Transarterial Chemoembolization with radiotherapy for solitary hepatocellular carcinoma bone metastasis after living donor liver transplantation

JaRyung Han, Young Seok Han

Department of Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary-Pancreas Surgery, Kyungpook National University Hospital, Daegu, Korea

Background: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) represents one of the most common causes of cancer-related deaths worldwide. Bone metastasis (BM) is a typical metastatic pattern in HCC patients. Although the treatment of HCC has improved in recent years, the prognosis of BM is poor, a median survival of HCC with BM is 1–2 months. However, the management of BM is palliative radiotherapy only. We present the cases, transarterial chemoembolization (TACE) with radiotherapy for solitary BM lesion.

Methods: Among 94 recipients who were received living donor liver transplantation due to HCC between December 2014 and July 2021, we had three cases of BM from HCC. They had solitary lesion and we performed the TACE with radiotherapy for curative treatment.

Results: Metastatic lesion was decreased or disappeared in radiologic finding after TACE, tumor marker was decreased in all cases. In spite of extremely poor prognosis of BM from HCC, patients have survived more than 6 months after the first recurrence event. There is no recurrence in other organ, except primary BM lesion.

Conclusions: BM in HCC is typical metastatic pattern, but the prognosis is poor. TACE with radiotherapy for solitary BM lesion could be a treatment option for the purpose of curative intend, compared to palliative radiotherapy.

Corresponding author: Young Seok Han

E-mail: gshys@knu.ac.kr

© The Korean Society for Transplantation

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.