 266 (40%) of the patients were current smokers, while a history of smoking was reported in 307 (46%) of the patients. Total lifetime amount smoked varied from 2 to 200 pack/years in the smokers, with median 41 pack/years. The most predominant histological type was adenocarcinoma (287 patients, 43%), followed by squamous cell carcinoma (185; 28%) and microcellular carcinoma (79; 12%). Median overall survival (mOS) for all diagnosed lung cancer patients was 9 months. 1-year survival for all lung cancer patients is 39%, and 5-year survival is 8.1%. Female patients had significantly better survival rates. 1-year survival for female patients is 46% versus male patients 37%. 5-year survival rate for female patients is 11% versus male patients 7%. Divided by stage, the best survival had patients diagnosed in

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stage I – 81%, versus stage IV – 25%. 5-year survival for stage I patients is 57%, versus very modest 2.2% for stage IV.

Conclusion: We presented survival data from our Department which are similar to western european data. Although patients diagnosed in early stages have good prognosis, the ones diagnosed with stage IV have very modest survival rates. All efforts should be made to diagnose lung cancer in earlier stages of the disease.