Clinical Outcome of HER2-positive, Node-negative Breast Cancer Patients in Siriraj Hospital

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Background: Overexpression of HER2 or amplification of its gene are both prognostic and predictive factors in patients with breast cancer. However, available data of long-term outcome in HER2-positive, node-negative breast cancer in Thai patients are limited. The objective of the study is to evaluate clinical outcomes in patients with pT1-4, node-negative, HER2-positive breast cancer.

Method: We retrospectively identified pT1-4N0M0 breast cancer patients with HER2 immunohistochemistry (IHC) expression 3+ who underwent surgery between 2005 and 2009 in Siriraj hospital. Primary endpoint was disease-free survival (DFS). Recurrence risk was compared, according to defined prognostic biologic factors.

Results: Fifty-seven HER2-positive, node-negative breast cancer patients were enrolled in the study. The median follow up time was 8 years. The 5-year DFS rate was 92% for all patients. Of the 57 patients, BCS was performed in 9 patients(15.8%) and MRM in 48 patients(84.2%). The 5-year DFS are 22% and 95% in patients who underwent breast conservative surgery(BCS) and mastectomy, respectively (p=0.027). Multivariate analysis demonstrated no significant difference in terms of DFS regarding types of surgery.

Conclusion: Prognosis of patients with node-negative, HER2-positive breast cancer is excellent. Breast conservative surgery had worse DFS trend than the radical surgery.