

The Effects and Surgical Morbidity of Preoperative Combined Chemoradiotherapy for Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer

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Purpose: The aim of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness and surgical morbidity of preoperative chemotherapy for locally advanced rectal cancer.

Methods: Between December 1997 and March 2000, 36 patients with locally advanced rectal cancer (clinical stage II or III) were treated with preoperative chemoradiation. The regimen consisted of bolus intravenous leucovorin, 20 mg/m², plus 24-hour continuous intravenous 5-Fluorouracil, 425 mg/m², Days 1-5, 29 concurrent radiotherapy 4,500 cGy over 5 weeks. Surgery was performed 4-8 weeks after completion of the chemoradiotherapy.

Results: Grade 3-4 toxicity during chemoradiotherapy was low: hematological toxicities 2.8%, gastrointestinal toxicities 5.5% and skin toxicities 8.3%. Complete response rate was 16.7% and partial response rate 47.2%, the rate of downstaging for tumor was 65.5%. The overall rate of resectability was 94.1%. In 13 of 22 patients planned APR, the sphincter was preserved. The overall rate of surgical morbidity was 23.5% but there was no postoperative mortality. One patient needed a reoperation because a complication may be associated with preoperative chemoradiotherapy.

Conclusions: Preoperative chemoradiotherapy for locally advanced rectal cancer seems to afford some potential advantages: patients are able to tolerate higher therapy doses with low toxicities; tumor downstaging rates are high; sphincter preservation is possible; but perioperative morbidity has generally increased. And so we recommend the preoperative chemoradiotherapy may be one of the best treatments

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Key Words: Rectal cancer, Locally advanced, Preoperative chemoradiotherapy

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2001

T1 T2 가 , 가

1997 12 2000 3 28 ,

36 (Clinical staging)

MRI , CT (complete response), 50% 가 (partial response), 가 (no response)^{12,13}

(T3, T4), 가 62.5 modified National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria^{7,14}

T3가 25 , T4가 10 , T2 가 가 1 , 12 cm , 7 cm 가 26 , 7 12 cm 가 10 (Table 1).

4,500 cGy 5 1) 5 5 leucovorin 20 3 8.3%, 5.5%, 2.8% (5-FU) 425 mg/m² 24 , 4 (Table 2).

CT MRI , 2) (downstaging) 6 2 4 (D2) 32 ,), 17 (47.2%) (Table 3, Fig. 1). (frozen 가 가 pelvis) , 32

Table 1. Characteristics of patients

No. of patients	36
Mean age (range)	62.5 (39 81) yr
Gender (M : F)	22 : 14
Clinical stage of tumor	
T2 with positive node	1
T3	25
T4	10
Tumor level	
Upper (7 12 cm)	10
Lower (\leq 7 cm)	26
Dose of radiation	
4,500 cGy	35
4,500+booster 540 cGy	1

2

(complete response), 가 (partial response), 가 (no response)^{12,13} modified National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria^{7,14}

1) 3 8.3%, 5.5%, 2.8% , 4 (Table 2).

2) (downstaging) 6 2 4 (D2) 32 ,), 17 (47.2%) (Table 3, Fig. 1). 가 가

Table 2. Acute toxicity of chemoradiotherapy

	Grade*			
	1	2	3	4
Hematological	9 (25.0%)	4 (11.1%)	1 (2.8%)	—
Intestinal	3 (8.3%)	4 (11.1%)	2 (5.5%)	—
Skin	7 (19.4%)	3 (8.3%)	3 (8.3%)	—

*according to the modified National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria

Table 3. The types of response according to the clinical and pathologic stages

Clinical stage (TNM)	Response			Rate of response
	Complete	Partial	No (pro)	
II	4	3	2	7/9 (77.8%)
III	2	14	9 (2)	16/27 (59.3%)
Total	6 (16.7%)	17 (47.2%)	13 (36.1%)	23/36 (63.9%)

Pro = progression



Fig. 1. Pelvic CT shows marked rectal wall thickening and periserosal fat infiltration before chemoradiation (left). Same level pelvic CT after chemoradiation, considerable improvement of wall thickening and periserosal fat infiltration is seen (right).

Table 4. Effect of chemoradiotherapy on the staging of rectal cancer (AJCC/UICC)

Stage	Initial clinical stage	Final pathologic stage
T0, N0	—	4 (12.5%)
I	—	2 (6.3%)
II	8 (25%)	17 (53.1%)
III	24 (75%)	9 (28.1%)
Total	32 (100%)	32 (100%)

Table 5. Distribution of pathologic T stage vs. clinical T stage (%)

cT	pT				Total
	pT0	pT1	pT2	pT3	
cT2	—	1 (3.1)	—	—	1 (3.1)
cT3	6 (18.8)	1 (3.1)	3 (9.4)	11 (34.4)	21 (65.6)
cT4	—	—	1 (3.1)	9 (28.1)	10 (31.3)
Total	6 (18.8)	2	4 (12.5)	20 (62.5)	32 (100)

pT = Pathologic T stage; cT = Clinical T stage

Table 6. Types of surgery and resectability

Curative operations	32
Anterior resection	2
Low anterior resection	17
Coloanal anastomosis	4
Abdominoperineal resection	9
Palliative colostomy*	2
No operation [†]	2
Rate of resectability	94.1%

*Frozen pelvis; [†] Refusal of operation, but clinical complete response.

