


<b>Esophageal Cancer</b>			<b>Healthcare</b>
			<b>Keywords:</b> Esophageal cancer, odynophagia, dysphagia, Hematemesis, melena.
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<b>Abstract</b>			
<p>Introduction: Esophageal cancer is an aggressive disease with a clinical development. This is an endemic disease in many countries, especially in developing countries. Purpose of the Study: To identify and analyze the frequency of esophageal cancer. Material and Methods: The study is of a retrospective type. The study covers the period between 2012 and 2014. The study involved 43 patients (cases), where 31 were males (72%) and 12 were females (28%), hospitalized, diagnosed and treated in the service of Surgery and Gastro-Hepatology at the Medical University "Mother Teresa". Results: The study involved 43 patients, 31 males (72%) and 12 females (28%). They were assessed by the group ages of 18-40 years, 41-60 years, and more than 60 years old. Average age for males is 60 years, while the average age for females 57 years old. In both sexes they were evaluated by residence, consumption of alcohol, tobacco and Clinical Progress. Conclusions: Group age, male gender, socio-economic factors and nutrition are factors that favor the development of esophageal cancer.</p>			

## Introduction

Esophageal cancer is an aggressive disease with a clinical development. This is an endemic disease in many countries, especially in developing countries. Cancer begins in cells that are the basic unit of the tissue. Tissues form the organs of the body. Normal cells grow and divide to form new cells in the body depending on our needs. When normal cells are damaged or grow old, they die and being replaced by new cells. Sometimes this process does not occur a proper replacement. New cells that the body does not need are formed, and damaged cells do not die. Collection of extra cells often form a mass or growth of tissue called tumors. The increased mass on the wall of the esophagus may be benign (not cancerous), or malign (cancerous).

## Material and Methods

The study is of retrospective type. The study covers the period between 2012 and 2014. The study involved 43 patients (cases), where 31 were males (72%) and 12 were females (28%), hospitalized, diagnosed and treated in the service of Surgery and Gastro-Hepatology at the Medical University "Mother Teresa". Patients were grouped according to gender, group age, according to the progress of clinical and socio-economic factors.

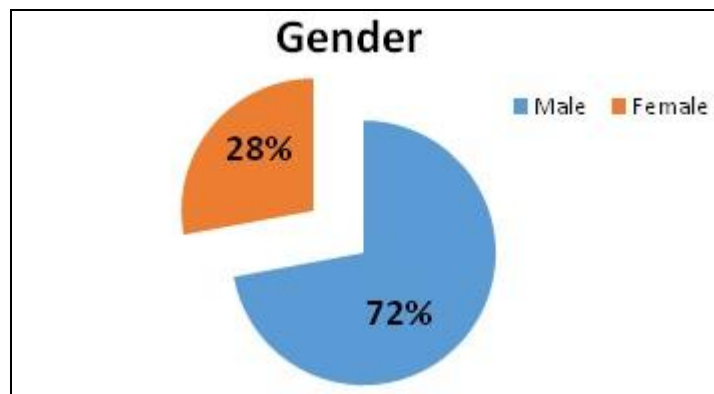
## Results

The study involved 43 patients, 31 males (72%) and 12 females (28%). They were assessed by the group ages of 18-40 years, 41-60 years and more than 60 years old. The average age for males is 60 years, while the average age for females is 57 years old. Both sexes were evaluated by residence status, where rural areas have the highest frequency on a rate of 58% on which male have greater chances to be diagnosed than female, and a rate of 42% at urban areas.

Alcohol consumers were 23% "Yes" and 77% "No",  $P = 0.002$ . Tobacco users were 63% "Yes" and 37% "No",  $P = 0.003$ , males are more likely to be affected by esophageal cancer. According to the clinical progress of odynophagia, it often occurs between 18-40 years old, dysphagia occurs frequently between 41-60 years old and melena is found in the group age of more than 61 years old with esophageal cancer, where the chances of developing this disease increases with age,  $P < 0.05$ . Data from the table 1 and graph 1 noted that male (72%) are more likely to be affected than female (28%).

**Table 1.** Male-female allocation.

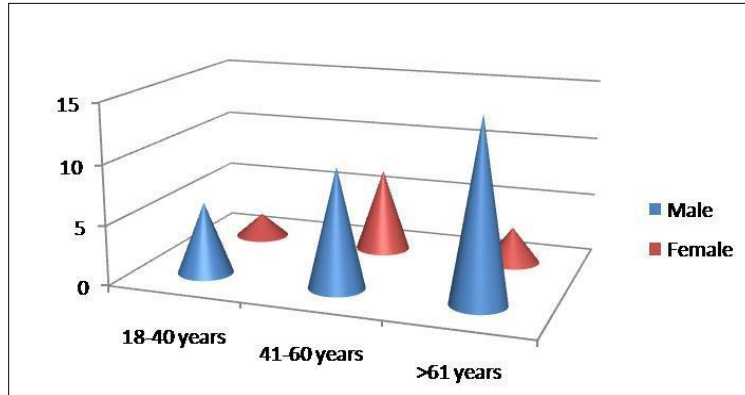
Gender	Male	Female
Nr	31	12
%	72%	28%



Graph 1.

