

Study on Demography, Imaging and Histologic Classification in Patients with Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma

Nguyen Thanh Hiep¹, Pham Hong Van² and Nguyen Thi Thai Hoa^{3*}

¹Pham Ngoc Thach University of Medicine, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

²Introduce National Hospital of Acupuncture, Hanoi, Vietnam

³Vietnam National Cancer Hospital, Hanoi, Vietnam

*Corresponding author: Nguyen Thi Thai Hoa, Vietnam National Cancer Hospital, Hanoi, Vietnam



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Abstract

Objectives: To explore the demographic features and histologic classification of nasopharyngeal carcinoma.

Object and Method: 141 patients diagnosed with nasopharyngeal carcinoma based on pathology results were retrospectively analyzed at oncology hospital, from January 2017 to May 2019. The variables include age, gender, and histologic classification of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma, non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma, keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma).

Results: The study subjects had 141 patients; men accounted for 75.9%, ages 40-60 years old majority (58.9%). History of smoking and drinking alcohol accounts for a high proportion, respectively, 68.2% and 47.5% for men. Local and nearby organs are common reasons for patients to go to the hospital, including neck lymph nodes (74.5%), nasal symptoms (27.7%), tinnitus (24.8%), sputum with blood (7.8%). Clinical examination with the above lymph node accounted for the highest proportion (67.4%). Clinically diagnosed in almost 136/141 cases of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (96.5%). Non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma accounted for 54.6%, 44.0% Non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma, and 1.4% Keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma.

Conclusion: Nasopharyngeal carcinoma is a fairly common malignant disease histopathological classification that helps for the selection of treatments and prognosis.

Short Communication

Nasopharyngeal carcinoma is a malignant tumor that originates from the epithelial lining of the nasopharynx area. It is common cancer in the southern indigenous population of China, Southeast Asia, the Arctic region, the Middle East as well as North America. According to statistics of Pham Hoang Anh 1996-1997 [1], Vietnam ranked 4th in the world in the incidence of pharyngeal cancer after Hong Kong, Singapore, Shanghai-China. According to the statistics of Ellen T. Chang and Hans-Olov Adami, from 1993-1997 in Hanoi, the incidence of pharyngeal cancer was 16 per 100,000 people, and from 1995-1998 in Ho Chi Minh City the incidence Archopharynx cancer is 6.5 per 100,000 people [2]. Nasopharyngeal carcinoma

is one of the five most common cancers in our country (cancers of the lung, stomach, breast, uterus, oropharynx) [3]. Because of the deep anatomical characteristics of the skull as well as early-stage symptoms, which are often poor and easily confused with otolaryngology, nasopharyngeal carcinoma is often overlooked in the initial diagnosis. Therefore, nasopharyngeal carcinoma is usually diagnosed late when the disease has been stage III, IV [4].

Materials and Methods

Patients diagnosed with nasopharyngeal carcinoma are treated at Ho Chi Minh City Oncology Hospital from January 2017 to May

2019. Diagnosed with pharyngeal cancer by histopathological results. Data are entered and analyzed statistically by SPSS 16.0 software. Steps to take:

- i. Step 1: Make a list of cases diagnosed with nasopharyngeal carcinoma diagnosed at oncology hospital, Ho Chi Minh city,

using pathological results.

- ii. Step 2: Statistics and data processing.

Results

(Tables 1-6).

Table 1: Distribution of research subjects by age and gender (n=141).

General features		Number of Patients(n)	Rate (%)
Age group	20-<40	33	23.4
	40-<60	83	58.9
	60-80	25	17.7
The average age		48,9±12,3 (minimum 23, maximum 80)	

Note: The study subjects had 141 patients, men accounted for 75.9%, ages 40- <60 years old majority (58.9%), lowest age 23, highest 80 years old, average 48.9 ± 12.3.

Table 2: Historical characteristics.

History	Tần số	Tỉ lệ (%)
Smoking (for men)	73/107	68.2
Drinking alcohol (for men)	67/107	47.5
Families with people with nasopharyngeal carcinoma	8/141	5.7

Note: Men who have a history of smoking and drinking alcohol account for a high proportion, respectively, 68.2% and 47.5%. There are 8 cases (5.7% of the 141 patients) who have family members who have nasopharyngeal carcinoma.

Table 3: Reason for admission to the hospital.

Reason for Admission to the Hospital	Number of Patients (n)	Rate (%)
Tinnitus	35	24.8
Nasal symptoms	39	27.7
Lymph nodes	105	74.5
Neurological symptoms	12	8.5
Nasopharyngeal carcinoma is not treated	1	0.7
Headache	10	7.1
Sputum spotting blood	11	7.8
Hoarseness	1	0.7
Double look	1	0.7
Blurred vision	2	1.4
Sore eyes	1	0.7
Lisp	1	0.7
Swallowing pain	7	5

Note: Local and nearby organs are common reasons for patients to go to the hospital, including neck lymph nodes (74.5%), nasal symptoms (27.7%), tinnitus (24.8%), sputum with blood (7.8%). Besides, symptoms related to the central nervous system also accounted for a significant proportion such as headache 7.1%, other neurological symptoms 8.5%. There were 32 cases of lymph nodes on the right (30.5%), 34 nodes on the left (32.4%), 39 cases of lymph nodes on both sides (37.1%)

Table 4: Clinical lymph node position.

