

# **Cholangiocarcinoma: Epidemiology & Aetiology**

## **What don't we know & how can we find out?**

**Shahid A Khan**

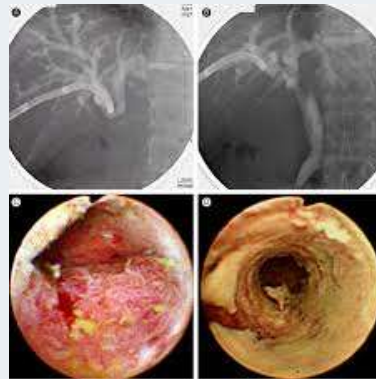
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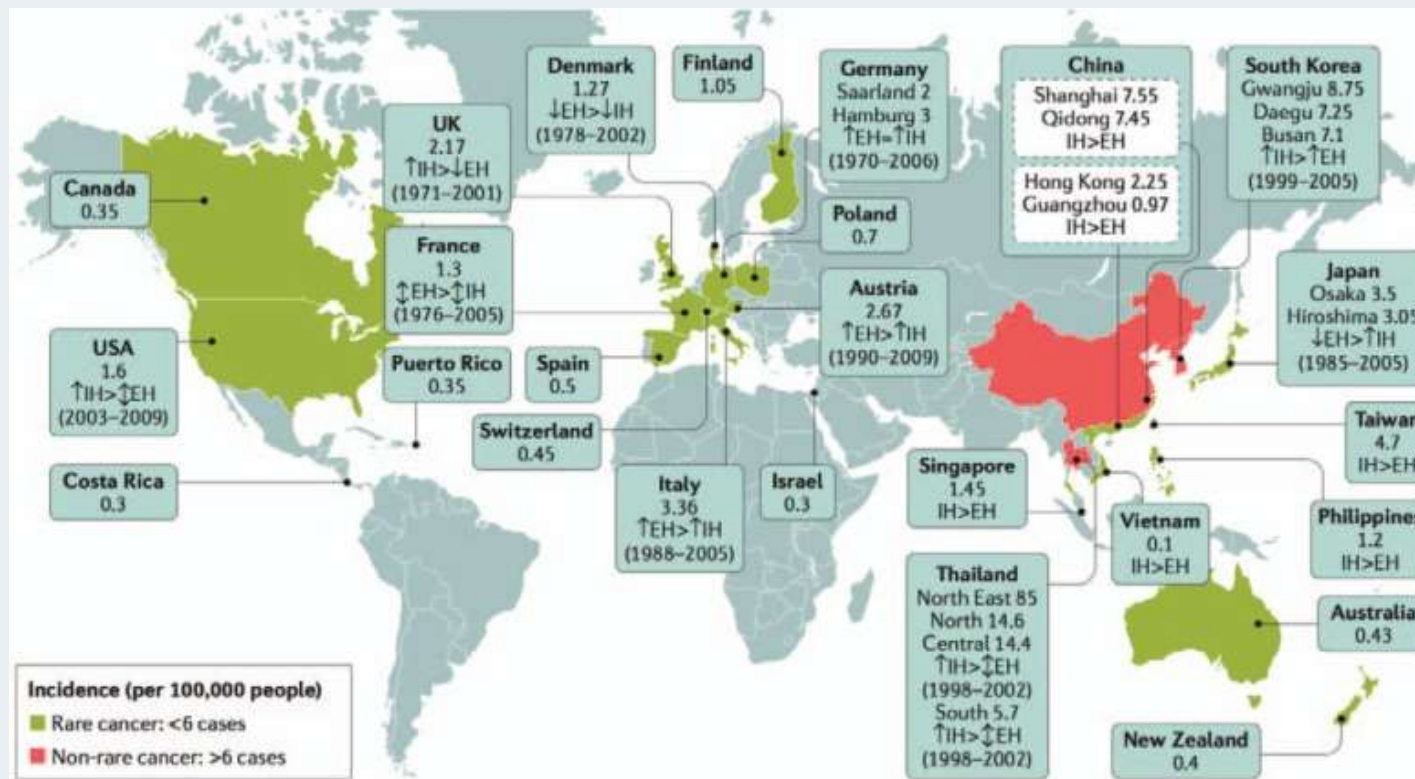
**7<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
**London**



