# Incidence of patients with bone metastases at diagnosis of solid tumors in adults: a large population-based study

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**Background:** Bones are one of the most common metastatic sites for solid malignancies. Bone metastases can significantly increase mortality and decrease the quality of life of cancer patients. In the United States, around 350,000 people die each year from bone metastases. This study aimed to analyze and update the incidence and prognosis of bone metastases with solid tumors at the time of cancer diagnosis and its incidence rate for each solid cancer.

**Methods:** We used the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) database to find patients diagnosed with solid cancers originating from outside the bones and joints between 2010 and 2016. Data were stratified by age, sex, and race. Patients with a tumor *in situ* or with an unknown bone metastases stage were excluded. We then selected most of the sites where cancer often occurred, leaving 2,207,796 patients for the final incidence analysis. For the survival analysis, patients were excluded if they were diagnosed at their autopsy or on their death certificate, or had unknown follow-ups. The incidence of bone metastases and overall survival was compared between patients with different primary tumor sites.

**Results:** We identified 2,470,634 patients, including 426,594 patients with metastatic disease and 113,317 patients with bone metastases, for incidence analysis. The incidence of bone metastases among the metastatic subset was 88.74% in prostate cancer, 53.71% in breast cancer, and 38.65% in renal cancer. In descending order of incidence, there were patients with other cancers in the genitourinary system (except for renal, bladder, prostate, and testicular cancer) (37.91%), adenocarcinoma of the lung (ADC) (36.86%), other gynecologic cancers (36.02%), small-cell lung cancer (SCLC) (34.56%), non-small cell lung cancer not otherwise specified and others [NSCLC (NOS/others)] (33.55%), and bladder (31.08%) cancers. The rate of bone metastases is 23.19% in SCLC, 22.50% in NSCLC (NOS/others), 20.28% in ADC, 8.44% in squamous cell carcinoma of the lung (SCC), and 4.11% in bronchioloalveolar carcinoma [NSCLC (BAC)]. As for the digestive system, the overall bone metastases rate was 7.99% in the esophagus, 4.47% in the

gastric cancer, 4.42% in the hepatobiliary cancer, 3.80% in the pancreas, 3.26% in other digestive organs, 1.24% in the colorectum, and 1.00% in the anus. Overall, the incidence rate of bone metastases among the entire cohort in breast and prostate cancer was 3.73% and 5.69%, respectively.

**Conclusions:** The results of this study provide population-based estimates for the incidence rates of patients with bone metastases at initial diagnosis of their solid tumor. The findings can help clinicians to early detect bone metastases by bone screening to anticipate the occurrence of symptoms and favorably improve the prognosis.

Keywords: Bone metastases; Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER); incidence; prognosis

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# Introduction

Bones are one of the most common sites of metastases for many types of solid cancers (1-4). Bone metastases have an increased risk of serious skeletal-related events (SREs), such as pathological fractures, pain, hypercalcemia, and spinal cord compressions, which can seriously impair patients' quality of life (5-9). Bone metastases also lead to a significant increase in mortality and morbidity (10-12).

In the United States, around 350,000 people die each year from bone metastasis (13). Several patients with bone metastasis and SREs are affected by breast or prostate cancer, while lower rates are observed in patients with lung, kidney, thyroid, or other cancers (4,14). The incidence rate of bone metastases in the United States is still unknown, and estimates have varied from 21,000-400,000 per annum. Though bone metastases can impact the mortality and quality of life of patients with cancer, more extensive population-based studies researching the incidence and prognosis of patients with bone metastases are lacking. Previous studies have shown that the prevalence of bone metastases is more than 70% in patients with metastatic breast and prostate cancer, and approximately 30% in metastatic renal cell carcinoma (1,12,15-18). However, there are no studies which provide information on the incidence of bone metastasis in other common cancers or systemic malignancies. Also, earlier studies cannot reflect the recent incidence and survival trends of patients with bone metastases (19).

Our study was conducted to estimate the incidence and prognosis of patients with bone metastases using the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) database that includes information on cancer incidence, treatment, and survival for approximately 30% of the American population (20). Specifically, we estimated the incidence proportion of patients' bone metastases among solid tumors, considering tumor histology at the time of initial diagnosis.

# Methods

# Data source and cobort population

For our study, the SEER database was used. Inclusion criteria were adult patients (age  $\geq 18$  years) with a diagnosis of an invasive solid tumor originating outside of the bone and joints between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2016. Patients were excluded if information relating to the presence or absence of bone metastases was unavailable. Other exclusion criteria were patients with diagnosis of carcinoma in situ and patients with a diagnosis of a rare tumor such as thymus cancer, heart cancer, mediastinum cancer, pleura cancer, spleen cancer, reticuloendothelial cancer, skin cancer, connective and soft tissue cancer, adrenal gland cancer, parathyroid gland cancer, other endocrine gland cancer, mesothelioma, Kaposi sarcoma, and lymphoma. For the survival analysis, patients were excluded if they were diagnosed at the time of the autopsy or at the issuing of the death certificate, or if they had unknown survival time or survival status.

# Statistical analysis

Total numbers and incidence proportions of patients who were diagnosed with bone metastases were computed and then stratified by cancer type. The patients with lung cancer were classified by tumor histology using the International Classification of Disease for Oncology,

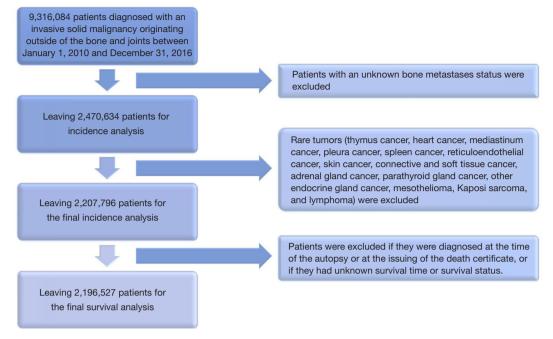


Figure 1 Selection of study patients.

3rd Edition (ICD-O-3). Metastatic stage was conducted following the 7th edition of the American Joint Committee on Cancer staging manual, and then we defined patients with metastatic cancer as a subset with metastatic disease. We defined patients with bone metastases as a subset with bone metastases. The incidence proportion was defined as the number of patients diagnosed with bone metastases and a specific primary cancer divided by the total number of individuals diagnosed with that primary cancer; we also defined a second incidence proportion in which the denominator was restricted to patients with metastatic disease. The metastatic status of the brain, lung, and liver was also available, and we used it to characterize the extent of systemic disease, and subsequently calculated the incidence and median survival of patients with bone metastases classified by the extent of systemic disease. For survival estimates, we used the Kaplan-Meier method, taking into account a P value ≤0.05 as significant. The statistical analysis was generated and visualized with SPSS software (version 18; IBM Corp., USA).

# Results

First, we identified 9,316,084 patients aged  $\geq$ 18 years who were diagnosed with an invasive solid malignancy originating outside of the bone and joints between January

1, 2010 and December 31, 2016. The SEER database includes information on cancer incidence, treatment, and survival for approximately 30% of the American population. Patients were excluded in the cohort if the carcinoma is was in situ. Patients with an unknown bone metastases stage were excluded, leaving 2,470,634 patients for analysis. We then selected most of the sites where cancer often occurred, leaving 2,207,796 patients for the final incidence analysis (*Figure 1*).

Between 2010–2016, a total of 2,207,796 patients had a diagnosis of cancer from common solid organs, and 426,594 patients had metastatic disease. We found 113,317 patients with bone metastases, which accounted for 5.13% of all patients, and 26.56% of those patients had metastatic disease.

