

Supplementary material

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Supplement to: LYW Shong, WC Chong, PI Cheang, et al. Clinical outcomes after implementation of a lung nodule surveillance programme in Hong Kong. Hong Kong Med J 2025;Epub 6 Aug 2025. <https://doi.org/10.12809/hkmj2412168>.

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 1. Demographic data of study participants (n=1471) *

Characteristic	Value
Age, y	68±12
Sex, male	726 (49.4%)
Smoking history	
Never	954 (64.9%)
Current	150 (10.2%)
Ex-	367 (24.9%)
Median pack-years	30 (15-45)
Comorbidities	
COPD	140 (9.5%)
ILD	35 (2.4%)
Asthma	59 (4.0%)
Tuberculosis	105 (7.1%)
Non-tuberculous mycobacteria	3 (0.2%)

Abbreviations: COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; ILD = interstitial lung disease

* Data are shown as mean±standard deviation, No. (%) or median (interquartile range)

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 2. Pathological diagnoses of 291 patients with invasive investigations performed

Pathology	Value
Lung cancer	133 (45.7%)
No malignancy	118 (40.5%)
Atypical cells	19 (6.5%)
Inflammation/chronic inflammation	6 (2.1%)
Granulomatous inflammation	5 (1.7%)
Fibrotic lesion	5 (1.7%)
Necrotic tissue/abscess	2 (0.7%)
Lymphoma	1 (0.3%)
Mycobacterial infection	1 (0.3%)
Atypical adenomatous hyperplasia	1 (0.3%)

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 3. Characteristics of 133 patients with confirmed lung cancer and 133 matched patients without lung cancer*

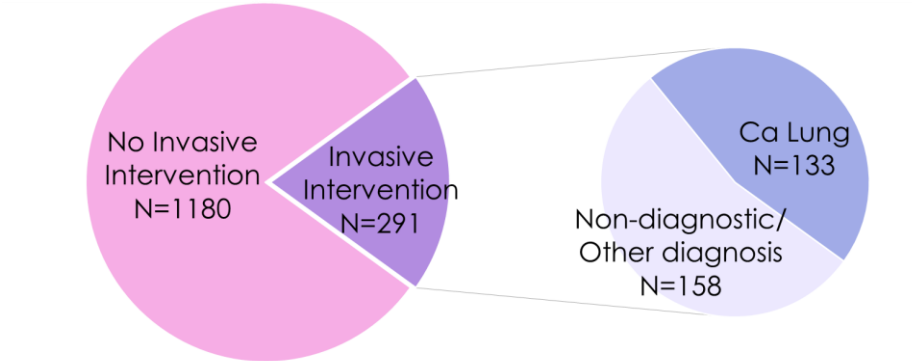
Characteristics	All patients (n=266)	Patients without lung cancer (n=133)	Patients with lung cancer (n=133)	P value
Nodule size, median (IQR), mm [†]	12 (6-26)	6 (5-9)	24 (16-39)	<0.001
No. of nodules				
1	73 (27.4%)	33 (24.8%)	40 (30.1%)	0.120
2	49 (18.4%)	21 (15.8%)	28 (21.1%)	
3	31 (11.7%)	18 (13.5%)	13 (9.8%)	
4	32 (12.0%)	17 (12.8%)	15 (11.3%)	
≥5	52 (19.5%)	16 (12.0%)	36 (27.1%)	
Unknown	29 (10.9%)	28 (21.1%)	1 (0.8%)	
Nodule density				
Solid	179 (67.3%)	98 (73.7%)	81 (60.9%)	<0.001
Part-solid	32 (12.0%)	4 (3.0%)	28 (21.1%)	
Pure GGO	51 (19.2%)	30 (22.6%)	21 (15.8%)	
Cystic	3 (1.1%)	1 (0.8%)	2 (1.5%)	
Unknown	1 (0.4%)	0	1 (0.8%)	
Lobar location				
LUL	57 (21.4%)	21 (15.8%)	36 (27.1%)	0.133
LLL	48 (18.0%)	25 (18.8%)	23 (17.3%)	
RUL	76 (28.6%)	37 (27.8%)	39 (29.3%)	
RML	20 (7.5%)	14 (10.5%)	6 (4.5%)	
RLL	51 (19.2%)	25 (18.8%)	26 (19.5%)	
Mediastinum/unknown	14 (5.3%)	11 (8.3%)	3 (2.3%)	
Referral source				
Lung cancer screening	29 (10.9%)	16 (12.0%)	13 (9.8%)	0.831
Incidental finding	153 (57.5%)	75 (56.4%)	78 (58.6%)	
Symptomatic	84 (31.6%)	42 (31.6%)	42 (31.6%)	

