Adherence to postmastectomy radiation therapy among N2/N3 female breast cancer in Taiwan and its associated predicting factors: A national wide retrospective population-based study

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This study aimed to explore treatment compliance and the associative factors of postmastectomy radiation therapy (PMRT) among N2/N3 female breast cancer. We identified the targeted population from the Taiwan National Health Insurance Claims Database from 2002-2012 and the Taiwan Cancer Registry Database. We included patients who were newly diagnosed unilateral breast cancer women with pathological N2 or N3 between 2004 and 2009, and who were underwent mastectomy. Metastasis breast cancer patients and patients with radiation therapy for disease recurrence were excluded. The total population was 5,489. Chi-square and Kaplan–Meier survival analysis were performed. The result showed that 29.76% of patients did not have PMRT, which was associated with elderly, high severity of comorbidities, early diagnosis years, advanced stage, and no adjuvant chemotherapy. Patients who received PMRT had better overall survival, better disease-free survival and less probability of receiving a second breast surgery or radiation therapy, than patients who did not receive PMRT.

Biography

Zhen-Ying Liu obtained her master degree from Mercer University School of Medicine Master of Public Health Program in Georgia, United States, and her undergraduate from Taipei Medical University School of Nursing in Taiwan. Currently, she is a research assistance at Koo Foundation Sun Yat-Sen Cancer Center in Taipei, Taiwan and working with a multidisciplinary research team on cancer-related studies.

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