Next, we found that the rate of bone metastases varied widely by primary cancer type (*Table 1*; *Figure 2*). As shown in *Table 1*, the bone metastasis rate is the highest in lung cancer. More specifically, the rate of bone metastases is 23.19% for small-cell lung cancer (SCLC), 22.50% in non-small cell lung cancer not otherwise specified and others [NSCLC (NOS/others)], 20.28% for adenocarcinoma of the lung (ADC), 8.44% in squamous cell carcinoma of the lung (SCC), and 4.11% in bronchioloalveolar carcinoma [NSCLC (BAC)]. In analyzing the gastrointestinal tumors, the rate of bone metastases is 7.99% in the esophagus,

Table 1 Incidence proportion and median survival of	roportion and media	an survival of patients v	with identified bo	one metastases at diag	patients with identified bone metastases at diagnosis by primary cancer site	site	
Site	Sub-site	Number of patients with cancer (any stage)	Number of patients with metastatic disease	Number of patients with bone metastases at diagnosis	Number of Incidence proportion patients with bone of bone metastases metastases at among entire cohort diagnosis (%) i	Incidence proportion Incidence proportion of bone metastases of bone metastases among entire cohort among subset with (%) metastatic disease (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range) among patients with bone metastases (months)
Head and neck $^{1}$	Head and neck <sup>1</sup>	77,610	11,267	1,114	1.44	9.89	8 [3–18]
Thyroid	Thyroid	88,356	3,347	679	0.77	20.29	23 [4–82]
Breast	Breast	436,347	30,285	16,266	3.73	53.71	27 [8–57]
Respiratory system	SCLC	39,765	26,686	9,223	23.19	34.56	5 [1-10]
	SCC	93,240	33,839	7,867	8.44	23.25	3 [1–7]
	ADC	147,194	80,981	29,846	20.28	36.86	5 [1–13]
	NSCLC (BAC)	4,475	1,024	184	4.11	17.97	7 [3–20]
	NSCLC (NOS/ others)	20,622	13,224	4,434	21.50	33.53	3 [1–8]
Digestive system	Esophagus	25,955	10,005	2,075	7.99	20.74	11 [4–36]
	Gastric	43,570	15,525	1,947	4.47	12.54	3 [1–8]
	Hepatobiliary	72,015	16,454	3,186	4.42	19.36	3 [1-7]
	Pancreatic	74,660	39,535	2,835	3.80	7.17	2 [1–6]
	Colorectal	249,273	52,311	3,085	1.24	5.90	5 [1–15]
	Anal	12,150	1,584	121	1.00	7.64	3 [NR-7]
	Other digestive organs	23,514	8,229	767	3.26	9.32	3 [1–8]
Genitourinary	Renal	101,121	14,498	5,630	16.08	38.65	6 [2–17]
	Bladder	124,279	5,921	1,840	1.48	31.08	4 [1–10]
	Prostate	346,844	22,257	19,750	5.69	88.74	25 [11–55]
	Testicular	16,661	1,993	143	0.86	7.18	NR [7-NR]
	Other GU	8,467	757	287	3.39	37.91	4 [1–9]
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Site	Sub-site	Number of patients with cancer (any stage)	Number of patients with metastatic disease	Number of patients with bone metastases at diagnosis	Incidence proportion Incidence proportion of bone metastases of bone metastases among entire cohort among subset with (%) metastatic disease (%)	Number of Incidence proportion Incidence proportion patients with bone of bone metastases of bone metastases metastases at among entire cohort among subset with diagnosis (%) metastatic disease (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range) among patients with bone metastases (months)
Gynecologic	Ovarian	37,468	23,890	422	1.13	1.77	5 [1–17]
	Endometrial	93,149	8,304	847	0.91	10.20	6 [2–15]
	Cervical	22,774	3,585	558	2.45	15.56	6 [2–15]
	Other gynecologic	c 15,160	497	179	1.18	36.02	6 [2–16]
Brain and other nervous system	Brain and other nervous system	33,127	596	59	0.18	06.6	15 [3-NR]

ung cancer; NSCLC (NOS/others), non-small cell lung cancer not otherwise specified or non-small cell lung cancer other lung cancer; ADC, adenocarcinoma of the lung;

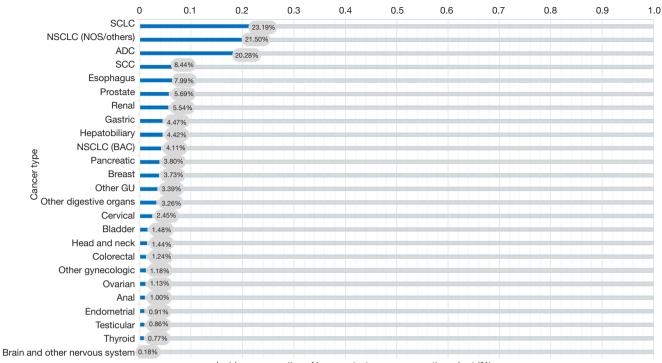
SCC, squamous cell carcinoma of the lung; NSCLC (BAC), bronchioloalveolar carcinoma; NR, not reached.

4.47% in the gastric system, 4.42% in the hepatobiliary system, 3.80% in the pancreas, 3.26% in other digestive organs, 1.24% in colorectum, and 1.00% in the anus. Among patients with renal cancer, prostate and breast cancer, 16.08%, 5.69%, and 3.73% of patients were respectively found to have bone metastases.

Moreover, *Table 1* and *Figure 3* show the incidence proportion of patients with bone metastases among the metastatic subset (patients with stage IV disease at diagnosis). The incidence of bone metastases among the metastatic subset is 88.74% in prostate cancer, 53.71% in breast cancer, and 38.65% in renal cancer. In descending order, patients with other cancers of the genitourinary system (except renal, bladder, prostate, testicular) (37.91%), ADC (36.86%), other gynecologic cancers (except ovarian, endometrial, and endometrial cancer) (36.02%), SCLC (34.56%), NSCLC (NOS/others) (33.55%), and bladder cancer (31.08%), showed an incidence proportion of bone metastases of >30%.

Table 1 and Figure 4 show the median survival time of patients with bone metastases in different systemic malignancies. The median survival time among patients with breast cancer and bone metastases, prostate cancer, and bone metastases and thyroid cancer, and bone metastases are 27, 25, and 23 months, respectively. The survival time of the 3 cancers mentioned above is higher than the others. The median survival time of other tumors with bone metastases is less than 10 months. In general, survival is worse in patients with digestive system cancer and bone metastases compared with other types of primary cancer. The median survival time in patients with hepatobiliary, gastric, and anal tumors is 3 months. Among patients with pancreatic tumor and bone metastases, the median survival time is 2 months.

Incidence proportion and median survival time of patients with bone metastases, as organized based on the presence or absence of brain, liver, and lung metastases, are shown in *Table 2*. In summary, the incidence of bone metastasis was higher, and survival time was shorter among patients with more extensive metastases at diagnosis. The incidence of bone-only metastasis was 13.98% in NSCLC (NOS/others), 12.64% in SCLC, and 11.81% in ADC. In descending order, patients with bladder cancer (5.14%), SCC (4.90%), esophageal cancer (4.52%), gastric cancer (2.86%), hepatobiliary cancer (2.74%), renal cancer (2.65%), breast cancer (2.22%), and NSCLC (BAC) (2.02%) showed an incidence proportion of bone metastases of >2%. The median survival time among patients with bone-only



Incidence proportion of bone metastases among entire cohort (%)

Figure 2 Incidence proportion of patients diagnosed with bone metastases within the entire cohort. SCLC, small-cell lung cancer; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; BAC, bronchioloalveolar carcinoma; NOS, not otherwise specified; ADC, adenocarcinoma of the lung; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma of the lung; GI, gastrointestinal; GU, genitourinary; GYN, gynecologic.

metastases in thyroid cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, and anal cancer was 60, 35, 27, and 20 months, respectively.