# Cholangiocarcinoma (CCA)

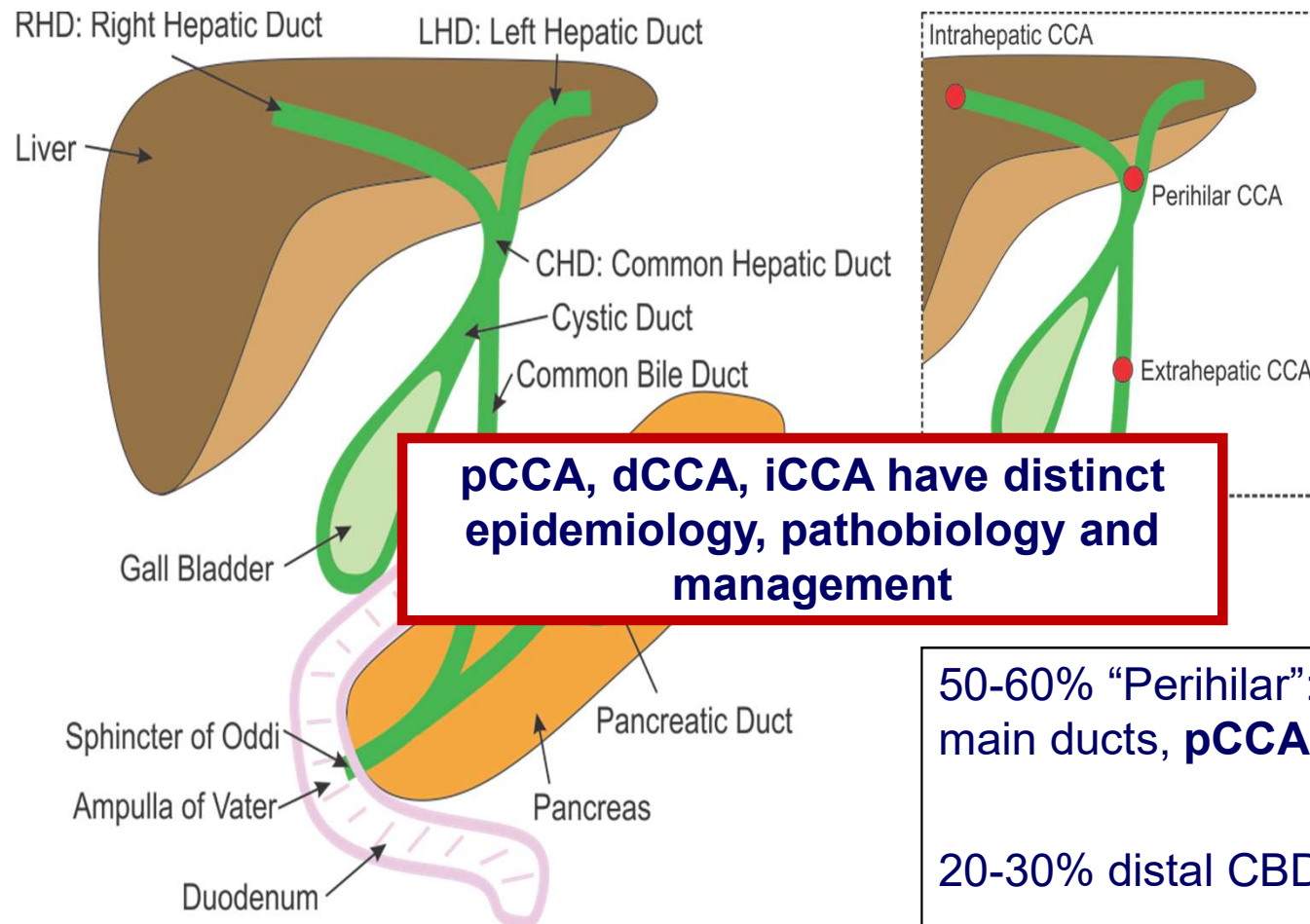


- Second commonest primary liver tumour after HCC
- Up to 10% of all primary liver cancers
- Peak age seventh decade
- Slight male preponderance
- **Overall 5 year survival 5%**



ENS-CCA consensus statement. *Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2016

## Cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) sub-types: Intrahepatic/ Perihilar/ Extrahepatic

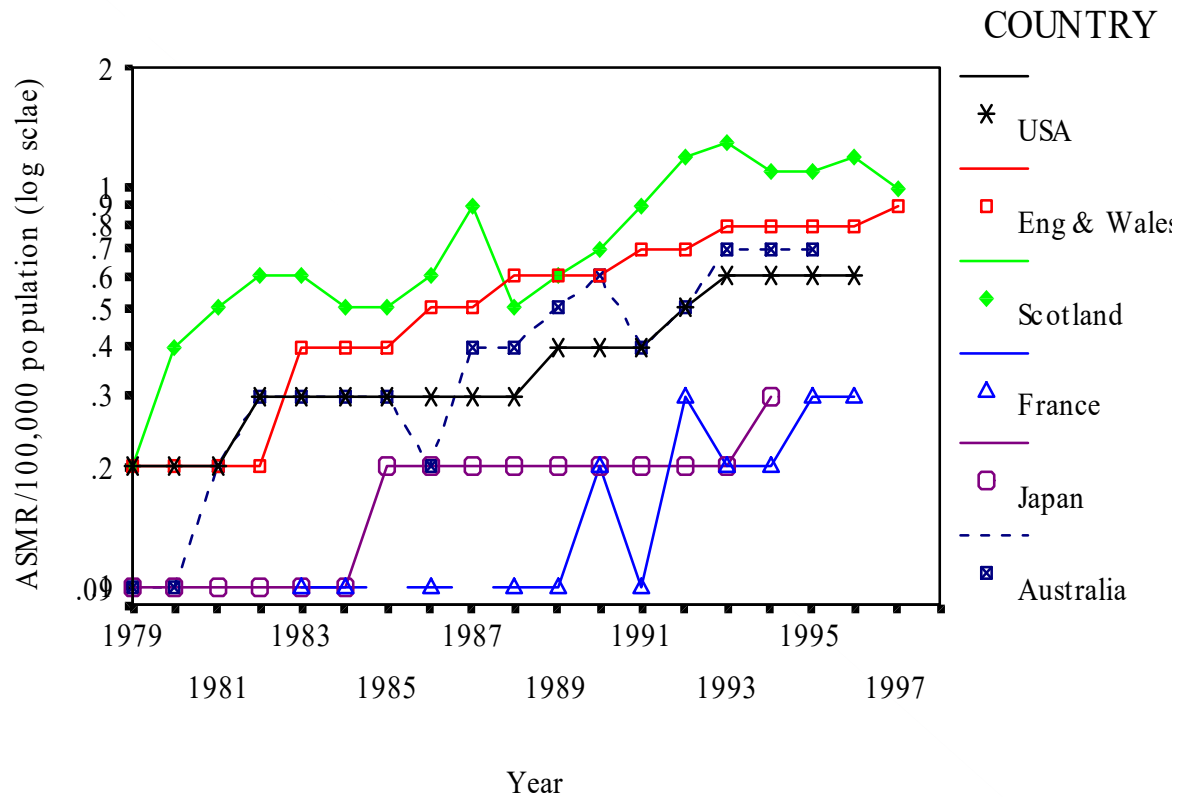


50-60% "Perihilar": arise at bifurcation of main ducts, **pCCA**

20-30% distal CBD, **dCCA**

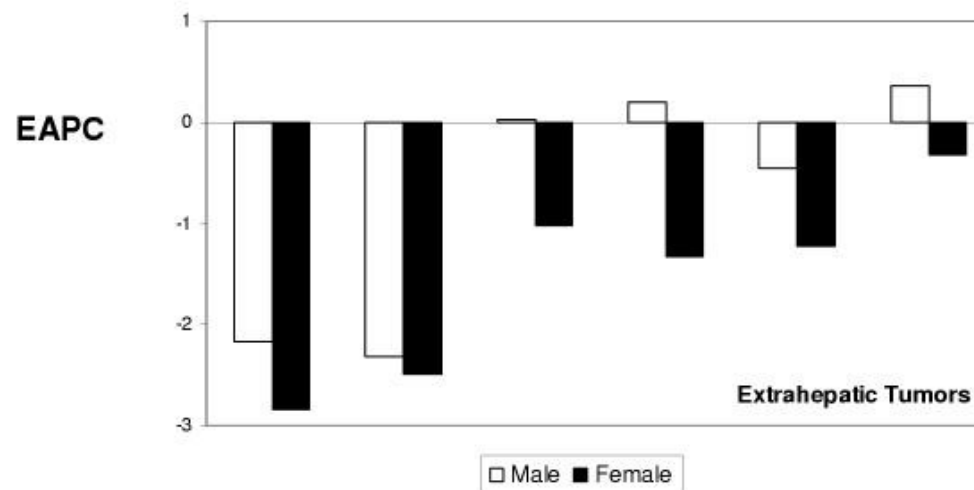
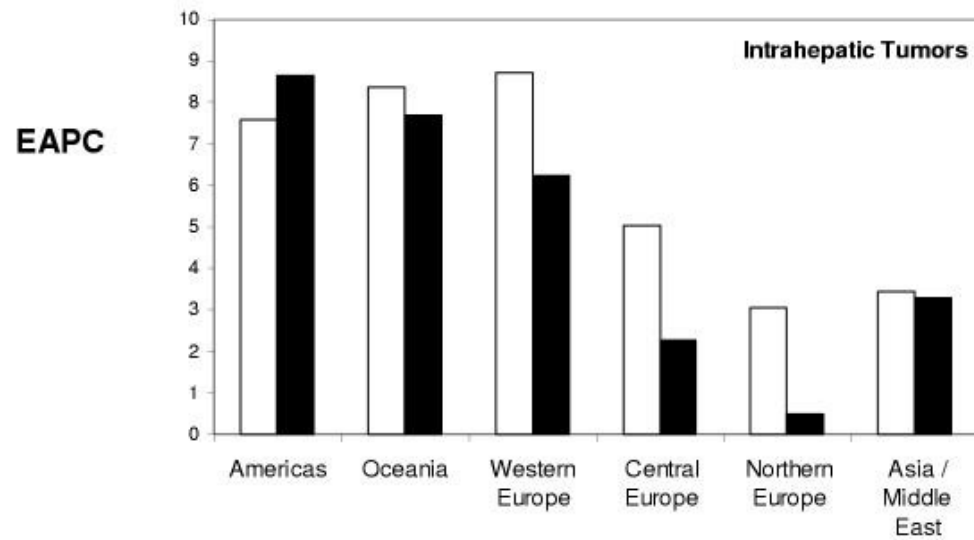
10-20% arise in intrahepatic ducts, **iCCA**