Table 7. The rate of sphincter preservation according to the tumor level

Tumor level	Sphincter preserved	Sphincter not preserved	Total
Lower (≤ 7 cm)	13 (59.1%)	9 (40.9%)	22 (100%)
Upper (> 7 cm)	10 (100%)	—	10 (100%)
Total	23 (71.9%)	9 (28.1%)	32 (100%)

2 :
 2 가 8 (25%), 3 가 24 (75%) , 1 , 1
 ,
 가 4 (12.5%), 1 가 2 (6.3%), 2 17
 (53.1%), 3 9 (28.1%) (Table 8).
 (Table 4). (T stage)
 downstaging T2 T1 1 , T3 T0 6 , T1 1 5)
 , T2 3 , T4 T2 1 , T3 9 21 29 (18
 (65.5%) (Table 5). 44) , 4 (12.5%)
 3) 1 (3.1%) 28
 , 2 11
 2 34 20 , 1 19
 가 가 32 94.1% . 2
 . 2 10 cm, 12 cm .
 douglas pouch가
 가 , 17
 가 , 4 ,
 9 (Table 6). 23
 71.9% 가 ,
 22 13 (59.1%)
 (Table 7).
 4)
 , 8
 (23.5%)
 가
 6 .

Table 8. Operative morbidity and mortality

Perioperative mortality	0
Patients with complications	8 (23.5%)
Major	
Wound dehiscence	1
Anastomotic leakage*	1
Minor	
Delayed perineal wound healing (over 30 days)	5
Abdominal wound infection	3
Urinary retention	4
Urinary tract infection	2

*Technical problem

Table 9. Preoperative chemoradiation for rectal cancer

Author	Pts n	Selection criteria	Treatment		Grade 3+toxicity %		Pathologic CR %	Sphincter saving %
			Rad Gy	Chemotherapy	Hemat.	Diarrh.		
Chari, Duke Univ.	43	T2-3	45	Bolus 5FU+CDDP X2	14	19	27	14
Rich, M.D. Anderson	77	T1-3 (75% T3)	45	PVI 5FU	6	1	29	68
Grann, MSKCC	32	T3	50.4	Bolus 5FU/LV X2	12	16	9	85
¹³⁾ Yonsei Univ.	33	T3-4	45 50.4	5FU/LV X2	—	—	10	?
In this study PMC	36	T3-4	45	CI 5FU+Bolus LV X2	2.8	5.5	12.5	59.1

Rad = radiation; CR = complete response; CDDP = cisplatinium; PVI = protracted venous infusion; CI = continuous infusion

5-FU 425 mg/m² 3 8.3%, 5.5%, 2.8%

2 3 15-18 21%, 16%, 5%, 6%

Chari²⁴ 14%, Grann¹⁴ 12%, Rich 1%, Chari²⁴ Grann¹⁴ 5-FU 24 bolus Cisplantin

3-6,19-22 Chari²⁴ 5-FU radiation sensitizer 7,8,23 25,26 가 5 가 5-FU 27 Jajan²⁸ T2, T3 (4,500 cGy) 12.5% (Table 9). 5-FU 500 mg/m², cisplatin 20 mg/m² 5 9 27% (Table 9). bolus (2 cycles) , Rich⁵ Grann¹⁴ 13 9 12.5% Chari²⁴ Rich⁵ (4,500 cGy) 5-FU 300 mg/m² 5 27 29% , Grann¹⁴ T3 32 13 T3, T4 Grann¹⁴ leucovorin 20 mg/m² bolus 5 (2 cycles) , 13 T3, T4 33 , Chari²⁴ Rich⁵ T1, T2 (4,500 5,040 cGy) 5-FU 325 mg/m² , Chari²⁴ Rich⁵ T3, T4 가 T3 T4 가 (T2 가 1) 36 (4,500 cGy) 가 5-FU 425 mg/m², leucovorin 20 mg/m² 5 (2 cycles) 24 Grann¹⁴ 13 2 (5.6%) , 13 3 (9.1%) Jajan 29 4 (3%) 가 Jajan²⁹ 가 3 48% 13% 3 75%

가 가 , 가 30
가 가 , 가 55.5% 가
가 , 6 , 8.8% (3)
11.7% (4) , 1 1
, ,
94.1% ¹³ 91% , Janjan ²⁹
71.9% ,
, Habar-Gama ³⁰
59.1% 가 . Minsky ¹
가 (T2, 2; T3, 28)
30
(5,040 cGY) 83% downstaging
, Grann ¹⁴ Rich ⁵ 85%, 68% , Chari ²⁴ 25
3 가 , Rich ⁵ 27 5%, 5 93%,
3 가 , 3 83%, Grann ¹⁴ 22 4%,
0%, 3 100% .
, 3.1% ,
2
5 ,
, ,
가 ^{6,22,23} Shumate ⁶
가 . Janjan
²⁹
1%, 8%, 3% 가
1% (1) 가
, 가
. Habar-Gama ³⁰
53.6%, 9% ,
9.8%, 3.8%, 2.5%, 2.5% ,
5.1%, 2.5%

가

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