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Colorectal liver metastasectomy benchmark in a tertiary center in Saudi Arabia

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Introduction: The incidence of colorectal cancer in Saudi Arabia is increasing. Almost 50% of patients develop liver metastases. Liver surgery has demonstrated a great impact on survival and only chance for cure but with considerable risks for morbidity. In our Institution, experience with liver surgery is short. Thus, in this study we aimed to evaluate our outcomes in patients with colorectal cancer hepatic metastasectomy.

Methodology: A retrospective analysis of prospectively collected data was conducted on our Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) database on all consecutive colorectal cancer hepatic metastasectomy cases performed from 2007 to 2014.

Results: Our findings demonstrated that 32 patients underwent 35 liver resections for colorectal cancer metastasis. A number of patients were excluded due to missing data. The average number of cases per year is 4. Mean age was 53.7 years and majority were males (69%). 26 resections were major resections (>2 segments). Mean operative time was 340.8 minutes. Pre-operative portal vein embolization was needed in 6 patients. Median follow-up period was 14.88 months. Three patients died within 60 days of surgery; all fulfilled the 50:50 liver dysfunction criteria. Recurrence was documented in 19 patients. Three patients underwent a redo hepatectomy, 2 developed recurrence within 8 months. Median overall survival was 23.97 months and the disease-free survival was 4.78 months.

Conclusion: To conclude, liver resection is a feasible option in our center with acceptable survival rates. Attention should be given to reduce the risk of postoperative liver dysfunction as it is the major contributor to early mortality.

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