**Table 2.** Frequency according to group age.

Group-age	Male	Female
18-40 years	6	2
41-60 years	10	4
> 61 years	15	6



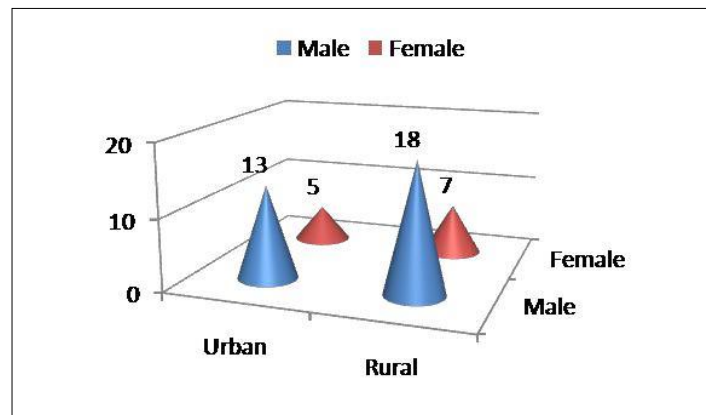
**Graph 2.**

The most common group age is more than 61 years old. The likelihood of developing this disease is associated with age increase,  $P < 0.05$ . The average age for males is 60 years, while the average age for females 57 years old.

**Table 3.** Frequency according to residence status.

Residence	Male	Female
Urban	13	5
Rural	18	7

Rural areas have the highest frequency to be affected by this disease with a rate of 58%, while urban areas with 42%, where males have greater predominance.

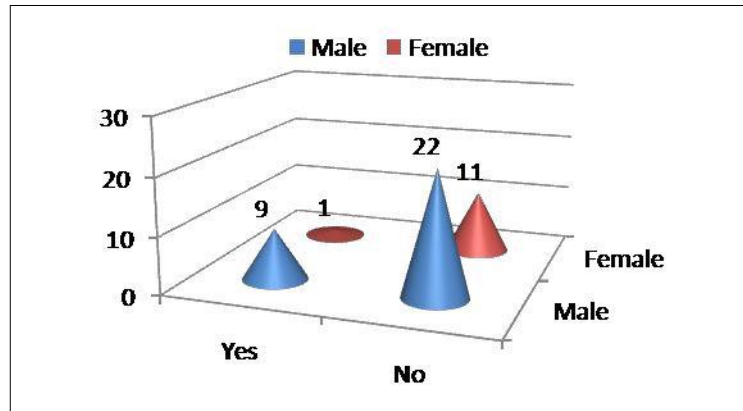


**Graph 3.**

**Table 4.** Frequency according to alcohol consumption.

Alcohol consumption	Male	Female
Yes	9	1
No	22	11

23% of patients that consume alcohol have answered "Yes" and 77% answered "No",  $P = 0.002$ .

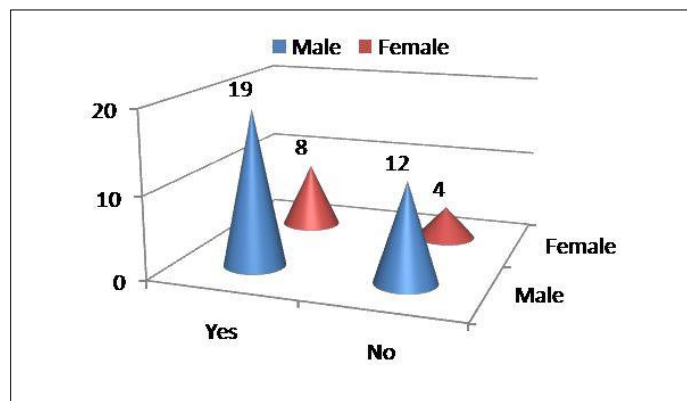


**Graph 4.**

**Table 5.** Frequency by tobacco use.

Smoking consumption	Male	Female
Yes	19	8
No	12	4

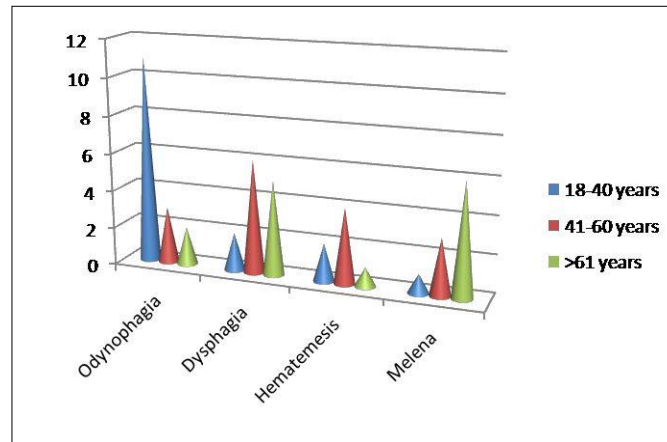
63% of tobacco users answered "Yes" and 37% answered "No",  $P = 0.003$ , where males are more likely to be affected by esophageal cancer.



**Graph 5.**

**Table 6.** Frequency according to progress of clinical trials.

Symptomatology	Group-age		
	18-40 years	41-60 years	>60 years
<b>Odynophagia</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dysphagia</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Hematemesis</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Melena</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>



**Graph 6.**

According to the clinical progress of odynophagia, the disease often occurs between 18-40 years old, dysphagia occurs frequently between 41-60 years old and melena is found in patients more than 60 years old on patients with esophageal cancer.

### Discussion

The incidence of esophageal cancer is increasing. Most patients in our study were older than 60 years in both sexes. Most patients in our study were males, especially in rural areas with a low socio-economic status. Nearly 70% of the patients had the odynophagia disease as common symptoms, and patients presented with tumor located less than 20cm, mainly presented dysphagia.

### Conclusions

Group age, male gender, socio-economic factors and nutrition are factors that favor the development of esophageal cancer. The most affected group age is more than 60 years old. The majority of patients were tobacco users, but alcohol also constitutes as a risk factor.

## References

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