



## HP-26: Methods of screening and biotechnological diagnosis of pancreatic cancer: epidemiological study in eastern Algeria

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**Subject description:** Even the huge advancements in diagnostic modalities and treatment, pancreatic cancer is still the most lethal common solid tumor, with an overall 5 years survival rate of less than 10%. Its poor prognosis is due mainly to difficulties in detection and its late appearance.

**Objectives:** Our purpose is to evaluate the place of diagnostic tools in screening of pancreatic cancer in the East of Algeria.

**Methods:** To achieve this objective, we conducted a retrospective epidemiological study of 57 patients diagnosed with pancreatic cancer between 2013/2022 in the department of surgery of Constantine.

**Results and discussion:** The study indicates a male predominance with sex ratio of 1.59, with an average age of 61.88 years. Median body mass index was 22.57 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. 74% of patients had Computed Tomography (CT) scan and 26% of a Bili-Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in addition to an abdominal ultrasound. Thus, a dose of Carcinoembryonic Antigen (CA 19-9) was performed for 51% of patients.

The use of Carcinoembryonic Antigen levels and imaging techniques is not optimal for detecting early stages pancreatic cancer and small metastases of peritoneal lesions. Having knowledge about novel biomarkers of pancreatic cancer can be very helpful for early detection and better intervention.

**Conclusion:** In fact, recent advances in biotechnology such as Next generation sequencing (NGS) have broken such restrictions and have created new hopes in early diagnosis and identifying high risk pancreatic cancer patients. Also, it has opened new opportunities to investigate pivotal events essential pancreatic tumorigenesis and to identify large number of gene mutations seen in pancreatic cancer.

**Keywords:** Pancreatic cancer, Diagnostic tools, Biotechnology, Next Generation Sequencing.