Internationally increasing age standardized mortality rates (ASMR) for intrahepatic CCA in men

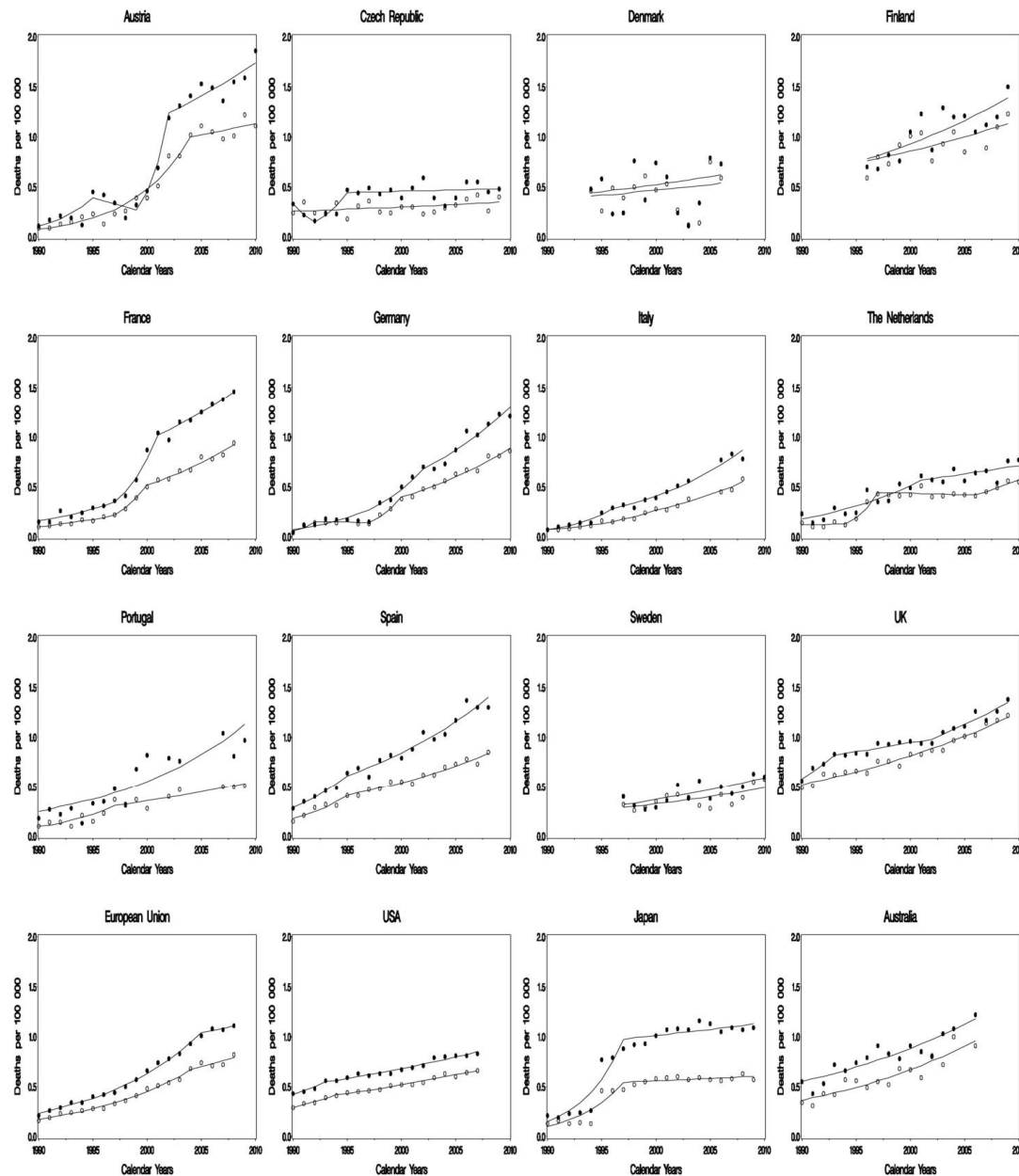
Khan *et al.* J Hepatol 2002



Global mean estimated annual % change (EAPC) in ASMR from

- IHBT (top)
- and
- gall bladder + EHBT (bottom)

