Title: Sociodemographic gradients in breast and cervical cancer screening in Korea: Korean National Cancer Screening Survey (KNCSS) 2005-2009

Authors:

Mi Jin Park (ppashaq@ncc.re.kr)
Eun-Cheol Park (ecpark@ncc.re.kr)
Kui Son Choi (kschoi@ncc.re.kr)
Jae Kwan Jun (jkjun@ncc.re.kr)
Hoo-Yeon Lee (hoo@ncc.re.kr)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Editor-in-Chief,

**Title:** Sociodemographic gradients in breast and cervical cancer screening in Korea

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “Sociodemographic gradients in breast and cervical cancer screening in Korea”.

The National Cancer Screening Program (NCSP) provides screening services free of charge for Medicaid enrollees and National Health Insurance participants with a premium below 50% to reduce the effects of household income on breast and cervical cancer screening participation. NCSP subsidizes 90% for people with NHI with a premium over 50%. The cancer screening rates in Korea have increased steadily. Despite the overall increase in the screening rate, disparities in breast and cervical cancer screening based on sociodemographic characteristics still exist. It is important to assess disparities in between sociodemographic characteristics and breast and cervical cancer screening among women in Korea.

The findings of this study contribute to our understanding of the sociodemographic characteristics associated with the use of breast and cervical cancer screening. We found that married marital status, higher educational level, rural residence, and private health insurance were significantly associated with higher rates of breast and cervical cancer screening after adjustment for age and sociodemographic factors. However, household income was not shown to be significantly associated with mammograms or Pap smears. Government support such as NCSP might have reduced the effects of household income on breast and cervical cancer screening participation.

The content of the manuscript is original and it has not been published or accepted for publication, either in whole or in part, in any form. No part of the manuscript is currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Sincerely yours,

Hoo-Yeon Lee, M.D., Ph.D.
National Cancer Control Research Institute, National Cancer Center, 111, Jungbalsan-ro, Ilsandong-gu, Goyang-si, Gyeonggi-do, 410-769, Korea
Tel: +82-31-920-2915,2180; Fax: +82-31-920-2189; E-mail: hoo@ncc.re.kr