Abbreviations: GGO = ground-glass opacity; IQR = interquartile range; LLL = left lower lobe; LUL = left upper lobe; RLL = right lower lobe; RML = right middle lobe; RUL = right upper lobe

* Data are shown as No. (%), unless otherwise specified

[†] Pulmonary lesion size, median largest diameter

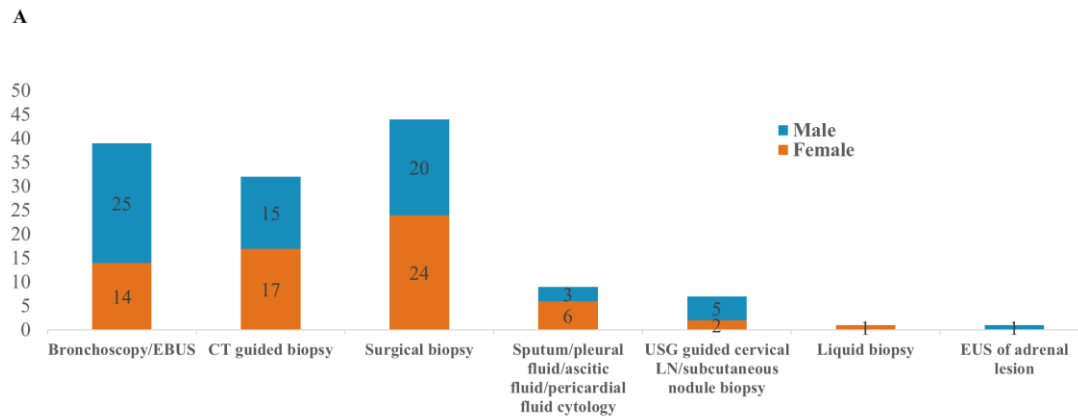
SUPPLEMENTARY FIG 1. Overview of patient recruitment and clinical outcomes



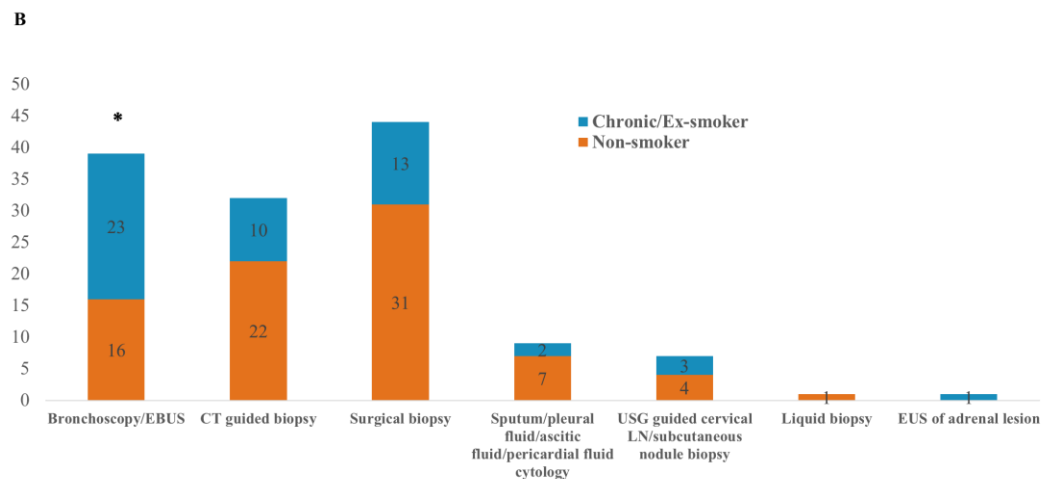
SUPPLEMENTARY FIG 2. Diagnostic investigations stratified by (a) sex and (b) smoking history

Compared with non-smokers, a higher percentage of patients with a history of smoking were diagnosed with lung cancer via bronchoscopy or endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) procedures

(a)



(b)



Abbreviations: CT = computed tomography; EBUS = endobronchial ultrasound; EUS = endoscopic ultrasound; LN = lymph nodes; USG = ultrasound

* P=0.0026