Two Cases of Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma with Portal Vein Tumor Thrombus in the Main Trunk Who Survived for a Prolonged Period with Multimodal Therapies

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Abstract : We report two cases who survived for a prolonged period in spite of having an advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) with portal vein tumor thrombus in the main trunk (Vp IV). The cases were a 38-year-old man and a 49-year-old woman. Both the patients were hepatitis B virus (HBV) carriers. A computed tomography revealed the existence of advanced HCC with Vp . We started lamivudine, an anti-HBV drug, and following treatment with several anti-cancer therapies using cisplatin, 5-FU, interferon, radiation and hepatic arterial embolization by degradable starch microspheres. We speculate that the prolonged survival in the two cases was due to young age, maintained liver function and multimodal therapies.

Key Words : Hepatocellular carcinoma, Portal vein tumor thrombus, Long survival, Multimodal therapies