For patients with head and neck cancer, the incidence of comorbidity with liver metastases and bone metastasis was 42.47%. Among patients with was cancer, the incidence of comorbidity with liver metastasis and bone metastasis is higher in NSCLC (BAC) (54.17%), ADC (53.73%), and NSCLC (NOS/others) (44.10%) than in SCC (39.59%) and SCLC (37.15%). Furthermore, we found that the incidence of comorbidity of brain metastases and bone metastasis was higher than other sites among patients with digestive system cancer and gynecologic cancer.

Table S1 shows the incidence proportions of patients diagnosed with bone metastases, classified according to primary cancer, age, race, and gender. Median survival estimates, and those of age, race, gender, and cancer type, are displayed in *Table S2*.

# Discussion

In our study, we showed the number and incidence

proportion of patients with bone metastases and the prognosis of identified bone metastases among patients with cancer of the digestive system with the lowest median survival time. To our knowledge, this is the first epidemiologic study of bone metastases using the entire SEER database. Roodman *et al.* pointed out that the exact prevalence of bone metastasis remains unknown, and patients with bone metastases are usually incurable (21). Therefore, it is probable that our study may have widespread applications and could be useful in the formation of screening paradigms for bone metastases, clinical treatment and trial design, and counseling of different subsets of patients with cancer.

## Incidence of bone metastasis

In 1997, Coleman *et al.* reported that the incidence of bone metastasis was 30–40% for patients with lung cancer, which is higher than our results (22). In 2013, Sathiakumar *et al.* reported that the incidence of bone metastasis among lung cancer patients was 19.8%, based on data from 1999 to

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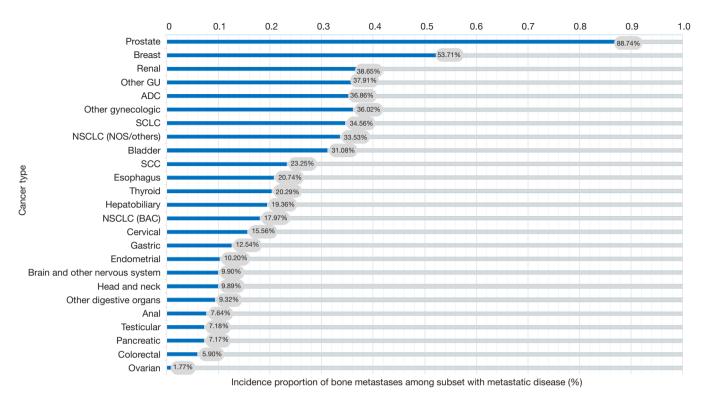


Figure 3 Incidence proportion of patients diagnosed with bone metastases within subset with metastatic disease. SCLC, small-cell lung cancer; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; BAC, bronchioloalveolar carcinoma; NOS, not otherwise specified; ADC, adenocarcinoma of the lung; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma of the lung; GI, gastrointestinal; GU, genitourinary; GYN, gynecologic.

2006 (23). Al Husaini *et al.* pointed out that the incidence of skeletal metastasis in advanced-stage lung cancer was 30–40% (24).

In our study, we found that the incidence of bone metastases was 16.89% in patients with newly diagnosed lung cancer and 33.10% in patients with metastatic lung cancer. A comparison of our findings with those of other studies confirms that the rate of bone metastasis among lung cancer is gradually decreasing, which has contributed to the popularization of screening and the development of effective treatment strategies. Additionally, we found the incidence of bone metastases among patients with SCLC to be higher than that of patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Yerushalmi et al. found that the incidence of bone metastases among patients with breast cancer had decreased steadily over 3 time periods (25) (1989-1991: 7.5%, 1992-1997: 5.3%, 1998-2001: 3.5%). Jensen et al. noted that the incidence rate of bone metastases among patients with breast cancer was 3.6% in a population of 35,912 patients (19). In this study, the incidence was slightly lower than that reported by earlier studies. Pietropaoli et al.

indicated that only approximately 1% of patients with stage IV carcinoma of the head and neck had concomitant bone metastases (26), which is similar to our results.

Previous studies have reported that the incidence rate of bone metastases in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma ranges from 3% to 20% (27,28). These findings are consistent with our results. However, the studies just mentioned above only discussed the incidence rate of bone metastases in single cancers. There is no study which systematically analyzes the incidence of bone metastases in different cancers types. Our study shows that lung cancer is most likely to present with bone metastasis, which may support recent screening guidelines. Previous studies have shown that the incidence rate of bone metastases in metastatic prostate cancer is over 80%, while bone metastases occur in 65-80% of patients with metastatic breast cancer (29-34). Our study also indicates that the incidence proportion of bone metastases is high in patients with breast or prostate cancer. Previous studies have shown that bone metastases occur in approximately 30% of patients with invasive bladder cancer and renal cancer

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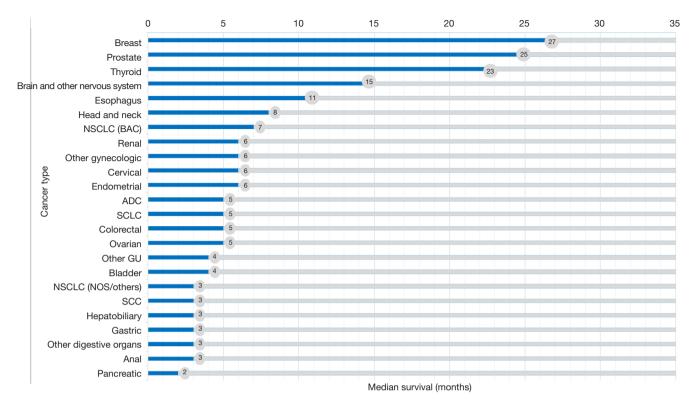


Figure 4 Median survival of patients with identified bone metastases. SCLC, small-cell lung cancer; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; BAC, bronchioloalveolar carcinoma; NOS, not otherwise specified; ADC, adenocarcinoma of the lung; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma of the lung; GI, gastrointestinal; GU, genitourinary; GYN, gynecologic.

(35-38). In our study, the incidence rate of bone metastases was 16.08% and 1.48% in renal cancer and bladder cancer, respectively. Furthermore, bone metastases accounted for 38.65% and 31.08% of metastatic renal and bladder cancers, respectively. Though the rate of bone metastases is not high in bladder cancer, bone cancer accounts for a relatively large portion of the metastatic sites among patients with metastatic bladder cancer. Therefore, we must pay attention to the screening of bone metastases in this setting.

# Survival

Our results show that cancer presented at diagnosis with bone metastases with the longest median survival time is breast cancer (27 months), followed by prostate cancer (25 months), and thyroid cancer (23 months). Previous studies had shown that the median survival time is 30 and 28 months among breast cancer patients with bone metastases and prostate cancer patients with bone metastases (39,40). These results are similar to ours. Bhatia reported that the prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma with bone metastasis is extremely poor, with a median survival of only 1-2 months (41). We also found that the median survival time is the shortest in cancers of the digestive system. Silvestris *et al.* indicated that the median survival was 6 months in gastric cancer patients after bone metastasis diagnosis (42). Our results showed the median survival is 3 months among gastric cancer patients with bone metastases, which was a little shorter than the earlier study.