Patel T *BMC Cancer* 2002



**Intrahepatic CCA ASMR  
increased 9% in M & F,  
1990-2008 to:**

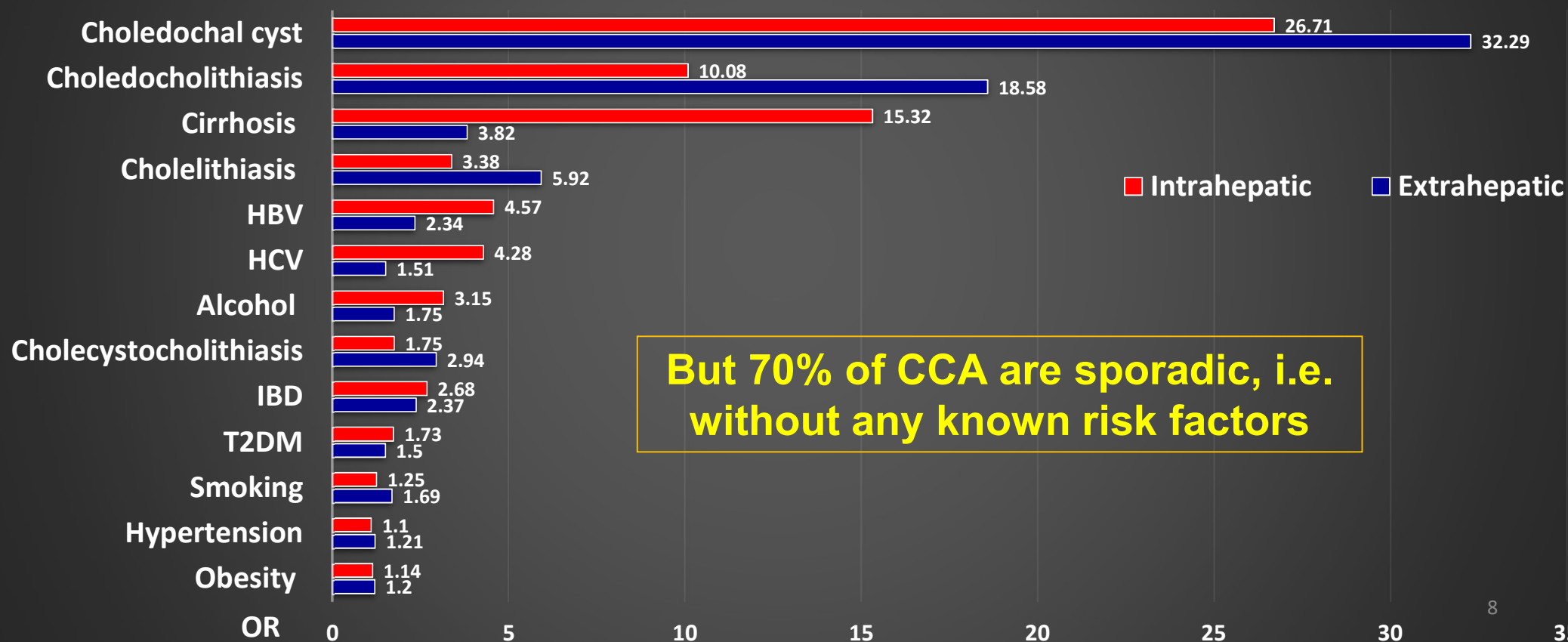
**1.1/100,000 M  
0.75/100,000 F**

**Highest rates in UK,  
Germany, and France  
(1.2–1.5/100,000 M,  
0.8–1.1/100,000 F)**

*Bertuccio P et al. Ann Oncol 2013*

Meta-analysis of Risk factors for Intrahepatic & Extrahepatic CCA;  
*Clements O, Eliahoo J & Khan SA (manuscript in prep), 25 studies, ILCA 2018*

## Summary of pooled ORs



**Intrahepatic CCA rates are increasing**

**Extrahepatic CCA rates are decreasing**

**Overall, CCA is increasing**

**Is it really iCCA that's increasing? Or pCCA? Or dCCA?**

**Better diagnosis? Awareness? Coding changes?**

## Current coding systems do NOT accurately record CCA data

- ICD-10 list all known medical diagnoses, cancer and non-cancer
- WHO owns ICD-10 & updates, next (ICD-11) is due out 2019/20
- IARC, Lyon, is the specialized cancer agency of the WHO
- ICD-10 (and ICD-11) list **topography** codes, which describe the **anatomical** site of origin of a tumour, and updates every few years
- IARC: separate ICD for Oncology (ICD-O) exists for cancers only, consists of **two coding** systems, which together describe the tumour:
  - **topographical** code: describes anatomical site of tumour, and
  - **morphological** code: describes cell type/histology of tumour, and if malignant or benign
- ICD editions change every few years and are adopted by countries at different times



## Coding of (Peri)Hilar (Klatskin) CCA: Intrahepatic or Extrahepatic?

**Hilar/Klatskin CCA are extrahepatic but are not specifically differentiated in routine data**

### ICD-O-1:

- “Klatskin” CCA not assigned specific morphology/histology code & could be classed as intra (C22.1) or extrahepatic (C24.0)

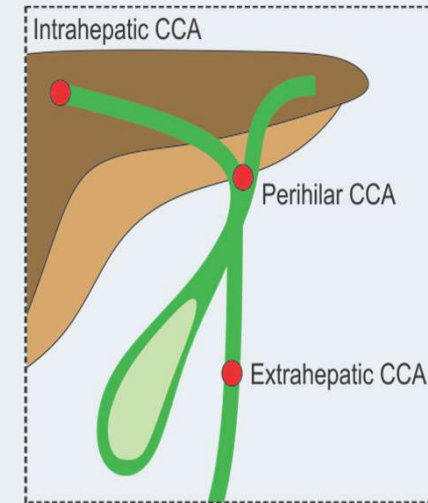
### ICD-O-2:

- Klatskin CCA given unique histology code, 8162/3, BUT this was **cross referenced to topography code for intra-** NOT extrahepatic CCA
- ICD-O-2 adopted in USA 1991; Eng & Wales 1995

### ICD-O-3:

- Klatskin CCA (8162/3) cross referenced to intra *or* extrahepatic
- ICD-O-3 adopted in USA 2001; UK 2008

**So, perihilar CCA may have been misclassified in ALL versions of ICD-O, esp to intrahepatic during ICD-O2**

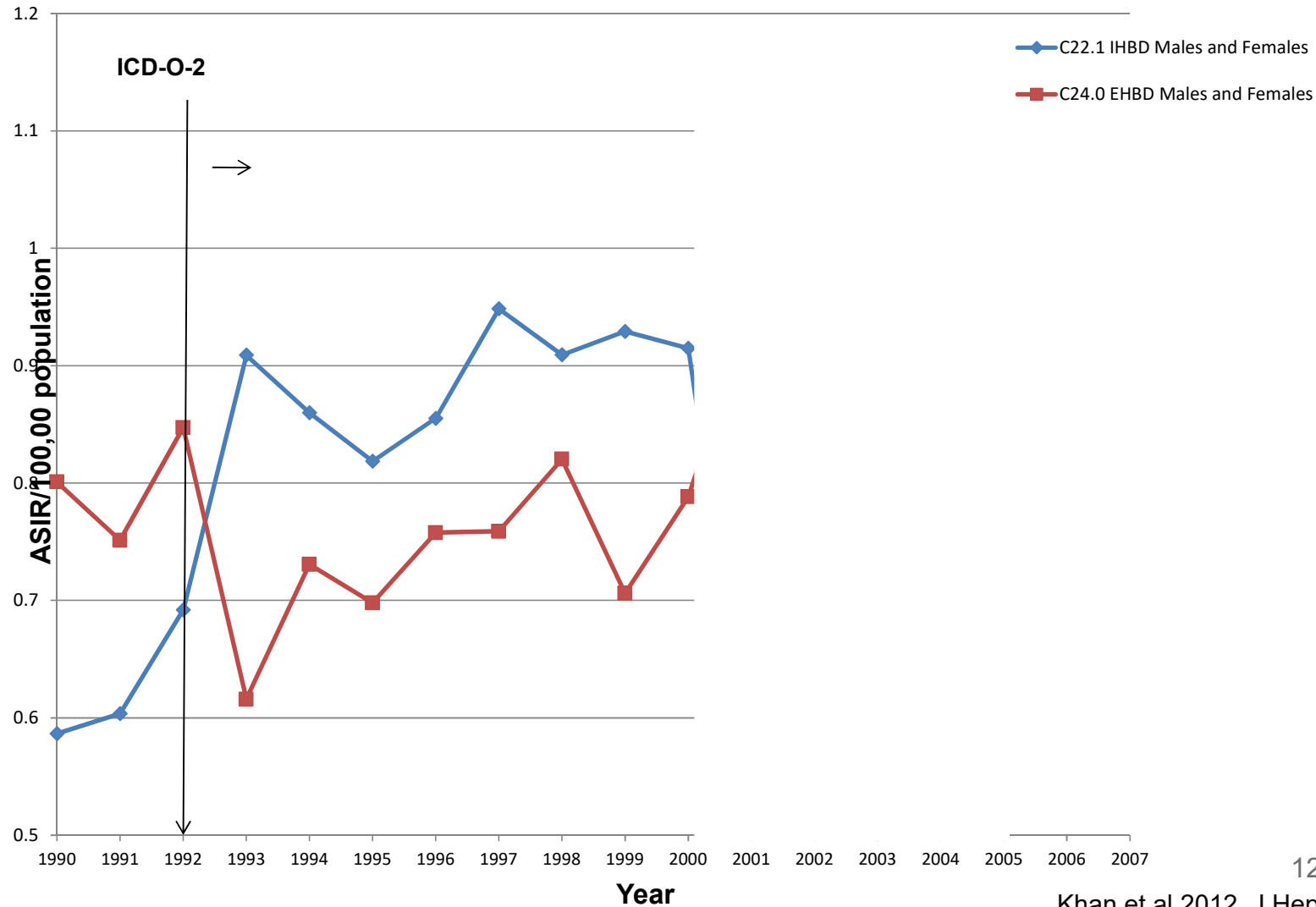


50-60% of CCA are, **pCCA**

20-30% are distal CBD, **dCCA**

10-20% are intrahepatic **iCCA**

## Trends in ASIR for tumours coded to **C22.1 (iCCA)** & **C24.0 (eCCA)** 1990-2007 & when ICD-O-2 & ICD-O-3 were introduced in **USA** (SEER Data)



## CCA Epidemiology – other problems with the data

- Studies do not differentiate between eCCA: namely pCCA, dCCA and GB
- UK Cancer registries reported that if a tumour site is unspecified, most would classify as intrahepatic (*Khan 2012*)
- Study of concordance between cancer registries and the patient register: systematic underreporting of Biliary tract cancers (*Kilander 2014*)
- Sweden: most liver cancer deaths are classified by the Cancer Register as “unspecified” and hepatocellular carcinoma is likely underreported (*Duberg 2017*)
- Misclassification between HCC and iCCA may be confounding  
+ heterogeneity and 10% overlap (*Rizvi 2017*)

## CCA Epidemiology: Need Consistency

- Need **international consistency in classification of CCA, to allow accurate monitoring of disease rates**
- Bile duct cancers should be sub-classified as **Intrahepatic, Perihilar or Distal** (abandon “Klatskin”)
- These have different epidemiology, pathobiology, clinical presentations and management
- CCA/Biliary Tract Cancer trends need to be interpreted with caution
- Data needs to be recorded uniformly and accurately
- The responsibility to do so lies with clinicians and cancer registries

## CCA Epidemiology: changes in the UK

- UK (AMMF + S Khan): discussions with Head of Cancer Datasets, National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service, of Public Health England (PHE)
- From 2020, COSD v9 in the UK will define the three types of CCA clearly:

LIVER – DIAGNOSIS:  CHOLANGIO- CARCINOMA  (CCA)	CCA CATEGORY	State where the CCA is present	1	Intrahepatic
			2	Perihilar
			3	Extrahepatic
			9	Not known

## **Need International Consistency in Classification of CCA – to allow accurate monitoring of epidemiology**

ICD11 (2019/20) will resolve this. Proposed:

- **2C18.0 Hilar Cholangiocarcinoma**
- **2C12.10 Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma**
- **2C15.0 Extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma: Adenocarcinoma of biliary tract, distal bile duct**
- **Similar needed for ICD-O 4 i.e. three separate topography/morphology codes for iCCA, pCCA and dCCA**



## CD-11 for Mortality and Morbidity Statistics

Search Cholangiocarcinoma hilar [Ad]

- biliary tract, cystic duct
- 2C14.Z Malignant neoplasms of proximal biliary tract, cystic duct, unspecified**
- ▼ **2C15 Malignant neoplasms of biliary tract, distal bile duct**
  - 2C15.0 Adenocarcinoma of biliary tract, distal bile duct
  - 2C15.1 Mucinous cystic neoplasm with associated invasive carcinoma of distal bile duct
  - 2C15.2 Neuroendocrine neoplasms of distal bile duct
  - 2C15.Y Other specified malignant neoplasms of biliary tract, distal bile duct**
  - 2C15.Z Malignant neoplasms of biliary tract, distal bile duct, unspecified**
- ▶ **2C16 Malignant neoplasms of ampulla of Vater**
- ▶ **2C17 Malignant neoplasms of other or unspecified parts of biliary tract**
- ▼ **2C18 Malignant neoplasms of perihilar bile duct**
  - 2C18.0 Hilar cholangiocarcinoma**
  - 2C18.1 Mucinous cystic neoplasm with associated invasive carcinoma of perihilar bile duct
  - 2C18.2 Neuroendocrine neoplasm of perihilar bile duct
  - 2C18.Y Other specified malignant neoplasms of perihilar bile duct**
  - 2C18.Z Malignant neoplasms of perihilar bile duct, unspecified**
- 2C1Z Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs, unspecified**
- ▶ Malignant neoplasms of middle ear, respiratory or intrathoracic organs
- ▶ Malignant neoplasms of skin

## CD-11 for Mortality and Morbidity Statistics

Search Cholangiocarcinoma hilar [Ad]

- 2C12.0Y Other specified malignant neoplasms of liver**
- ▼ **2C12.1 Malignant neoplasm of intrahepatic bile ducts**
  - 2C12.10 Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma**
  - 2C12.1Y Other specified malignant neoplasms of intrahepatic bile ducts**
- 2C12.Z Malignant neoplasms of liver or intrahepatic bile ducts, unspecified**
- ▶ **2C13 Malignant neoplasms of gallbladder**
- ▼ **2C14 Malignant neoplasms of proximal biliary tract, cystic duct**
  - 2C14.0 Adenocarcinoma of proximal biliary tract, cystic duct
  - 2C14.1 Mucinous cystic neoplasm with associated invasive carcinoma of cystic duct
  - 2C14.2 Neuroendocrine neoplasms of cystic duct
  - 2C14.Y Other specified malignant neoplasms of biliary tract, cystic duct**
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  - 2C15.Y Other specified malignant neoplasms of biliary tract, distal bile duct**
  - 2C15.Z Malignant neoplasms of biliary tract, distal bile duct, unspecified**
- ▶ **2C16 Malignant neoplasms of ampulla of Vater**

