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The benefit of chemotherapy in treatment of advanced cholangiocarcinoma (NEMROCK experience)

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Background: Cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) is a rare malignant tumor and unfortunately, the prognosis of the patients is generally poor that increasing the need for effective cancer treatment. In Egypt, the incidence rate of biliary tract carcinoma varies by geographical stratum. Its incidence range between 0.3 in lower Egypt to 1.6 in upper Egypt and 710 new cases are the estimate for 2020 with female-to-male ratios 1.4.

Aim: Therefore the aim of this retrospective study was to review the epidemiological features and the impact of chemotherapy on our Egyptian patients with advanced CCA presented to our center.

Patients & Methods: A total of 44 patients with advanced or metastatic CCA were treated with palliative chemotherapy from January 2005 to October 2016.

Results: The median age was 53 years (range 31–75years), with female to male ratio 1.37. Hilar tumor was the most common site of the tumor in 50% of patients and 18 (40.9%) patients had advanced local disease. The median OS and PFS times of all patients were 9 and 7 months respectively. On univariate analysis, good performance status ($P=0.009$) and combined chemotherapy ($P=0.001$) were significantly correlated with long survival. Meanwhile, low bilirubin level (<5 mol/L) and treated with combined chemotherapy were significantly correlated with long PFS ($P=0.004$ and $P=0.001$ respectively). Combined treatment modalities is the only factor statistically associated with improved OS (HR 0.204 (95% CI, 0.041-1.003, $P=0.05$) and PFS (HR 0.148 (95% CI, 0.028-0.781) after multivariate analysis.

Biography

Hanan Selim is currently working as Assistant Professor of Clinical Oncology at Cairo University, Egypt. Her research experience includes various programs, contributions and participation at different countries for diverse fields of study. Her research interests reflect in her wide range of publications in various national and international journals. Her research fields of interest include Oncology, Clinical Oncology, etc.

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