# **Clinical implications**

Bone metastases are associated with an increased risk of mortality for patients with cancer and may lead to a poor quality of life (17,43,44). The early detection of bone metastases may minimize morbidity and mortality and lead to a better quality of life (45-47), while also being a fundamental step in anticancer treatment (48-50). The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) clinical practice guidelines in oncology also recommended routine screening bone metastases in patients with SCLC, prostatic cancer, and high-metastasis-risk renal cancer (51-54). Our results support

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Table 2 Incidence	proportion and	l median survival c	f patients with	bone metastases b	y extent of systemic disease
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Site	Sub-site	Type of systemic metastasis	Number of patients	Number of patients with bone metastases	Proportion with bone metastases (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range)
Head and neck <sup>1</sup>	Head and neck <sup>1</sup>	Lung	1,284	217	16.90	6 [3–13]
		Liver	372	158	42.47	8 [3–18]
		Brain	77	21	27.27	5 [1–18]
		2 of 3	273	122	44.69	4 [2–12]
		All 3	18	12	66.67	5 [1–13]
		None	75,371	532	0.71	10 [4–23]
Thyroid	Thyroid	Lung	1,076	224	20.82	11 [2–49]
		Liver	95	31	32.63	4 [1–13]
		Brain	48	17	35.42	5 [2–NR]
		2 of 3	142	63	44.37	5 [2–12]
		All 3	8	5	62.50	2 [1–6]
		None	86,987	339	0.39	60 [12–NR]
Breast	Breast	Lung	4,926	2,414	49.01	24 [7–50]
		Liver	3,690	2,042	55.34	18 [4–42]
		Brain	752	418	55.59	15 [4–34]
		2 of 3	2,504	1,692	67.57	11 [2–30]
		All 3	349	280	80.23	4 [1–17]
		None	424,126	9,415	2.22	35 [14–69]
Respiratory system	SCLC	Lung	2,279	523	22.95	6 [1–11]
		Liver	7,849	2,916	37.15	5 [1–9]
		Brain	3,489	580	16.62	5 [2–10]
		2 of 3	3,930	1,710	43.51	4 [1–8]
		All 3	517	299	57.83	3 [1–7]
		None	20,444	2,584	12.64	7 [2–12]
	SCC	Lung	6,065	1,051	17.33	3 [1–7]
		Liver	2,445	968	39.59	3 [1–6]
		Brain	2,354	490	20.82	3 [1–6]
		2 of 3	1,904	832	43.70	2 [1–5]
		All 3	284	160	56.34	2 [1–4]
		None	79,077	3,877	4.90	4 [1–9]

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Table 2 (continued)

Site	Sub-site	Type of systemic metastasis	Number of patients	Number of patients with bone metastases	Proportion with bone metastases (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range)
	ADC	Lung	14,485	4,233	29.22	5 [2–14]
		Liver	5,265	2,829	53.73	3 [1–9]
		Brain	11,839	3,357	28.36	5 [2–14]
		2 of 3	8,273	4,402	53.21	3 [1–10]
		All 3	1,353	990	73.17	3 [1–9]
		None	102,527	12,106	11.81	6 [2–15]
	NSCLC (BAC)	Lung	352	38	10.80	11 [4–15]
		Liver	24	13	54.17	2 [1–10]
		Brain	53	15	28.30	10 [3–19]
		2 of 3	55	27	49.09	7 [3–21]
		All 3	3	1	33.33	6 [NA]
		None	3,953	80	2.02	11 [3–23]
	NSCLC (NOS/	Lung	1,881	538	28.60	3 [1–8]
	others)	Liver	1,093	482	44.10	2 [1–7]
		Brain	2,124	485	22.83	3 [1–8]
		2 of 3	1,358	604	44.48	2 [1–5]
		All 3	223	129	57.85	2 [1–4]
		None	13,306	1,860	13.98	4 [1–9]
Digestive system	Esophagus	Lung	1,242	239	19.24	10 [4–42]
		Liver	2,722	505	18.55	10 [3–30]
		Brain	228	58	25.44	9 [4–30]
		2 of 3	1,206	310	25.70	11 [4–43]
		All 3	87	38	43.68	14 [7–NR]
		None	20,470	925	4.52	13 [4–36]
	Gastric	Lung	979	191	19.51	4 [1–7]
		Liver	5,342	406	7.60	3 [1–9]
		Brain	137	34	24.82	3 [1–4]
		2 of 3	1,186	267	22.51	2 [NR-8]
		All 3	52	22	42.31	3 [1–4]
		None	35,874	1,027	2.86	4 [1–9]

Table 2 (continued)

Site	Sub-site	Type of systemic metastasis	Number of patients	Number of patients with bone metastases	Proportion with bone metastases (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range)
	Hepatobiliary	Lung	3,238	472	14.58	2 [0–6]
		Liver	4,598	399	8.68	3 [1–9]
		Brain	125	45	36.00	4 [1–10]
		2 of 3	1,314	298	22.68	2 [1–5]
		All 3	36	17	47.22	2 [0–7]
		None	61,751	1,692	2.74	3 [1–8]
	Pancreatic	Lung	2,846	304	10.68	6 [2–19]
		Liver	23,754	1,140	4.80	5 [1–14]
		Brain	71	16	22.54	2 (1–7)
		2 of 3	5,011	762	15.21	1 [0-4]
		All 3	92	40	43.48	2 [0–3]
		None	42,886	573	1.34	3 [1–9]
	Colorectal	Lung	3,425	261	7.62	6 [2–18]
		Liver	26,849	1,102	4.10	5 [1–14]
		Brain	190	18	9.47	2 [1–7]
		2 of 3	8,472	983	11.60	5 [1–14]
		All 3	205	68	33.17	2 [1–10]
		None	210,132	653	0.31	6 [2–18]
	Anal	Lung	129	11	8.53	6 [5–8]
		Liver	317	26	8.20	9 [4–27]
		Brain	9	1	11.11	NA
		2 of 3	116	15	12.93	4 [1–9]
		All 3	3	0	0.00	NA
		None	11,576	68	0.59	20 [6–36]
	Other digestive	Lung	748	122	16.31	2 [1–7]
	organs	Liver	3,714	255	6.87	3 [1–11]
		Brain	66	15	22.73	2 [1–6]
		2 of 3	728	179	24.59	2 [0–5]
		All 3	36	16	44.44	1 [0–2]
		None	18,222	269	1.48	3 [1–11]

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Table 2 (continued)

Site	Sub-site	Type of systemic metastasis	Number of patients	Number of patients with bone metastases	Proportion with bone metastases (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range)
Genitourinary	Renal	Lung	5,624	1,605	28.54	6 [2–15]
		Liver	1,237	372	30.07	3 [1–9]
		Brain	449	137	30.51	5 [2–15]
		2 of 3	2,360	949	40.21	3 [1–8]
		All 3	219	118	53.88	3 [1–7]
		None	91,232	2,422	2.65	10 [3–30]
	Bladder	Lung	1,437	1,131	78.71	4 [1–10]
		Liver	660	485	73.48	2 [1–6]
		Brain	184	154	83.70	2 [1–11]
		2 of 3	359	286	79.67	2 [1–5]
		All 3	24	19	79.17	1 [0–2]
		None	344,200	17,675	5.14	5 [2–12]
	Prostate	Lung	1,133	191	16.86	20 [8–47]
		Liver	497	148	29.78	10 [4–22]
		Brain	724	68	9.39	10 [3–24]
		2 of 3	1,185	345	29.11	9 [3–24]
		All 3	347	164	47.26	14 [4–NR]
		None	277,125	296	0.11	27 [11–57]
	Testicular	Lung	883	44	4.98	NR [8–NR]
		Liver	87	12	13.79	9 [7–19]
		Brain	14	1	7.14	NA
		2 of 3	261	30	11.49	13 [4–NR]
		All 3	56	8	14.29	8 [0–NR]
		None	15,360	48	0.31	NR [8–NR]
	Other GU	Lung	217	48	22.12	5 [2–12]
		Liver	155	50	32.26	2 [0–6]
		Brain	14	5	35.71	4 [1–7]
		2 of 3	110	44	40.00	1 [0–6]
		All 3	4	0	0.00	NA
		None	7,967	140	1.76	7 [2–11]

