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Internal medicine is a very important branch of medicine. The Archives of General Internal Medicine is aimed at publishing pertinent articles in the field. The currents issue of Archives of General Internal Medicine showcases some interesting studies related to the fields of cancer and rheumatic arthritis.

Forced expiratory volume in 1 (FEV1) refers to the volume of air that can be forcibly exhaled in the first second, after full inspiration. The average values of 80% to 120% for FEV1 are considered normal. Previous studies have reported that in healthy individuals, the average FEV1 values are dependent on age, height, body mass index, gender, and ethnicity. Very few studies have analyzed the determinants of FEV1 in Stage-III Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (SIIINSCLC) patients. Das [1] reviewed the published records of 239 individuals with SIIINSCLC. In this study, 23 study variables or factors including FEV1 were considered. The mean FEV1 (MFEV1) was found to be higher in SIIINSCLC patients who smoked, or who had a lower body mass index (BMI). Furthermore, tumor location was also found to be a determinant of MFEV1. The MFEV1 was found to be higher in SIIINSCLC patients with chemotherapy levels standard sequential=3 and standard concurrent=4. The FEV1 variance (FEV1V) was also found to be higher in SIIINSCLC patients at older ages, or never/ex-smoker patients.

Compared to normal cells, the metabolism of cancer cells is too high. These cells rely on anaerobic glycolysis as opposed to oxidative phosphorylation in order to sustain their energy requirements. This reliance of cancer cells towards anaerobic glycolysis is referred to as the "Warburg effect". Glycolysis inhibitors therefore have potential applications in restricting the proliferation and metastasis of cancer cells. Several natural products are known to target molecules participating in cellular glycolysis. Numerous natural products have been identified as being capable of inhibiting aerobic glycolysis in cancer cells. Gallagher et al. [2] have authored a review on the various natural products such as quinones, polyphenols, and terpenoids with a known effect of inhibiting anaerobic glycolysis.

Patients with rheumatoid arthritis exhibit an increased risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD). None of the previous studies have performed a comparative analysis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients with and without CVD. Daniel et al. [3] performed a comparative analysis of RA patients with and without CVD, and CVD patients with and without RA. It was observed that patients with RA without known CVD do not undergo the same aggressive treatments for improving their lipid profiles as the patients with CVD with or without RA do.

References

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