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**Title:** Lung cancer in Berlin – Significant changes in age structure, gender ratio and histologic subtypes from 2000 to 2008

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**Body:** Background: The Tumorzentrum Berlin (TZB) analyses the clinical data of lung cancer pts. in Berlin in order to improve patient care by means of joint quality assurance. Aim: to evaluate time shifts in age structure, gender ratio and the proportions of histologic subtypes in pts. with lung cancer from 2000 to 2008. Methods: In this retrospective case study, the pooled data of the TZB of pts. with newly diagn. lung cancer during 2000 and 2008 were analyzed. Pts. were divided into three 3-year groups (G1: 2000-2, G2: 2003-5 and G3: 2006-8). Results: The total cohort comprised 14,302 pts. (G1: 4,284 pts, G2: 5,049 pts and G3: 4,969 pts). The increase in pt. numbers in G2 and G3 is explained primarily by an absolute increase in pts. aged  $\geq 70$  yrs., but there was no trend for an increase of younger pts.

The proportion of pts. with adenocarcinomas has increased over time for all age groups.

**Conclusions:** The data of the TZB documented significant epidemiologic changes in pts. with lung cancer over time. In contrast to other regions in the world, there was no increase of younger pts. inspite of a growing proportion of pts. with adenocarcinoma.