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Table 2	(continued)
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Site	Sub-site	Type of systemic metastasis	Number of patients	Number of patients with bone metastases	Proportion with bone metastases (%)	Median survival in months (interquartile range)
Gynecologic	Ovarian	Lung	1,515	60	3.96	4 [1–19]
		Liver	1,928	72	3.73	2 [0–11]
		Brain	56	10	17.86	NR [NR-10]
		2 of 3	650	88	13.54	4 [1–9]
		All 3	17	8	47.06	2 [NR–6]
		None	33,302	184	0.55	7 [1–34]
	Endometrial	Lung	1,898	225	11.85	7 [2–18]
		Liver	638	66	10.34	6 [2–15]
		Brain	87	15	17.24	2 [2–6]
		2 of 3	593	156	26.31	3 [1–9]
		All 3	36	18	50.00	3 [1–10]
		None	89,897	337	0.37	8 [2–19]
	Cervical	Lung	702	116	16.52	6 [3–13]
		Liver	250	63	25.20	6 [2–11]
		Brain	35	15	42.86	3 [1–6]
		2 of 3	259	103	39.77	4 [1–9]
		All 3	8	5	62.50	3 [1–10]
		None	21,514	256	1.19	10 [4–20]
	Other gynecologic	Lung	457	47	10.28	4 [1–10]
		Liver	187	17	9.09	6 [3–14]
		Brain	9	1	11.11	2 [2–2]
		2 of 3	137	17	12.41	2 [0–5]
		All 3	13	3	23.08	1 [NR]
		None	14,357	94	0.65	8 [3–22]
Brain and other nervous system	Brain and other nervous system	Lung	32	4	12.50	19 [3–NR]
		Liver	14	4	28.57	1 [NR–8]
		Brain	200	4	2.00	3 [NR]
		2 of 3	9	2	22.22	4 [NR-8]
		All 3	NA	NA	NA	NA
		None	32,872	45	0.14	16 [2–NR]

<sup>1</sup>, lip, tongue, gum, floor of mouth, & other mouth, salivary gland, oropharynx, nasopharynx, hypopharynx, pharynx, nasal cavity (including nasal cartilage), accessory, sinuses, middle & inner ear, larynx, trachea, orbit & lacrimal gland, retina, eyeball, eye, NOS. Gl, gastrointestinal; GU, genitourinary; GYN, gynecologic; SCLC, small-cell lung; NSCLC (NOS/others), non-small cell lung cancer not otherwise specified or non-small cell lung cancer other lung cancer; ADC, adenocarcinoma of the lung; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma of the lung; NSCLC (BAC), bronchioloalveolar carcinoma; NR, not reached; NA, not applicable.

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the current guidelines as these cancers are all at high risk of the development of bone metastases, although the routine use of bone screening is not recommended in NSCLC. Our data showed that the incidence of bone metastases at diagnosis in NSLCLC is relatively high. Therefore, in patients with a diagnosis of stage IV NSCLC, special focus should be dedicated to the screening of the bones.

Furthermore, screening of bone metastases is not routinely performed for patients with esophagus cancer (55). However, our data revealed a 7.99% and 20.74% incidence proportion of bone metastases in patients with esophagus cancer and metastatic esophagus cancer, respectively. Therefore, routine screening of bone metastases is necessary for patients with these cancers.

As screening was not routinely performed in these patients, bone metastases are always discovered only as a result of SREs, which may be a more advanced disease that shortens survival (56) and often requires surgical intervention or a more complex treatment plan. However, surgery for pathological fracture and loss of motor function and mobility might also increase mortality (5). Our data show a relatively high rate of bone metastasis in these populations—one which may be underestimated. Therefore, our findings may support the need to routinely screen for bone metastases at diagnosis for these patients.

As for patients with head and neck cancers, the incidence of comorbidity for liver metastasis and bone metastases is high. Patients with breast and bladder cancer have a high incidence of comorbidity with bone metastasis and brain, liver, or lung metastasis. Therefore, a diagnosis of bone metastases may be a strong signal that other sites of metastases may exist in patients. For lung cancer, we should pay attention to the comorbidity of bone metastases and liver metastases, while for digestive system cancer and gynecologic cancer, we may be more concerned about the comorbidity of bone metastases and brain metastases.

Previous studies have shown that patients with bone-only metastases have a better prognosis (57-59). For instance, previous investigators pointed out that the median survival time of patients with breast cancer and bone-only metastasis was about 20–50 months, which is much longer than multiple sites metastasis (60-63). This result is consistent with our findings. The incidence of bone-only metastasis is high in NSCLC (NOS/others), SCLC, ADC, bladder cancer, and esophageal cancer. So, for patients with these cancers, we must find a specific metastasis status. Because the treatment of bone-only metastasis is different from other sites or multiple sites metastasis (60), identifying boneonly metastasis may help clarify the clinical course, improve the prognosis for patients with bone-only metastasis, and estimate median survival time more accurately (64,65).

Our data also have value for the design of clinical trials. The data in our study may help investigators quantify the specific number of patients needed to be excluded from the trial enrollment, with bone metastasis as an exclusion criterion. Moreover, for studies or trials which are related to bone metastases, our study can provide generalizable estimates of incidence and prognosis for use in calculations and some trial design.

# Limitations

The present study has some potential limitations. Firstly, we only identified bone metastases at initial cancer diagnosis, and, because SEER cannot provide information relating to disease recurrence, we could not screen patients with bone metastases after initial diagnosis. Secondly, we do not have information relating to the number size and exact location of the bone metastases. Thirdly, screening was not conducted across all malignancies, and therefore some data of metastases might have been missed. Finally, treatment information for the metastatic sites was not provided, so we could not study the treatment received by each patient.

Although this study has several limitations, it provides new information regarding the epidemiology of bone metastasis. Incidence of bone metastasis and the specific proportion of patients with bone metastases among different cancer types could help in the development of the formation of screening paradigms for bone metastases, clinical treatment and trial design, and counseling of different subsets of patients with cancer.

# Conclusions

The results of this study provide population-based estimates of the incidence of bone metastasis and the specific incidence proportion of patients with bone metastasis diagnosis of solid tumors. We have shown that prostate cancer and breast cancer are most likely to occur with bone metastases. Additionally, the rate of bone metastasis was more than 20% in patients with lung, renal, bladder, thyroid, and esophageal cancers. We also found that the median survival time was more than 20 months in bone metastatic breast cancer, prostate cancer, and thyroid cancer. Conversely, the median survival time was the shortest in gastrointestinal, lung, and gynecologic cancer

with bone metastases. These data may help clinicians in their justification of using of bone screening, which may also have an important role in clinical trial design and better prognosis. The findings can support the decision of screening of the bone and extracranial metastases for patients with high-risk primary malignancy.

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# Footnote

*Conflicts of Interest:* All authors have completed the ICMJE uniform disclosure form (available at http://dx.doi. org/10.21037/atm.2020.03.55). The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

*Ethical Statement:* The authors are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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# Table S1 Incidence proportion of patients with identified bone metastases at diagnosis by primary cancer site as stratified by age, race, and gender

