Place and role of radiation therapy in the treatment of thymic epithelial tumors


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Purpose

Thymic epithelial tumors (ETTs), are rare tumors, grouping thymomas and thymic carcinomas, characterized by very different evolutionary profiles according to their histology and stage of invasion, because of their rarity, their treatment remains a challenging topic.

Experimental Design:

We report a retrospective study of 14 cases of thymic tumors treated in our department between 2008 and 2014 period

Results:

We included 14 patients, the mean age was 43 years (20-74), the majority had a thymoma. The male predominance was noted with a sex ratio of 1.3 (8H / 6F).

The size of the tumor varied between 5 and 14 cm, and the stage at the time of diagnostic was III or VI in the majority of the patients. Thirteen patients (93%) were treated with radiotherapy, ten patients (72%) received neo-adjuvant chemotherapy, surgery was recommended for four patients (28%).

Patients followed in this series were: death in 2 cases (14%), local relapse in one case (7%), metastatic relapse in one case (7%) and local control in 10 cases (72%).
Conclusion

Thymic epithelial tumors (ETTs), are rare tumors, therapeutic is based on a small number of retrospective, studies, with limited level of proof. Actually the reference of treatment is the RYTHMIC network.

References: