

Clinicopathological Analysis of Rectal Cancer after Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy

Satoko Morohashi*

**Hirosaki Municipal Hospital, Japan.*

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ABSTRACT

Neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NAC) of rectal cancer has some advantages: 1) Whole body control from the early stage of treatment; 2) Tumor reduction (favorable for laparoscopic surgery); 3) No functional failure due to radiation. In this study, a total of 50 patients with rectal cancer, treated with NAC, were examined. The pathological primary cancer area and the radiological cancer volume reduction ratio were measured using CT and/or MRI imaging and the donut-shaped measurement method. Immunostaining of cytokeratin AE1/AE3 was performed to quantitatively measure the cancer cell mass in the largest section of rectal cancer. Cytokeratin AE1/AE3-stained area ($P=0.04$), mitosis ($P=0.0027$) and radiological donut-shaped images after NAC ($P=0.010$) were lower in the high radiological cancer volume reduction ratio group compared with the low radiological cancer volume reduction ratio group.

Corresponding author: Satoko Morohashi, Hirosaki Municipal Hospital, Japan, E-mail: msatoko@hirosaki-u.ac.jp

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