Table S1 Incidence pro	oportion of patients with ide	entified bone me		is by primary Age	Incidence	Incidence	d gender		Race	Incidence	Incidence proportion of		Number of patients with		Gender	Incidence	Incidence proportion
Site	Sub-site	Age category in years	bone metastases	5	proportion o rt bone metastas among entire cohort (%)	among subset with metastatic disease (%)	Hace	bone metastase	5	proportion of tbone metastas among entire cohort (%)	bone metastases among subset with metastatic disease (%)	Gender	brain metastases (total number of patients in subcategory)	of entire cohort	Number of metastatic disease	proportion of brain metastases among entire cohort	of brain metastases among subset with metastatic disease
Head and neck	Head and neck <sup>1</sup>	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	57 395 522 96	3,399 29,942 36,216 8,053	1.68 1.32 1.44 1.19	18.69 8.73 9.53 10.00	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander	819 103 99 80	59,043 6,300 6,062 5,093	1.39 1.63 1.63 1.57	9.55 11.12 12.04 10.99	Male Female	780 334	54,314 23,296	7,862 3,405	1.44 1.43	9.92 9.81
							American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	5	480 632	1.04	7.81						
Thyroid	Thyroid	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	37 186 370 86	24,002 39,558 22,434 2,362	0.15 0.47 1.65 3.64	9.16 19.79 24.25 18.03	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	380 103 92 100	57,307 6,109 14,305 9,179	0.66 1.69 0.64 1.09	19.84 34.92 13.61 23.75	Male Female	309 370	21,708 66,648	1,427 1,920	1.42 0.56	21.65 19.27
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	3	532 924	0.56	11.11 7.69						
Breast	Breast	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	1,140 6,294 7,022 1,805	24,616 176,055 194,444 41,232	4.63 3.58 3.61 4.38	50.11 52.34 56.07 51.69	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	10,908 2,447 1,707 1,067	298,403 48,090 48,576 36,476	3.66 5.09 3.51 2.93	55.70 50.19 48.72 51.37	Male Female	210 16,051	3,414 432,933	335 29,981	6.15 3.71	62.69 53.54
					o 1		Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	85 47	2,392 2,410	3.55	47.22 48.45		5 400	10 7 10	10 700	05.00	27.45
Respiratory system	Small cell	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	25 2,320 6,070 808	115 9,373 25,894 4,387	21.74 24.75 23.44 18.42	34.72 35.73 35.34 27.45	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	7,793 714 399 271	32,785 3,547 1,823 1,348	23.77 20.13 21.89 20.10	35.42 29.86 32.28 30.08	Male Female	5,103 4,120	19,710 20,059	13,736 12,950	25.89 20.54	37.15 31.81
	0	10,40			7.26	19.05	Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	42	230 36	18.26 11.11	29.37 25.00	Male	5 951	61,490	00.000	8.70	24.08
	Squamous cell carcinoma	a 18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	32 1,615 5,100 1,120	441 18,183 60,633 13,983	8.88 8.41 8.01	24.13 23.33 21.87	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	5,869 1,107 440 402	71,748 11,761 5,281 3,696	8.18 9.41 8.33 10.88	22.49 25.89 22.94 30.99	Female	5,351 2,516	31,750	22,226 11,617	7.92	21.66
	Adenocarcinoma	18–40	345	1,109	31.11	44.92	Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	41 8 21,226	556 198 107,687	7.37 4.04 19.71	21.35 11.76 37.07	Male	16,070	76,262	41,174	21.07	39.03
	Adenocarcinoma	41–60 61–80 >80	7,992 17,748 3,761	32,581 90,582 22,922	24.53 19.59 16.41	39.62 37.44 29.75	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	3,373 2,122 2,961	16,920 9,477 12,234	19.93 22.39 24.20	33.42 37.54 39.50	Female	13,776	70,932	39,807	19.42	34.61
	Decembration	10,40	0	00	10.04	07.07	Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	133 41	626 280	21.25	35.75 36.94	Mala	00	1 701	505	5.04	10.44
	Bronchioloalveolar adenocarcinoma	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	3 38 111 32	29 657 2,935 854	10.34 5.78 3.78 3.75	27.27 25.85 17.62 13.56	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	123 23 15 23	3,383 380 308 391	3.64 6.05 4.87 5.88	16.97 21.10 18.07 21.50	Male Female	96 88	1,701 2,774	585 439	5.64 3.17	16.41 20.05
				100	00 <i>li</i> l		Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	0	8	0.00	0.00			44 05 4			24.00
	Non-small cell and other	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	30 1,163 2,631 615	102 4,471 12,521 3,528	29.41 26.01 21.01 17.43	38.96 35.49 33.47 30.60	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	3,297 522 310 291	15,419 2,733 1,977 1,119	21.38 19.10 15.68 26.01	34.00 29.03 36.56 36.28	Male Female	2,681 1,758	11,654 8,968	7,699 5,525	23.00 19.60	34.82 31.82
	Freedow	40.40	~	070	40.00		Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	14 5	119 35	11.76 14.29	22.58 27.78	Mala	1 700	00.007	0.011	0.70	04 70
Digestive system	Esophagus	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	29 703 1,142 201	279 6,829 15,024 3,823	10.39 10.29 7.60 5.26	21.80 22.55 20.19 18.31	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	1,626 197 157 73	19,952 2,584 2,009 1,181	8.15 7.62 7.81 6.18	21.28 19.13 19.48 16.74	Male Female	1,788 287	20,367 5,588	8,211 1,749	8.78 5.14	21.78 16.41
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	22 0	165 64	13.33 0.00	28.95						
	Gastric	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	130 674 936 207	1,696 11,615 22,168 8,091	7.67 5.80 4.22 2.56	15.31 14.09 12.25 9.19	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	1,114 198 374 239	23,122 5,931 8,099 5,889	4.82 3.34 4.62 4.06	13.51 9.56 11.84 12.71	Male Female	1,283 664	26,580 16,990	10,021 5,504	4.83 3.91	12.80 12.06
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	20 2	371 158	5.39	13.42 9.09						
	Hepatobiliary	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	44 1,104 1,735 303	1,085 22,942 38,658 9,330	4.06 4.81 4.49 3.25	12.68 21.48 19.53 14.54	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	1,816 441 544 345	38,991 8,931 13,552 9,585	4.66 4.94 4.01 3.60	19.67 20.89 18.39 17.48	Male Female	2,365 821	47,281 24,734	9,859 6,595	5.00 3.32	23.99 12.45
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	37 3	773 183	4.79 1.64	23.13 15.00						
	Pancreatic	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	41 727 1,691 376	1,119 16,856 41,976 14,709	3.66 4.31 4.03 2.56	8.69 7.77 7.49 5.27	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	1,947 327 301 238	51,673 9,028 7,957 5,454	3.77 3.62 3.78 4.36	7.18 6.41 7.00 8.66	Male Female	1,695 1,176	38,321 36,339	20,973 18,562	4.42 3.24	8.08 6.34
