

Characteristics of Primary Colorectal Signet Ring Cell Carcinoma

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Purpose: Primary colorectal signet ring cell carcinoma is a rare disease entity and there is little information on its characteristics compared to ordinary colorectal adenocarcinoma. The aim of this study was to acknowledge the differences of clinicopathological features between colorectal signet ring cell carcinoma and ordinary colorectal adenocarcinoma.

Methods: The author analyzed clinicopathological features of 742 consecutive surgical patients with colorectal carcinoma operated at Korean Cancer Center Hspital between January 1993 and December 1999. 19 patients with primary colorectal signet ring cell carcinoma were identified and their clinicopathological features and survival data were evaluated and compared with those of the ordinary colorectal adenocarcinoma in a retrospective study matched for age, gender, and stage.

Results: 19 (2.6%) cases of primary signet ring cell carcinoma were identified and 26 (3.5%) cases of mucin-producing adenocarcinoma were identified. Male-to-female ratio of the signet ring cell carcinoma was 1.4:1. Mean age was 44±16 years and median age was 41 year (range, 22-78 year). No patient had Stage I disease. The majority of patients had an advanced tumor stage at the time of diagnosis (15.8 percents Stage II, 68.4 percents Stage III, 15.8 percents Stage IV). Median survival time was 29 months (P=0.0084). In a study matched for age, gender, and stage, a lower survival rate was found for patients with signet ring cell carcinoma (P=0.0021). In contrast to ordinary adenocarcinoma, signet ring cell carcinoma was characterized by a significantly higher incidence

of locoregional recurrence (50%) and peritoneal tumor spread (30%), but a lower incidence of hematogenous metastases (10%).

Conclusions: Primary signet ring cell colorectal carcinoma represents a rare and is frequently diagnosed in advanced tumor stage, thus showing an overall poorer prognosis than ordinary colorectal carcinoma. A high incidence of locoregional recurrence and peritoneal seeding and an incidence of hematogenous metastasis are characteristic of signet-ring cell carcinoma. This different pattern of biology would be justified to different management of primary colorectal signet ring cell carcinoma. **J Korean Soc Coloproctol 2001;17:267-272**

Key Words: Colorectal carcinoma, Signet ring cell carcinoma

0.1 2.4%

1951 Laufman Saphir¹

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215-4
(: 139-706)
Tel: 02-970-1219, Fax: 02-972-3093
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2001

가

2,3

1993 1 1999 12
742
19
가
77
26

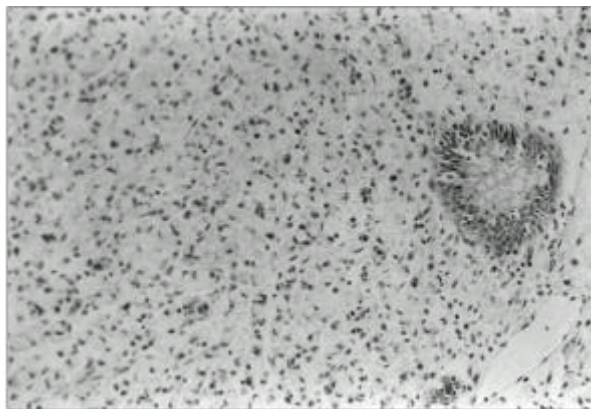


Fig. 1. Microscopic finding of colorectal signet ring cell carcinoma (H&E, ×200).

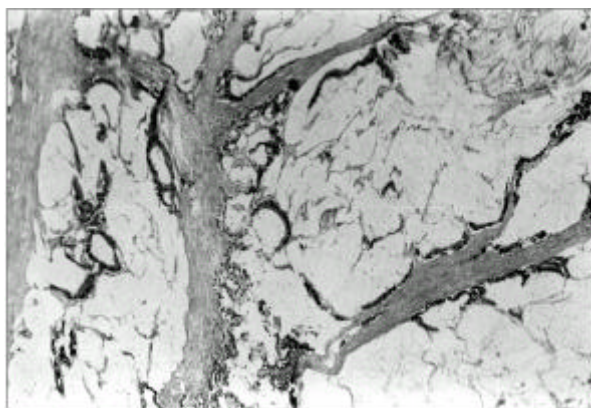


Fig. 2. Microscopic finding of colorectal carcinoma, mucinous type (H&E, ×100).

Hematoxylin-Eosin

가 (Fig. 1).

50%

(Fig. 2).⁴

Chi-Square test Fisher's exact test,
Student's t-test P 0.05
Kaplan-Meier
method
log-rank test

1)

742

19

26

3.5%

2.6%

2)

1.5 : 1

1.5 : 1,

1

± 13.1 , 49.8 ± 11.8

14 : 1

1.2 :

43.9 ± 15.9 , 52.8

(Table 1).

742

40

64 (9.2%)

9 (47.4%)

(P=0.005).

Table 1. Age and sex distribution

	Signet ring cell (n=19)	Mucinous (n=26)	Matched control (n=77)
M:F	14 : 1	15 : 1	15 : 1
Mean age (yrs)	43.9 ± 15.9	52.8 ± 13.1	49.8 ± 11.8
Median age (yrs)	41 (22 73)	56 (22 75)	51 (11 72)

Table 2. Distribution of tumor site

Site	Signet-ring cell n=19		Matched control n=77		Mucinous n=26	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cecum			3	3.9	2	7.7
Ascending colon	2	10.5	4	5.2	1	3.8
Hepatic flexure			2	2.6	2	7.7
Transverse colon	1	5.3	3	3.9		
Splenic flexure						
Descending colon	2	10.5	2	2.6	1	3.8
Sigmoid colon			5	6.5	4	15.4
Rectum	14	73.7	58	75.3	16	61.5

Table 3. Gross morphology

Borrmann type	Signet ring cell n=18		Mucinous n=25		Non-mucinous n=619	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
I	2	11.1	3	12.0	73	11.8
II	6	33.3	8	32.0	338	54.6
III	7	38.9	12	48.0	192	31.0
IV	3	16.7	2	8.0	16	2.6

Table 4. Distribution of TNM stage

TNM stage	Signet ring cell n=19		Mucinous n=26		Matched control n=77	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
I	0	0	0	0	0	0
II	3	15.8	11	42.3	13	16.9
III	13	68.4	11	42.3	57	74.0
IV	3	15.8	4	15.4	7	9.1

3) 70% (Table 2). Borrmann type I, II, III, IV (38.9%, 48.0%) Borrmann II (54.6%) Borrmann (Table 3).

4) 1997 UICC TNM I 37.7% . TNM III IV 84.2%, 83.1% (Table 4). (680) TNM I 가 83 (12.2%), TNM III IV

가 330 (48.6%) (P=0.004).

5) CEA CEA 5 ng/ml , CEA 50% CEA (Table 5).

6) 47.4%, 35.1% 35.1%, 가 (Table 6). 4

Table 5. Blood CEA levels

CEA level (≥ 5 ng/ml)	Signet ring cell		Matched control		Mucinous	
	No./total No.	%	No./total No.	%	No./total No.	%
Preoperative	7/14	50.0	27/60	45.0	10/22	45.5
Recur	3/9	33.3	5/17	29.4	5/10	50.0

Table 6. Patterns of recurrence

Site of recurrence	Signet ring cell		Matched control		Mucinous		Non-mucinous	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	9	47.4	27	35.1	10	38.5	263	37.7
Peritoneum	3	30	3	9.7	5	45.5	24	9.1
Locoregional	5	50	6	19.4	1	9.1	21	8.0
Hematogenous	1	10	18	58.1	3	27.3	190	72.2
Lymph node	1	10	4	12.9	2	18.2	28	10.6

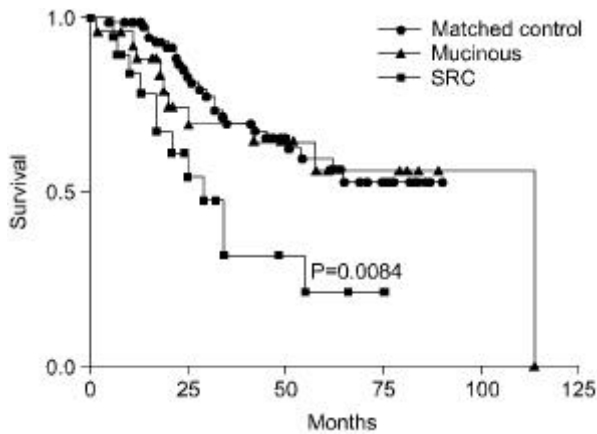


Fig. 3. Survival curve of signet ring cell carcinoma, mucinous carcinoma and matched control.

29
(P=0.0084).

742
, 3.5%가

2.1%가

0.1 2.6%
7 2.6% (14.2%), 2.5,6,8,11
10 1.7% (18.5%)

가

(14 31%)^{9,12}

, 1 , , .

3 , 3

10 , 3 , 2,5-7,10,13,14

7) thakis ¹¹ 가 , Psa-
3 Sasaki ¹⁵ , Secco

Fig. 3 . 5 가

21.1%, 56.3%, 59.6%

5,7,8,10,15

Messerini ² 63.5
 Secco ³ 60 (30 81)

가 ⁷ CEA 가
 63.2%,
 55.0%, 33.3% CEA

60

CEA

50.0% CEA 가

Nissan ¹³

가

70%가

2,5,6,8,11,15

78.3%가,

⁷

¹⁰

(7)

10 8 (80%)

1 (10%)

80%

(72.2%)

(17.1%)

263 190

, 45

Messerini ²

(45.5%),

(27.3%)

Psathakis ¹¹

, Tung ⁵

Anthony ⁶

가

2,3,5-7,10,11,13-15

Messerini ² Dukes A
 , 34 24 가 C, D
 . Tung ⁵ 28 22 (78.6%)가

가

TNM III , 4 (14.3%)가 TNM IV

가

. Psathakis ¹¹ TNM I

, 14 13 (92.8%)

가 TNM III IV

가

5

20

40%

9.1 50%

TNM I

2,3,5,6

, TNM III IV

5

21.1%

19 16 (84.2%),

56.3%, 59.6%

680 330 (48.6%),

26 15 (57.7%)

가

,¹¹

가

가

5,10,16

가

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