Lymph Node Position	Number of Patients (n)	Rate (%)
Lymph node under the chin	8	7.6
Above cervical lymph node	95	90.5
Middle cervical lymph node	41	39
Lower cervical lymph node	20	19

Posterior cervical lymph node	17	16.2
Anterior cervical lymph node	1	1
Total	105	100

Note: Clinical examination with the above lymph node accounted for the highest proportion (67.4%), followed by the middle lymph nodes (29.1%), lower lymph nodes (14.2%).

Table 5: Clinical diagnosis.

Clinical Diagnosis	Number of Patients (n)	Rate (%)
Nasal cavity cancer	2	1.4
Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	136	96.5
Maxillary sinus carcinoma	1	0.7
Lymphoma	2	1.4
Total	141	100

Note: Clinically diagnosed in almost 136/141 cases of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (96.5%).

Table 6: Anatomical diagnosis.

Results of Anatomy	Number of Patients (n)	Rate (%)
Keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma	2	1.4
Non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma	77	54.6
Non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma	62	44
Total	141	100

Note: Non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma accounted for 54.6%, 44.0% Non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma, and 1.4% Keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma.

Discussion

According to the results in Table 1, the nasopharyngeal carcinoma rate gradually increases from the age of 20-40 years, reaching the highest peak in the age group 40-60 years, accounting for 58.9% and then the age group 60-80 years accounting for the rate of 17.7%. The youngest is 23, and the oldest is 80 years old. With our research results, the age group most often affected by nasopharyngeal carcinoma is the age group of 40-60 years old, with a rate of 58.9%. This result is higher than that of author Dang Thanh (40%) [5] and lower than that of Pham Nguyen Tuong (65.3%) [6]. According to author Nguyen Trong Minh, et al. [7] the age group 40-50 years old has a high incidence of disease [7]. According to author Ngo Ngoc Lien, the common age group is 30-50 years old [8]. According to author Zong et al., the common age is 40-59 years old [9]. The age group of prostate cancer patients in our study is quite consistent with the above authors. According to the results in Table 1, the prevalence in men is 107/141, accounting for 75.9%, and the prevalence in women is 34/141, accounting for 24.1%. Thus, the incidence of infection in men is about three times more than women. According to author Tran Thi Hop, the male / female frequency is 2.5 / 1 [10], according to author Li J.X, the male / female frequency is 2.7 / 1 [11]. Our research results are relatively consistent with the research of the two authors. The results in Table 2 show that the proportion of male smokers making up 68.2% and drinking alcohol accounts for 47.5%. According to Abdulmir, et

al. The proportion of male smokers making up 85.7% and having alcohol accounted for 42.8% [12].

Our research results are quite consistent with the author's study. According to the research results in Table 3, the reason for hospitalization due to cervical lymph nodes accounts for the highest proportion, 74.5%. According to the authors Razek A and King A, the nasopharyngeal carcinoma often metastases of neck lymph nodes at the rate of 75-90% [13]. Thus, when signs of cervical lymph nodes appear, patients should be examined and diagnosed early. Reasons for hospitalization due to tinnitus accounted for 24.8%. According to author Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy and author Phung Hung, tinnitus symptoms were 16% [14] and 76.74% [15], respectively. Our research results are relatively consistent with the results of author Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy and much lower than that of Phu Hung. When the tumor is located on the side of the dome, it narrows and clears the Eustache and causes tinnitus. Nasal symptoms in our study accounted for 27.7%. According to Phung Hung, the symptoms of nasal congestion were 54.84% [15]. Our research results are still lower than the authors' results. According to our research, the symptoms of cranial nerve damage accounts for 8.5%. According to author Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy, the symptoms of cranial nerve damage accounts for 8% [14]. Our research results are relatively consistent with the results of the above author. According to some authors, the probability of detecting cervical lymph nodes is 85-90%, of which the lymph nodes of the two sides account for

50% [16]. In our research results, the clinical findings of cervical lymphadenopathy were 74.4%, of which the cervical lymph nodes were 37.1%. According to author Skinner, et al., Bilateral lymph nodes have a detection rate of 43% [16].

Our research results are relatively consistent with the results of the above author. The clinical prevalence of lymph node not detected was 25.6%. According to author Dang Thanh, the clinical examination did not see cervical lymph nodes accounting for 20% [5]. Our research results are quite consistent with the above author. According to the results of Table 4, the lymph node groups along the carotid vascular bundles (II, III and IV) account for a high proportion (the upper one accounts for 90.5%, the middle one is 39%, and the lower one is 19%.) et al. (2004), the upper lymph node group accounted for 95.5%, the middle scene was 60.7%, the lower scene was 22.5% [16]. Our research results compared with the above authors show that the metastatic lymph nodes are mainly in the carotid group, especially in the upper lymph node group with a very high rate. Non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma accounted for the highest proportion (54.6%), followed by non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma (44.0%) and keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma (1.4%). According to authors Razek A and King A, the non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma was 95%, the non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma was 3%, and the keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma was 2% [13]. According to the author Ngo Huu Thuan, the non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma accounted for 94.7%. The keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma was 5.3% [17]. Our results agree with the two authors on the low rate of keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma. The difference is that because we limited the sample before and after radiation therapy, so we lost a lot of samples not treated or treated by other methods, which made the difference in the proportion of pathological tissues in the study.

Conclusion

The study subjects had 141 patients. Men accounted for 75.9%, ages 40- <60 years old majority. History of smoking and drinking alcohol accounts for a high proportion for men. Clinical examination with the above lymph node accounted for the highest proportion. Clinically diagnosed in almost cases of nasopharyngeal carcinoma. Non-keratinizing differentiated carcinoma accounted for 54.6%, 44.0% Non-keratinizing undifferentiated carcinoma, and 1.4% Keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma.

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