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	19 3	406 142	4.68 2.11	8.60 5.26						
	Colorectal	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	131 1,023 1,459 472	9,175 76,643 117,593 45,862	1.43 1.33 1.24 1.03	5.76 5.77 6.15 5.49	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	1,969 468 371 244	166,744 30,329 28,276 20,419	1.18 1.54 1.31 1.19	5.76 6.18 6.13 6.08	Male Female	1,878 1,207	130,273 119,000	27,775 24,536	1.44 1.01	6.76 4.92
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	27 6	1,850 1,654	1.46 0.36	6.35 8.00						
	Anal	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	2 52 56 11	371 5,328 5,184 1,267	0.54 0.98 1.08 0.87	3.92 7.69 8.05 6.83	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	84 17 10 9	9,268 1,344 1,097 311	0.91 1.26 0.91 2.89	7.25 9.24 6.25 14.06	Male Female	53 68	4,481 7,669	524 1,060	1.18 0.89	10.11 6.42
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	1	65 65	1.54	7.14						
	Other GI	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	21 237 457 141	875 7,051 12,285 3,302	2.40 3.36 3.72 4.27	7.75 9.84 10.36 12.40	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	595 103 95 50	15,935 3,324 2,624 1,379	3.73 3.10 3.62 3.63	10.54 9.82 10.16 9.51	Male Female	344 512	10,793 12,720	3,542 4,687	3.19 4.03	9.71 10.92
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	10 3	142 109	7.04 2.75	16.95 20.00						
Genitourinary	Renal	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	128 1,740 2,976 759	4,916 35,278 51,015 9,912	2.60 4.93 5.83 7.66	37.21 38.70 39.42 36.01	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	3,921 557 755 315	68,184 12,112 14,206 5,234	5.75 4.60 5.31 6.02	39.25 38.23 36.90 37.54	Male Female	3,820 1,783	64,350 36,771	9,683 4,815	5.94 4.85	39.45 37.03
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	51 4	885 500	5.76 0.80	34.93 19.05						
	Bladder	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	15 385 1,029 411	1,296 20,264 71,202 31,517	1.16 1.90 1.45 1.30	26.79 33.92 31.08 28.96	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	1,423 171 143 88	102,014 7,255 7,846 5,196	1.39 2.36 1.82 1.69	31.54 28.31 27.88 35.48	Male Female	1,390 450	94,809 29,470	4,167 1,754	1.47 1.53	33.36 25.66
	_						Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	14 1	415 1,553	3.37 0.06	35.90 20.00						
	Prostate	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	14 3,321 11,230 5,185	327 93,062 229,600 23,855	4.28 3.57 4.89 21.74	73.68 87.44 88.33 90.54	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	12,788 3,396 2,213 1,119	234,522 53,642 32,440 16,142	5.45 6.33 6.82 6.93	88.66 88.92 88.56 89.88	Male Female	19,750 0	346,844 0	22,257 0	5.69 0	88.74 0
	<b>•</b> • •		·	**	·		Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	135 99	1,316 8,782	10.26 1.13	88.82 83.90						
	Testicular	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	87 42 14 0	11,893 4,119 594 55	0.73 1.02 2.36 0.00	6.14 8.79 15.56 0.00	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	89 10 38 4	11,001 506 1,959 712	0.81 1.98 1.94 0.56	7.60 12.99 5.99 5.13	Male Female	143 0	16,661 0	1,993 0	0.86 0	7.18 0
	0*6~~ 011	10 /2	6	450	0.00	60.00	Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	1 1 207	180 303 6.130	0.56 0.33 3.38	3.45 25.00 37.57	N # - '	100	6 610	E07	0.04	20.05
	Other GU	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	6 40 153 88	158 1,574 4,625 2,110	3.80 2.54 3.31 4.17	60.00 31.01 37.59 41.71	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	207 25 27 26	6,130 703 977 549	3.38 3.56 2.76 4.74	37.57 41.67 31.03 46.43	Male Female	199 88	6,610 1,857	507 250	3.01 4.74	39.25 35.20
			-	6.	-		Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	2 0 278	41 67 25 567	4.88	66.67 0.00		-	-	-	-	-
Gynecologic	Ovarian	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	25 121 202 74	2,872 14,266 16,029 4,301	0.87 0.85 1.26 1.72	2.44 1.51 1.73 2.30	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	278 61 49 33	25,567 3,270 5,073 3,209	1.09 1.87 0.97 1.03	1.67 2.73 1.64 1.84	Male Female	0 422	0 37468	0 23890	0 1.13	0 1.77
					·		Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	1 0 227	220 129	0.45	0.70		·	·		~	-
	Endometrial	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	17 320 436 74	3,935 36,826 46,037 6,351	0.43 0.87 0.95 1.17	6.34 11.29 9.80 9.81	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	327 93 88 47	12,015 3,084 5,164 2,124	2.72 3.02 1.70 2.21	16.93 15.25 12.48 15.67	Male Female	0 847	0 93149	0 8304	0 0.91	0 10.20
	-						Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	3 0	208 179	1.44 0.00	8.57 0.00	-					
	Cervical	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	75 163 190 30	6,351 10,523 4,993 907	1.18 1.55 3.81 3.31	15.66 9.61 15.93 13.95	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	120 22 22 13	120 1,347 1,522 751	100.00 1.63 1.45 1.73	33.06 47.83 37.29 59.09	Male Female	0 558	0 22,774	0 3,585	0 2.45	0 15.56
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	1	104 112	0.96 0.89	16.67 100.00						
	Other GYN	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	7 49 97 26	736 4,491 7,085 2,848	0.95 1.09 1.37 0.91	36.84 33.11 46.86 21.14	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	41 4 12 2	24,834 2,054 4,109 1,858	0.17 0.19 0.29 0.11	10.35 8.70 11.88 4.26	Male Female	0 179	0 15160	0 497	0 1.18	0 36.02
							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	0	144 128	0.00	0.00						
Brain and other nervous system	Brain and other nervous system	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	10 20 23 6	5,505 11,096 13,569 2,957	0.18 0.18 0.17 0.20	10.10 9.76 9.87 10.17	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	380 103 92 100	57,307 6,109 14,305 9,179	0.66 1.69 0.64 1.09	19.84 34.92 13.61 23.75	Male Female	29 30	18,734 14,393	351 245	0.15 0.21	8.26 12.24
4							Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	3	532 924	0.56 0.11	11.11 7.69						
<sup>1</sup> , lip, tongue, gum, flo Gynecologic; NOS, no	or of mouth, & other mout	, sallvary glar	ia, oropharynx, na	oopnarynx, l	uypopnarynx, pł	ימי אווא, nasal cavity (	noroung nasal cartil	accessory, sir مربع	uses, middle	unner ear, lary ع	, uacnea, orbit &	acrimal gla	, retina, eyeball,	eye, NOS. (	astrointes, س	unal, GU, Geni	ournary; GYN,

