Abstract

Prognostic Factors For survival in Soft Tissue Sarcoma: Rajavithi Hospital Experience

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Background: To determine survival of patients diagnosed with soft tissue sarcoma and to investigate factors associated with prognosis of the disease.

Method: This is a retrospective study conducting by reviewing 145 medical records of patients diagnosed with and treated for soft tissue sarcoma in the Oncology Unit, Department of Medicine, Rajavithi Hospital between January 1st 2002 and December 31st 2011. Of 145 patients, 105 presented with primary disease and the other 40 were having distant metastasis at the time of diagnosis. Clinical factors were investigated for potential indicators of prognosis using univariate and multivariate Cox proportional hazard regression.

Results: The median follow-up time was 15.9 months ranging from 0.5 to 108 months. The 3-year and 5-year survival of those with primary disease were 66.6% and 53.5% and median survival time was 66.7 months. The 3-year and 5-year survival of those with metastatic disease were 39.8% and 35.4% and median survival time was 23.1 months. In those with primary disease. In non-metastatic patients, duration of symptoms longer than 6 months \( (p = 0.035) \) and a history of receiving adjuvant radiotherapy \( (p = 0.014) \) were associated with good prognosis in univariate analysis. When these factors were analysed in the multivariate model, long duration of recurrent symptoms and adjuvant radiotherapy remained statistically significant factors for survival in non-metastatic patients but not indicator for prolonged survival in patients with distant metastasis.

Conclusion: Clinical factors indicating favorable prognosis in patients diagnosed with primary soft tissue sarcoma were duration of symptoms longer than 6 months and receiving adjuvant radiotherapy.