

Age-Dependent Five-Year Survival in Patients with Stage I Endometrial Carcinoma

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Aim. To determine the impact of age at diagnosis on the survival of patients with stage I endometrial carcinoma.

Methods. The study encompassed 459 patients treated for stage I endometrial cancer in the Department from 1975 to 1985. The patients were divided into 3 groups; group 1 – 50 (10.9%) patients younger than 50 years; group 2 – 273 (59.5%) 50 to 65 years of age; and group 3 – 136 (29.6%) patients older than 65 years. The groups were compared with regard to the size of the uterus, exfoliative cytology findings, histological type and grade of tumor differentiation, depth of myometrial invasion, concentrations of hormone steroid receptors, type and volume of therapy, association with other diseases and five-year survival. According to the histological type, grade of differentiation and depth of myometrial invasion, the patients were divided into low and high risk groups.

Results. There were 16.0% of the high risk patients in the first age group, 34.4% in the second age group and 52.2% in the third age group ($p < 0.001$). Five year survival, of the patients in the first group was good (96.0%) regardless of the presence of unfavorable prognostic factors. After the fifth year of the follow up, 18.9% of the patients from the second ($p < 0.001$) and 24.4% from the third ($p < 0.04$) age group were dead due to endometrial carcinoma.

Conclusion. Patients under 50 years of age with stage I endometrial carcinoma tend to have fewer unfavorable prognostic factors and survive longer than the patients in the 50-65 and ≥ 65 age groups. The presence of unfavorable prognostic factors did not influence adversely the outcome of the disease in any patient under fifty.

Key words: age factors; carcinoma; endometrium; survival