# Table S2 Median survival of patients with bone metastases by age, race, and gender

Site	Sub-site A	ge category in years	Number of patients with bone metastases	Median survival in months (interquartile s range)	Race	Number of patients with bone metastases	Median survival in months (interquartile s range)	Gender p	Number of patients with bone metastases	Median survival months (interqua range)
Head and neck	Head and neck <sup>1</sup>	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	57 395 522 96	15 [8–32] 9 [3–21] 7 [3–16] 4 [1–10]	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native	819 103 99 80 5	8 [3–16] 8 [3–18] 8 [3–20] 15 [8–35] 10 [5–15]	Male Female	780 334	8 [3–18] 8 [3–15]
'nyroid	Thyroid	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	37 186 370 86	52 [9–NR] 66 [7–NR] 22 [4–NR] 6 [2–23]	Unknown White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/	8 380 103 92 100 3	11 [3–16] 21 [4–82] 27 [3–60] 21 [3–64] 49 [9–NR] 2 [NR]	Male Female		22 [4–82] 23 [3–NR]
reast	Breast	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	1,140 6,294 7,022 1,805	42 [20–72] 32 [13–66] 25 [6–53] 12 [2–32]	Alaska Native Unknown White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander	1 10,908 2,447 1,707 1,067	5 [NR] 28 [8–59] 20 [6–43] 32 [12–63] 31 [12–62]	Male Female		23 [8–54] 27 [8–57]
ung	Small cell	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	25 2,320 6,070 808	8 [4–10] 7 [2–11] 5 [1–10] 2 [0–6]	American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander	85 47 7,793 714 399 271	34 [12–NR] NR [22–NR] 5 [1–10] 8.0 [2.0–16.0] 4 [1–10] 6 [2–10]	Male Female	5103 4,120	5 [1–10] 6 [1–10]
	Squamous cell carcinoma	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	32 1,615 5,100 1,120	8 [2.0–15.0] 4.0 [2.0–9.0] 3.0 [1.0–7.0] 2.0 [1.0–5.0]	American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	42 4 5,869 1,107 440 402	3 [1–9] 18 [5–18] 3.0 [1.0–7.0] 3.0 [1.0–8.0] 3.0 [1.0–9.0] 4.0 [1.0–9.0]	Male Female	5,351 2,516	3.0 [1.0–7.0] 3.0 [1.0–7.0]
	Adenocarcinoma	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	3 38 111 32	14 [5–29] 6 [2–16] 4 [1–12] 3 [1–8]	Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	41 8 21,226 3,373 2,122 2,961	4.0 [1.0–11.0] 2.0 [1.0–9.0] 4 [1–12] 4 [1–11] 6 [2–15] 11 [3–25]	Male Female	16,070 13,776	4 [1–11] 5 [2–15]
	Bronchioloalveolar adenocarcinoma	18–40 41–60 61–80	- 50 84	22 [4–38] 10 [5–21] 7 [2–21]	Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black Hispanic	133 41 92 20 11	5 [1–10] 13 [2–32] 6 [2–16] 5 [1–16] 11 [4–21]	Male Female	96 88	7 [2–19] 9 [3–2]
	Non-small cell and other	>80 18–40 41–60 61–80	13 30 1,163 2,631	6 [2–12] 7 [5–15] 4 [1–9] 3 [1–8]	Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black Hispanic	23 1 0 3,297 522 310	22 [9–39] NA NA 3 [1–7] 3 [1–7] 3 [1–10]	Male Female	2,681 1,728	3 [1–7] 3 [1–9]
il	Esophagus	>80 18–40 41–60	615 29 703	2 [1–5] 9 [2–31] 13 [4–38]	Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	291 14 5 198 14	4 [1–15] 2 [1–5] 2 [1–5] 11 [4–37] 12 [5–33]	Male Female	287 1,788	11 [4–35] 11 [3–44]
	Gastric	61–80 >80 18–40 41–60	1,142 201 130 674	11 [4–38] 11 [4–32] 5 [1–10] 4 [1–9]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	16 9 1 0 1,114 198	13 [4–43] 13 [4–43] 8 [4–19] NA 4 [1–9] 3 [1–7]	Male Female	1,283 664	3 [1–8] 3 [1–8]
	Hepatobiliary	61–80 >80 18–40 41–60	936 207 44 1,104	3 [1–9] 2 [0–5] 7 [3–13] 3 [1–7]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	374 239 20 2 1,816 441	3 [1-8] 3 [1-8] 5 [1-6] NA 3 [1-8] 3 [1-7]	Male Female	2,365 821	3 [1–7] 3 [1–8]
	Pancreatic	61–80 >80 18–40 41–60	1,735 303 41 727	3 [1–7] 2 [0–5] 8 [2–20] 3 [1–8]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	544 345 37 3 51,673 9,028	3 [1-8] 3 [1-7] 3 [1-9] 5 [1-5] 2 [1-6] 2 [1-6]	Male Female	1,695 1,176	2 [1–6] 2 [1–6]
	Colorectal	61–80 >80 18–40 41–60	1,691 376 131 1,023	2 [1–6] 1 [0–3] 10 [3–23] 9 [3–20]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	7,957 5,454 406 142 166,744 30,329	2 [1-8] 2 [1-6] 1 [0-5] 0 [0-1] 5 [1-14] 4 [2-15]	Male Female	1,878 1,207	5 [1–15] 5 [1–14]
	Anal	61–80 >80 18–40 41–60	1,459 472 2 52	4 [1–13] 2 [0–5] NA 14 [5–46]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	28,276 20,419 1,850 1,654 9,268 1,344	5 [2–18] 7 [2–19] 6 [4–9] 14 [2–14] 10 [5–27] 6 [5–22]	Male Female	53 68	8 [4–22] 14 [4–27]
	Other GI	61–80 >80 18–40 41–60	56 11 21 237	9 [4–24] 3 [1–8] 4 [1–11] 2 [1–8]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White Black	1,097 311 65 65 15,935 3,324	4 [2–NR] 5 [1–6] NA NA 3 [1–8] 2 [0–10]	Male Female	344 512	3 [1–10] 2 [1–7]
ιU	Renal	61–80 >80 18–40	457 141 128	3 [1–9] 2 [0–5] 10 [4–24]	Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	2,624 1,379 142 109 68,184	2 [0-6] 2 [1-10] 4 [1-6] 2 [2-NR] 6 [2-17]	Male	3,820	6 [2–18]
	Bladder	41–60 61–80 >80 18–40	1,740 2,976 759 15	8 [3–26] 6 [2–17] 3 [1–7] 8 [4–10]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	12,112 14,206 5,234 885 500 102,014	5 [2–14] 7 [2–19] 6 [2–20] 6 [2–12] 5 [5–50] 4 [1–10]	Female Male	1,783 1,390	5 [2–15] 4 [1–10]
	Prostate	41–60 61–80 >80 18–40	385 1,029 411 14	5 [2–11] 4 [1–11] 2 [1–6] 22 [13–38]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	7,255 7,846 5,196 415 1,553 234,522	4 [2–8] 4 [1–4] 5 [1–10] 1 [1–5] 5 (NR) 25 [10–53]	Female Male	450 19,750	3 [1–8] 25 [11–55]
	Testicular	41-60 61-80 >80 18-40	3,321 11,230 5,185 87	34 [17–72] 29 [12–65] 15 [5–33] NR [8–NR]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	53,642 32,440 16,142 1,316 8,782 11,001	25 [11–55] 24 [11–61] 34 [13–NR] 26 [10–55] NR 21.0 [4.5–NR]	Female Male	0 143	NA NR [7-NR]
	Other GU	41–60 61–80 >80 18–40	42 14 -	32 [4–NR] 8 [3–NR] NA 5 [5–18]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	506 1,959 712 180 303 6,130	NA NR [NR–NR] NR [14.0–NR] 14.0 [NR] NR 4 [1–9]	Female	0 199	NA 4 [1–9]
ΞΥN	Ovarian	41–60 61–80 >80 18–40	40 153 88 25	5 [2-14] 5 [1-9] 2 [1-7] 5 [2-9]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	703 977 549 41 67 25,567	4 [1-9] 5 [2-14] 7 [7-9] 4 [1-9] 4 [1-9] 4 [1-15]	Female	88	4 [1-10] 4 [1-10]
	Endometrial	18-40 41-60 61-80 >80	25 121 202 74 17	5 [2-9] 7 [2-19] 5 [1-23] 2 [0-7] 5 [5-10]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown White	23,307 3,270 5,073 3,209 220 129 12,015	4 [1-13] 7 [2-36] 4 [1-10] 7 [1-14] 2 [NR-NR] NA 6 [2-17]	Female	0 422 0	NA 5 [1–17] NA
		41–60 61–80 >80	320 436 74	8 [2–20] 6 [1–15] 3 [1–10]	Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	3,084 5,164 2,124 208 179	4 [1–12] 6 [1–15] 9 [3–28] 10 [9–20] NA	Female	847	6 [2–15]
	Cervical	18-40 41-60 61-80 >80	75 163 190 30	8 [3–15] 7 [3–18] 5 [2–13] 3 [1–7]	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	120 1,347 1,522 751 104 112	6 [2–16] 5 [3–12] 6 [2–14] 12 [4–23] 1 [NR–13] NR [NR–NR]	Male Female	0 558	NA 6 [2–15]
	Other GYN	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	7 49 97 26	8 [3–NR] 9 [3–29] 4 [2–12] 3 [1–16]	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian/ Alaska Native Unknown	24,834 2,054 4,109 1,858 144 128	5 [2–17] 3 [2–16] 4 [2–16] 9 [6–14] 1 [1–1] 1 [1–1]	Male Female	0 179	NA 6 [2–16]
Brain and other Pervous system	Brain and other nervous system	18–40 41–60 61–80 >80	10 20 23 6	NR [15–NR] NR [3–NR] 8 [2–NR] NR [NR–2]	White Black Hispanic Asian or Pacific	57,307 6,109 14,305 9,179	10 [3–NR] 19 [1–NR] NR [2–NR] 1 [NR]	Male Female	29 30	15 [3–NR] 19 [2–NR]

<sup>1</sup>, lip, tongue, gum, floor of mouth, & other mouth, salivary gland, oropharynx, nasopharynx, hypopharynx, pharynx, nasal cavity (including nasal cartilage), accessory, sinuses, middle & inner ear, larynx, trachea, orbit & lacrimal gland, retina, eyeball, eye, NOS. GI, gastrointestinal; GU, genitourinary; GYN, gynecologic; SCLC, small-cell lung cancer; NSCLC (NOS/others), non-small cell lung cancer not otherwise specified or non-small cell lung cancer other lung cancer; ADC, adenocarcinoma of the lung; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma of the lung, NSCLC (BAC), bronchioloalveolar carcinoma; NR, not reached; NA, not applicable.