

中文題目：從全民健保分析 1997 至 2002 年住院病人發生心房顫動的發生率，年齡的分布及性別差異

英文題目：Incidence, Age Distribution, and Gender of Hospitalized Patients with Atrial Fibrillation in Taiwan, a Nationwide Experience from 1997 to 2002

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Background: Atrial fibrillation (AF) is the most common sustained heart rhythm disturbance in humans. Much of our knowledge of AF is based on predominantly Western cohort studies. However, sparse nationwide epidemiological data in Asian countries have been reported.

Objective. Age, gender, comorbidities, and race influence the occurrence of AF. The data from regional hospitals or referral-based centers has a bias. We analyze epidemiological features of AF in Taiwan according to nationwide health database.

Methods. Since the implementation of Taiwan's National Health Insurance (NHI) in 1995, NHI has covered health care for 96.3% its population (around 22.6 millions). The patients with discharge-diagnosed AF were collected from the NHI database from 1997 to 2002. We investigated epidemiological features of AF between male and female patients.

Results. Of enrollees with available analyzable data (N=162340), the mean age was 73.8 (± 11.6) years, and the overall male-to-female incidence ratio was 1.22 to 1. The

trend of the admission with AF had no seasonal variability. The mean annual incidence was 129 per 100000 habitants. In addition, the significant 65% increase in hospitalizations with AF between 1997 and 2002 was found. The most frequent associated conditions were elderly age (81%), congestive heart failure (23.8%), ischemic heart disease (21.4%), systemic hypertension (14.8%), and valvular heart diseases (14.8%). The overall prevalence of cerebrovascular accidents was 16.2%. The female patients were more elderly and had more proportion of congestive heart failure and valvular heart diseases. However, there was no significant gender difference associated in-hospital mortality.

Conclusions. This is the first reported Asian nationwide study to demonstrate epidemiological features of hospitalized patients with AF. Patients with AF were frequently observed in elderly male populations. During the 6-year study period, the mean annual incidence of patients hospitalized with AF was 129 per 100000 inhabitants. The 65% increase in annual incidence of AF between 1997 and 2002 was amazing. Therefore, primary and secondary preventive strategies against AF are very important issues.