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Triple negative breast cancer has worse overall survival and cause-specific survival than non-triple negative breast cancer

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The current American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) staging manual uses tumor size, lymph node and metastatic status to stage breast cancer across different subtypes. We examined the prognosis of triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) vs. non-TNBC within the same stages and sub-stages to evaluate whether TNBC had worse prognosis than non-TNBC. We reviewed the National Cancer Institute Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) data and identified 158,358 patients diagnosed with breast cancer from 2010 to 2012. The overall survival (OS) time and breast cancer cause-specific survival time were compared between patients with TNBC and non-TNBC in each stage and sub-stages. The results were validated using a dataset of 2049 patients with longer follow-up from our institution. Compared with patients with non-TNBC, patients with TNBC had worse OS and breast cancer cause-specific survival time in every stage and sub-stage in univariate and multivariate analyses adjusting for age, race, tumor grade and surgery and radiation treatments in the SEER data. The worse OS time in patients with TNBC was validated in our institutional dataset. Patients with TNBC have worse survival than patients with non-TNBC. The new AJCC staging manual should consider breast cancer biomarker information.

Biography

Xiaoxian (Bill) Li has completed his MD and PhD degrees and Oncological and Breast Pathology Fellowship from MD Anderson Cancer Center. He is the Associate Director of Glenn Family Breast Center, Winship Cancer Institute, and Assistant Professor of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Emory University. He has published more than 35 papers in reputed journals.

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