

Benefits and Disadvantages of Neoadjuvant Radiochemotherapy (RCT) in the Multimodal Therapy of Squamous Esophageal Cancer (ESC)

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Abstract

Introduction: The purpose of this paper is to present the advantages and disadvantages of neoadjuvant RCT in multimodal therapy of ESC.

Material and method: Between 1998-2014 221 patients were treated with ESC, 85 of whom received neoadjuvant RCT. For these we have made imaging and pathologic assessment of response using RECIST and MANDARD criteria and statistical data were interpreted in terms of the factors that influence the response. Also, they were evaluated statistical correlations between RCT and resectability, postoperative morbidity, mortality and long-term survival.

Results: 45 patients were imaging responders and 34 underwent surgery, 40 non-responders of which 14 underwent surgery. Of the 48 surgical patients with preoperative RCT, histopathological evaluation showed that 32 were pathological responders and 16 non – responders. There were performed statistical analyzes of correlations between RCT and resectability, stage, location of ESC, morbidity, mortality and survival.

Conclusion: RCT increase resectability, improves survival and maximum duration of survival, more in responders than in non-responders and does not affect postoperative complications and postoperative mortality, nor among the responders or non-responders. Imaging evaluation result of the response to RCT overestimate responders.

Key words: neoadjuvant radiochemotherapy, benefits and disadvantages, treatment esophageal squamous cancer