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Oral Presentation

S32. ARE MOST OF CHRONIC DISEASES REALLY IDIOPATHIC? EXPOSURES AND CHRONIC DISEASES

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Idiopathic simply means that no cause can be determined for a medical condition. Some common diseases such as pulmonary fibrosis, thrombocytopenic purpura and portal hypertension, remain idiopathic, meaning that despite their frequency physicians have not been able to determine their etiology, underlying mechanism and what triggers them. While physicians and researchers have an enormous amount of information about disease and the human body, many conditions are affected by a range of factors, making it difficult to pinpoint a specific cause. Additionally, much remains to be learned about the causes of many conditions. At this point, during disease management in clinical practice, clinicians mostly focus on conventional risk factors and etiologies. Almost every day most of people expose several life threatening factors both in daily life and working life. A wide variety of materials that have a part in our lives such as fluorescent lamps, thermometers, batteries or insecticide, can play role in the etiology of many diseases that we describe as idiopathic. In this presentation, the relationship between chronic diseases as known idiopathic and exposure to heavy metals, toxic and chemical substance will be discussed.