Quality of life after treatment

Impact of Cervical Cancer on Quality of Life and Sexual Functioning of Filipino Patients who Underwent Definitive Chemoradiation in the University of Santo Tomas Hospital, Manila, Philippines

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Impact of Cervical Cancer on Quality of Life and Sexual Functioning of Filipino Patients who Underwent Definitive Chemoradiation in the University of Santo Tomas Hospital, Manila, Philippines

Introduction/Background Cervical cancer is a serious health problem, with nearly 500,000 women developing the disease each year worldwide. The burden of disease of cervical cancer in the Philippines as a developing nation is high. Its incidence rate has persisted from the 1980s up to the present with an annual age-standardized rate of 22.5 cases per 100,000 women. Of the thousands of Filipino women who are diagnosed with cervical cancer, 56% will die within 5 years from the diagnosis.

The aim of this study was to determine the quality of life (QoL) and sexual functioning of Filipino patients with cervical cancer on first consult, 3 months, and 6 months of completion of definitive chemoradiation.

Methodology The study is a 2-year prospective longitudinal observational study. Patients were assessed for QoL and sexual functioning on first consult, 3 months, and 6 months of completion of chemoradiation using the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) QoL Questionnaire (QLQ-C30) and EORTC (QLQ-CX24), respectively.

Results Fifty five patients were included for the analysis, and the mean age at the time of the interview was 52 years. Six months after the definitive chemoradiation, patients showed improved global health status/QoL and better physical role, cognitive, and emotional functioning than first day of treatment. Patients updated lower recurrence of symptoms. As to the sexual functioning impact of definitive chemoradiation on patients with cervical cancer, the patients experienced more problems with sexual activity and sexual enjoyment. Moreover, it is reported that all sexual function scales are correlated with health status of patients 6 months after treatment.

Conclusion This paper aided the health care providers to have a better understanding of the QoL and sexual functioning of cervical cancer patients who deal with its treatment sequelae. In addition, this will help counsel cervical cancer patients on what they could expect in a long term since definitive chemoradiation will have a great impact on their QoL. Furthermore, this study will also contribute on how to improve further research for Filipino women with cervical cancer.

Disclosures The authors declare they have no conflict of interest.

144 SEXUAL FUNCTION AFTER PELVIC RADIONERTHERAPY: A BRIEF DESCRIPTIVE STUDY IN LOCALLY ADVANCED CERVICAL CANCER PATIENTS

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Introduction/Background Cervical cancer is the most common gynecological cancers in Indonesia, 74% of all cases of gynecologic cancers. In 2018, the incidence of cervical cancer is 9.3% in Indonesia, 84.6% were diagnosed as advanced stage. The primary treatment in advanced cervical cancer is radiotherapy, especially pelvic radiotherapy. Although pelvic radiotherapy is the modality of choice for treatment in advanced cervical cancer, but it has side effects that can affect woman’s sexual function.

Methodology The subjects of this study were 34 patients who were diagnosed with cervical cancer stage Ib-IIA and underwent pelvic radiotherapy based on local hospital database in Gynecologic Outpatient Clinic in Kandou Hospital from September 1st 2019 to February 29th 2020. All patients were interviewed with Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI) questionnaire. This questionnaire measures five groups of questions, which are sexual desire, arousal, lubrication, orgasm, satisfaction, and pain to assess sexual function in women.

Results From 34 patients who have undergone pelvic radiotherapy, the FSFI scores of 32 patients are below 26.5 and categorized as female sexual dysfunction (FSD), while two patients have score more than 26.6. The mean of FSFI Score is 10.0.

Conclusion Pelvic radiotherapy has negative effect on the vaginal mucosa. This effect has significantly reduced the sexual function in women after pelvic radiotherapy. Assessment of the Sexual Function of every patients who have undergone pelvic radiotherapy is important to improve comprehensive care for female cancer patients.

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