



# Prevalence of dementia in Hong Kong

- Collaborative project of DH and CUHK
- Through Thematic Household Survey
- Objectives
  - Identify current prevalence of dementia in community living elders
  - Detect dementia of different severity, particularly mild dementia



# Methodology and Results

## ○ Phase 1 –

- 6100 subjects successfully interviewed.
  - 2073 subjects screened positive for questionable or diagnosable dementia and invited to Phase 2.

## ○ Phase 2 –

- 737 subjects assessed by psychiatrists.
- 143 subjects diagnosed as dementia.



# Prevalence of dementia

	<b>60-64</b>	<b>65-69</b>	<b>70-74</b>	<b>75-79</b>	<b>80-84</b>	<b>85 or above</b>
Prevalence rate	1.2	2.5	3.5	9.9	19	32.1
Women	0.4	3.2	5.3	11.4	24	32
Men	1.9	1.9	1.6	8.3	12.2	33.1

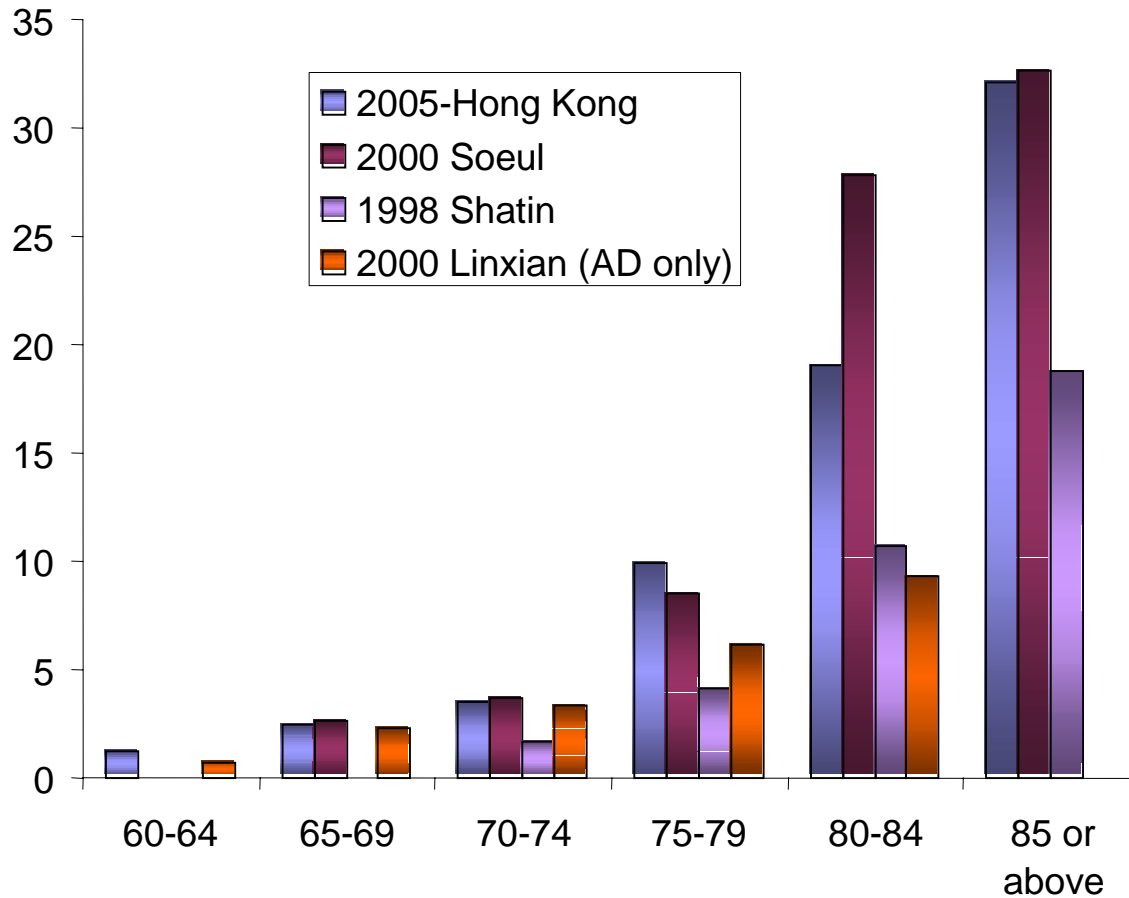
Prevalence rate represented in % of population within corresponding age groups



# Population prevalence, severity and subtypes of dementia

- Overall weighted population prevalence
  - 60 or above – 7.2% (Women – 9.85%, Men – 4.2%)
  - 70 or above – 9.3% (Women – 15.3%, Men – 8.9%)
- Severity
  - Mild dementia – 83%
  - Moderate dementia – 10%
  - Severe dementia – 7%
- Known history of dementia – 11%
- Subtypes of dementia
  - Alzheimer's disease – 63%
  - Vascular dementia – 20.3%
  - AD with cerebrovascular risk factors and Mixed dementia (AD and vascular) – 12%
  - Dementia with Lewy bodies – 0.7%
  - Other dementia – 4%

# Prevalence of dementia - comparison



Zhou et al., Acta Neurol Scand 2006; Chiu et al., Neurology, 1998;  
Lee et al., JAGS 2006



# Implications

- 9.3% of community living elders aged over 70 suffer from dementia of all severity
- By projection, over 70,000 elders suffer from dementia in the community
- Most demented elders in the community are suffering from mild dementia (83%)
- Most are not known to any medical services (89%)
- Better health care planning for demented elders are needed to maintain the independent functioning of those with mild dementia
- Longterm planning for more severely impaired elders are needed