## Summary

- Multiple studies report rising incidence rates of iCCA and falling rates of dCCA over last 40 years
- What is happening with pCCA, the commonest form of CCA?
- We need accurate data
- Unclear due to the problems with coding
- ICD-11 and subsequent iterations of ICD-O must have separate topography and morphology codes for iCCA, pCCA and dCCA

**However CCA is classified, its incidence seems to be rising.  
Urgent studies into its causes & effective therapies are needed**

## CCA Epidemiology: Ongoing work in UK

- AMMF/PHE partnership with Imperial : embedded analyst in National Cancer Registration & Analysis Service (NCRAS)

### Questions:

- Is CCA truly increasing in England? If so, which age groups/gender(s)?
- Which type(s) of CCA is rising/falling?
- Has adoption of new ICD-codes affected incidence rates?
- Has the route to diagnosis changed over recent years?
- If rising CCA is due to better diagnosis, is stage of disease at diagnosis changing?
- Any regional variations in mortality, reflecting variation in referral practices?
- Are there common co-morbidities in CCA patients?
- Are there regional variations in incidence/case clustering, which may indicate potential underlying risk factors?

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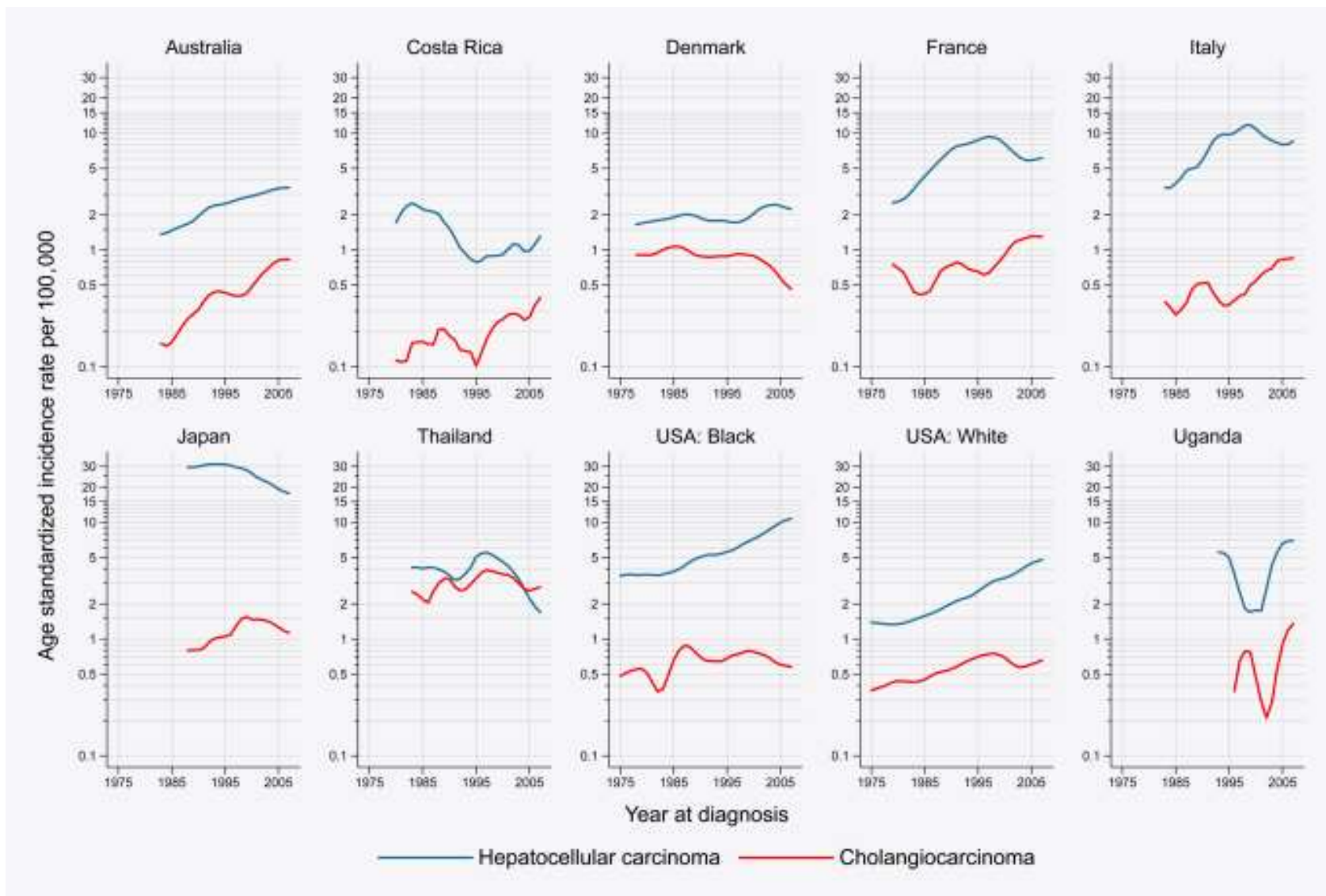
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**7<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
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Trends in age-adjusted male incidence rates for HCC and iCCA, 1978–2007  
*Petrick et al. Int J Ca 2016*