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Short and long-term results of hepatectomy for liver metastases in non-colorectal cancer

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Background: Although liver resection is widely accepted as a potentially curative treatment for colorectal liver metastases, there is an ongoing debate on the indications for hepatectomy for the treatment of liver metastases from non-colorectal primary tumors. The number of candidates for hepatectomy for non-colorectal liver metastases may increase due to advances in chemotherapy; however, the factors related to prognosis after hepatectomy for non-colorectal liver metastases have yet to be clearly elucidated.

Patients and Methods: From 1997 to 2014, 59 patients underwent hepatectomy for non-colorectal liver metastases at Hokkaido Cancer Center, Sapporo. A retrospective analysis was conducted for these patients. The indications for hepatectomy in non-colorectal liver metastases included the macroscopically curative resection of all lesions, the sufficiency of the remnant liver parenchyma and the consensus of a multidisciplinary team.

Results: The 5-year overall survival rate after hepatectomy for non-colorectal liver metastases was 30%, and 8 patients (gastric cancer, ovarian cancer, uterine cancer and breast cancer) survived for 5 years. There were no cases of in-hospital mortality and no patients suffered liver failure. The presence of bilobar liver metastases was identified to be an independent predicting factor for poor prognosis by a multivariate analysis. The survival rate of the conversion cases (initially unresectable and converted to resection after chemotherapy) was not inferior to that of primary resectable cases.

Conclusion: The present study demonstrates that hepatectomy for liver metastases from non-colorectal tumors is safe and that it may be a promising strategy for prolonging survival and achieving a cure.

Biography

Yoshiaki Maeda is currently a Chief Surgeon at Hokkaido Cancer Center. His specialty includes laparoscopic surgery, palliative surgery and treatment for the metastatic tumors from various origins.

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